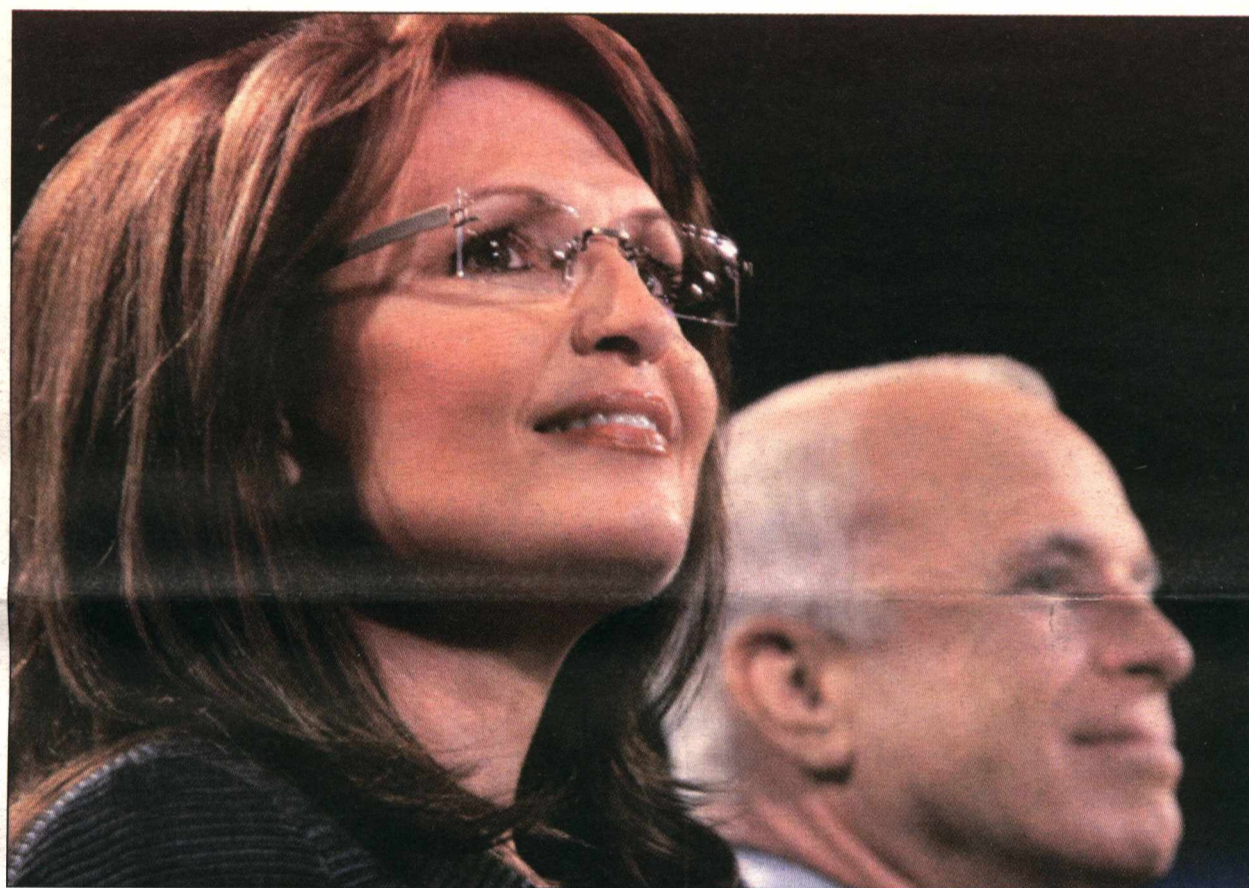


Students spend the semester in Australia

CAMPUS LIFE pg 6

the crusader

October 29, 2008
Volume 63 Issue 8



John McCain and running mate Sarah Palin address a crowd in Bethlehem, Penn. (photo by the Associated Press.).

Students travel to campaign for McCain

by AIMEE NILES

Last weekend, 27 students traveled from NNU to Carson City, Nev. to campaign for Republican presidential nominee John McCain.

"We went door to door asking people if they were voting for McCain and Palin, called people and handed out fliers," said freshman Stacey Wolkomir.

Tony Napier and the College Republicans organized

the trip. "All the expenses were paid for by the Utah GOP," said Napier "the students didn't have to pay anything out of pocket."

The group left NNU at 4:30 p.m. on Friday afternoon and arrived in Carson City at 11:00 p.m. that night. On Saturday, the group was divided into smaller groups and canvassed neighborhoods.

"We had a lot of people invite us in once they saw

young people out for McCain," said freshman Jordan Scott.

"It was a lot of fun getting out and encouraging people to vote," said sophomore Debbie Holston.

The following two days, the group was divided between canvassing and calling voters.

NNU students were able to knock on 5,500 doors and reach about 12,000 people, said Tom Derbesy,

an NNU student currently working for the McCain campaign in Nevada.

The group was also able to take a tour of the Nevada capital building. Unfortunately, a miscalculation in the weight limit of an elevator caused a small delay as the elevator shut down. "All told, we had 19 people in the elevator. I guess it was

>>See "Campaigners" on page 2

George Turner to be the featured artist at this year's Homecoming concert

by LAURIE BURGEMEISTER

Each year, the NNU music department arranges a concert for family and students to celebrate Homecoming weekend.

Barry Swanson, head of the music department and director of Crusader Choir, and the music department are hard at work to bring another outstanding concert to the table.

Swanson is looking forward to presenting George Turner as the feature artist. Turner specializes in trombone solo pieces, but will also be joining the NNU Concert Band for a few numbers.

Turner is also a part of the Boise Philharmonic

>>See "Homecoming" on page 5

Freshmen

It's past midterms, how are the freshmen on NNU's campus acclimating to college life?

NEWS



Cross Country

The Crusader runners finish strong in the GNAC regionals

SPORTS



HSM3

The gang from East High is back and on the big screen.

A&E



Weather

THURSDAY
Sunny.
Hi: 68° | Low: 39°

FRIDAY
Chance of showers.
Hi: 66° | Low: 39°

SATURDAY
Chance of showers.
Hi: 62° | Low: 40°

SUNDAY
Chance of showers.
Hi: 61° | Low: 36°

MONDAY
Chance of showers.
Hi: 55° | Low: 31°

TUESDAY
Chance of showers.
Hi: 54° | Low: 31°

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Flag football ends with The Youngers and Bloodbath on top

by ANDREA SCHILLING

Fall intramurals are both beginning and closing as flag football and powder puff ended their seasons on Saturday and soccer heads into its third week.

The championship flag

football game ended in a 19-13 victory for The Youngers against Dynasty. The team was able to halt Dynasty who was the reigning champion. Many of The Youngers were on last year's BLT team, which fell to Dynasty in the

championship.

"It feels so good—there really are no words. We had a comeback this year with a strong win," said Hoyt. Hoyt was on BLT last year. He said he was excited to take the championship after losing it to Dynasty the

year previous.

The Youngers were able to capture the win through touchdowns by Dane Manley, Mark Wade and Ryan McCarthy.

After the men's game, the powder puff championship went underway with the

upperclassman team Bloodbath and sophomore-dominated team, The Bruisers. Bloodbath, adorned in red and black, ended up dominating The Bruisers, 19-0.

>>See "Intramurals" on page 8

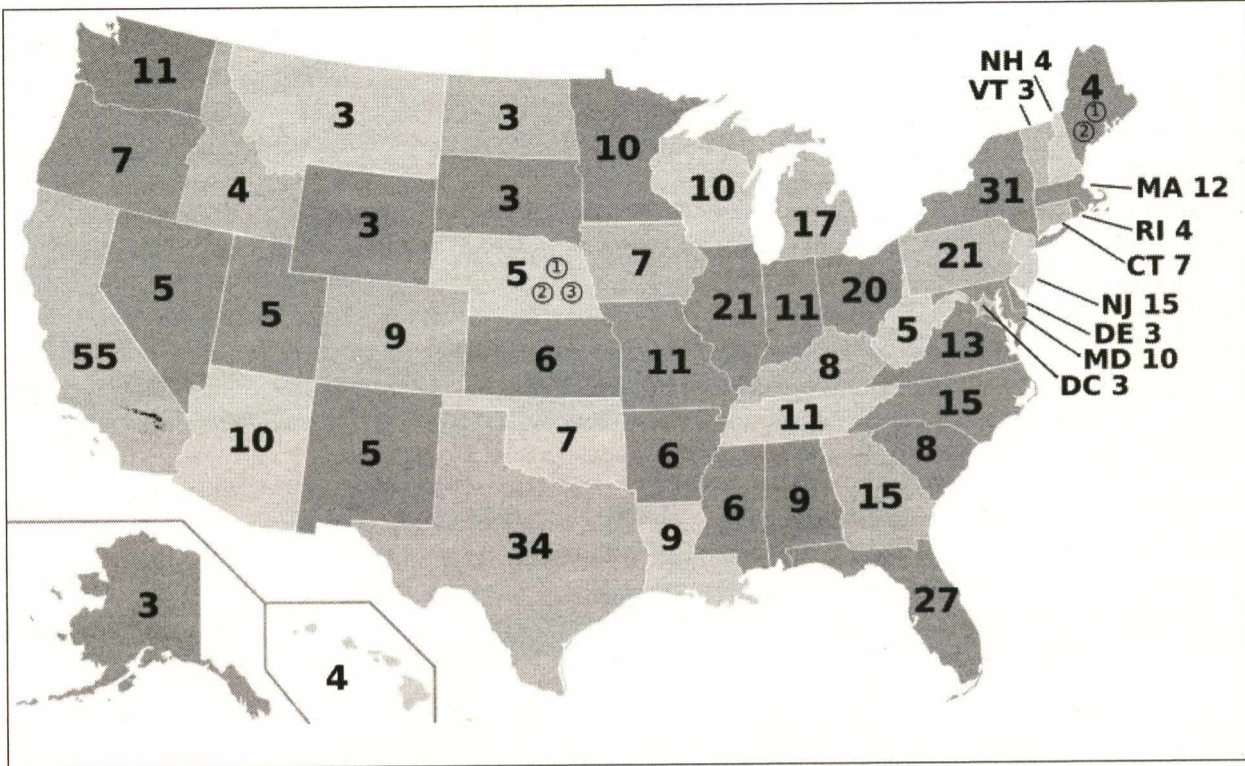
The Electoral College decides the new president, not the popular vote

by RACHAEL FINCH

Since the presidential election in 2000, the effectiveness of the Electoral College as the voice of the people in electing a president has been debated more among the general public and among political scientists, said Steve Shaw, professor of political science.

The system, which dates back to the writing of the constitution, allows for a given number of electors per state to cast the votes which actually determine who will become president, rather than electing the president based solely on the popular vote.

"What the writers of the constitution had in mind was an instrument like the Electoral College that would help screen candidates for the presidency, and that the Electoral College would be composed of these wise men who would make the best choice in



This map shows the electoral votes each state has. Maine and Nebraska break up their electoral votes on a state level as well (graphic from wikimedia.org).

choosing someone for the presidency," said Shaw.

Today the vote of an elector generally reflects the popular vote from the elector's state. Electors see

the results of the popular vote from their states before casting their own votes. While electors are not required to vote according to their state's popular vote, it

is almost unheard of for an elector to vote otherwise, said Shaw.

There is one elector for every person in the House of Representatives, the Senate,

and three for the District of Columbia. The number of electors per state is equal to the number of House and Senate members that state has representing it.

"One of the key things in this is that the Electoral College was designed roughly a generation before we had political parties. So it wasn't, in its original design or intent, partisan at all," said Shaw.

However, now that there are political parties, the electoral votes of a state often depend on the partisan loyalties of the majority of the state, said Shaw.

The effect of the blue or red state designations is that many citizens ask if their vote will count if they live in a state where they oppose the majority party.

"Votes are both symbolic and substantive," said Shaw about this issue. He said that voting is a symbolic way for citizens to do their part, and that there are other things to vote for on the ballot. Even if a given candidate is not likely to win the state, it is not impossible for them to do so, said Shaw.

Texas A&M reaches settlement with bonfire collapse victim's families

by ASSOCIATED PRESS

Texas A&M University agreed Tuesday to pay \$2.1 million to settle a lawsuit over the collapse of a bonfire tower that killed 12 people and injured dozens more nearly a decade ago.

The families of four students killed and several of those who were injured sued the university and construction contractors hired to help build the

59-foot-tall tower of logs that fell apart in November 1999.

After the collapse, the university prohibited students from building the bonfire on its property — a tradition for the Texas A&M-Texas football game going back to 1909. Since then, the fire has been held off campus by students and alumni.

Under the settlement reached Tuesday in Brazos

County court, the university agreed to pay \$2.1 million to the victims and their families and to have engineering oversight if the university ever allows future bonfires on campus. University spokesman Jason Cook said the university will pay \$500,000, with the remaining money coming from its insurers.

"It is our hope that today's announcement will help provide some closure

to the tragic event for these individuals, as well as for the entire Aggie family, and certainly including those who were injured," said A&M President Elsa Murano.

The school had fought the lawsuit, claiming it was immune from such suits, but a court of appeals allowed the lawsuit to continue, and the A&M Board of Regents authorized the settlement Monday.

Continued from page 1: Campaigners will return Friday

too many people," Napier said.

The College Republicans are organizing another trip to Nevada this weekend. The Young Republicans of Idaho, the Boise State College Republicans and the College of Idaho College Republicans are invited on this trip as well. The Nevada GOP is covering all expenses.

"The race is so close in Nevada that the help we

bring could swing the state in McCain's favor," Napier said "so if you aren't going to TWIRP, consider coming to Nevada and help McCain win."

Both Scott and Wolkomir want to go again, but can't afford to miss another day of classes, they said.

"I would encourage everyone to go," said Wolkomir. Any interested students should contact Tony Napier.

Alexander meets with the Board of Trustees, presents three year plan

by HANNAH BEERS

Last week, university president David Alexander met with the Board of Trustees. While the Board was in town, several key issues were discussed in relation to campus life and the upcoming academic year.

The Board consists of 40 trustees from all over the Northwest. There are seven main districts for the Northwest region. Each of the regions has two individuals on the board. Some districts may have more representatives based on the number of individuals represented in each of the regions. The Chairman of

Highlights of the reports:

- Appointment of Dave Peterson as NNU's Vice President of Financial Affairs
- Michael Pitts moved to a position of Professor in the Graduate Counseling Program
- 15 to 1, student to professor ratio
- Additional \$300,000 to the Murdock Foundation
- Student athletes were acknowledged by GNAC for academic accomplishment
- Increase in students on campus has gone up to 87% campus residents
- Modest surplus of \$81,000, which is going to many areas of campus
- Friends and Alumni donated over \$3,000,000 to the university

- Thomas Family Health and Science Center (50,000 sq. ft building)

Action items approved at fall meeting:

- Appointment of 11 faculty and 11 administrative personal
- Statement of Academic Freedom for inclusion in the Faculty Manual
- Tuition, fees, board and room charges for 2009-2010
- Three year financial plan for the school
- Master of Science in Nursing
- Graduate Education Specialist degree
- Undergraduate major in Exceptional Child
- Undergraduate major in Missions

the Board is Randy Craker, from the Spokane area.

Alexander said the board is, "an institutional hourglass, which governs with hands guided by God."

Decisions and action items decided upon by 40 members flows through Alexander down into the faculty, administration, staff and student body.

Presented before the fall meeting of the board, Alexander compiled a report to submit to each of the board members. The report consisted of statements by all of the vice presidents in each of their respective areas.

All of the offices on campus report annually regarding the past year's performance. After the reports were submitted, action items were voted upon and approved by the board.

Major decisions presented

NNU students get involved in both presidential candidates' campaigns

by JESSICA BOBANGO

For two of NNU's students, the presidential election is more than just personal—it's business.

"It's so great to get to see people get involved," said junior Lynsey Smith, a political science and public communications major and campus elections coordinator for the school. "There's nothing more American than getting to see what people believe."

Smith started working on the Obama campaign in Portland last March, relocating to the Boise office once classes began. "I got to meet Senator Obama twice," Smith said, "there aren't enough adjectives to describe it."



Lynsey Smith greets people at an Obama rally in Elko, Nev. (photo by Andrea Schilling).

Smith has volunteered at six events, working with the press and seating people at rallies. "I love election cycles," she said, "and I hope to become a staffer at [Obama's] reelection."

For senior Tom Derbesy, the main concern for the past few weeks has rested upon the success of the Get

Out The Vote phase of the campaign process. According to Derbesy, through GOTV he has found himself going door to door, identifying supporters and getting them to the polls.

Derbesy, a senior political science major with a minor in American literature, opted to take fall semester off

and move to Nevada to join the staff of the Regional McCain Headquarters.

"I had worked on the Matthew Salisbury primary in the early summer," said Derbesy, "and it was suggested to me that I try getting on board with the McCain campaign. I thought I might as well apply and see what happens... They called me on a Friday, saying they would need me on Monday. It was too good an opportunity to pass up."

Derbesy has most recently been living in Carson City, recruiting volunteers for the campaign. "It's not fun, not glamorous," he said, "but it's so important. Reaching out and getting to know the community is what will make a difference."

Campaign roundup
HERSHEY, Pa.

John McCain and Sarah Palin try to rally Republicans in conservative areas of Pennsylvania, a state their party hasn't won in 20 years but one they must capture to have a chance for the White House. Ahead in the polls, Barack Obama campaigns in Pennsylvania, too — and in Virginia, a GOP stronghold that's turned into a battleground

Kristallnacht dump
KLANDORF, Germany

Yaron Svoray scrapes caked dirt from a shard of glass, revealing a sunflower at the heart of a Star of David. The fragment is one of a handful of artifacts he has pulled from a former Berlin city dump that residents say was used by the Nazis to deposit rejected loot from Kristallnacht, "The Night of Broken Glass."

Congo rebels advance
KILIMANYOKA, Congo

We drive away from a village filled with refugees where babies wail and mothers shout for food and money. Suddenly there is eerie silence. Nothing moves in the lush tropical forest. A lone soldier comes in sight. He is little taller than the rifle slung over his shoulder. Then, out of a haze of dust and tank fumes, comes a column of soldiers: Government troops retreating from advancing rebels.

Skinhead plot
BELLS, Tenn.

The plot called for mass destruction aimed at sending a hate-filled message to blacks: Attack a predominantly black school then go out in a blaze of glory by assassinating Barack Obama. The two self-described white supremacists accused of drafting the plan had at least three powerful firearms capable of causing some carnage but authorities say it's unlikely they had the wherewithal to carry it out to its extreme conclusion.

The warden's wife
MANGUM, Okla.

In 1994, a convicted killer broke out of prison and vanished along with the assistant warden's pretty young wife. A

decade later, the two were found living together on a Texas chicken ranch. Now, the woman is back with her husband and fighting in court to prove she was a victim, not an accomplice to the escape

Iraq
BAHGDAD

For years, he operated along Syria's border, providing young Arabs with passports, weapons and guides as they slipped into Iraq to fight in the insurgency. The case of Abu Ghadiyah — killed this week in a U.S. raid — sheds new light on the complex networks that recruit foreigners for the battlefields of Iraq. And U.S. documents show the networks are getting more organized.

Bridge collapse
NAMPA, Idaho

OSHA is investigating what caused a bridge under construction in southwestern Idaho to collapse Monday. Investigators are trying to figure out why a nearly 100-foot-long section of the bridge near Interstate 84 collapsed and fell 30 feet, injuring more than a dozen workers.

Financial meltdown
WASHINGTON

The bailout isn't just for financial companies any more. With auto makers and other industries clamoring to secure part of the \$700 billion bailout passed this month, a Treasury spokeswoman says the department has the authority to rescue any industry it deems "important to improving financial stability."

Got a cold?
WASHINGTON

Someone in your house have the sniffles? Watch out for the refrigerator. TV remotes, too. A new study finds they are among the most likely places cold sufferers leave their germs, which can live there as long as two or more days.

U.S.-Syria
WASHINGTON

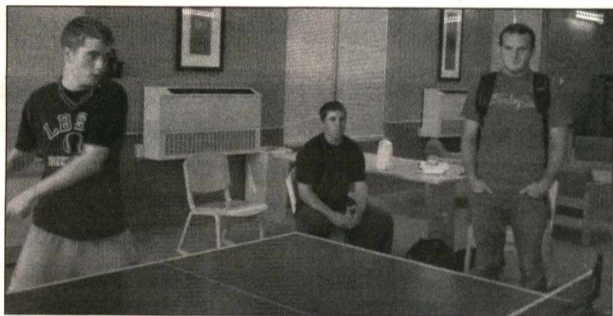
A top al-Qaida in Iraq operative killed during a U.S. raid on a Syrian compound just over the Iraq border was about to carry out an attack in Iraq, U.S. officials say.

Midterms are over and freshmen are getting acclimated to college life

by ALLISON HAWN

Half the semester has passed and the stress from midterms is beginning to leave us as we get ready for the second half of the semester. Midterms can be especially stressful for freshmen still adjusting to college. "It's rushed," said freshman business major Megan Clark.

The freshman class, which is one of the biggest to hit our campus in quite a while, has brought our community a whole new group of people who are experiencing



Freshmen Ryan Brown, Jared Murdy and Tim Streight relax in Culver between classes (photo by Andrea Schilling).

college for the first time. Midterms during the freshman year are definitely one of the make-or-break moments for new students.

When asked about how she thought college life was going, freshman biology major Bridgette Lorenzen said, "There's more work coming

here than I thought there would be."

The freshman class does not seem phased though; in fact, many are beginning to get into the routine they need to succeed in this semester. "Now that midterms are over the stress has been taken off a little. They're happier and they walk around with smiles on their faces," said freshman resident assistant Arielle Askren.

"We're feeling more settled in," said Lorenzen.

American college student charged with murder

by ASSOCIATED PRESS

An American college student and her former boyfriend were ordered Tuesday to stand trial in last year's slaying of her roommate.

The judge indicted Amanda Knox, 21, of Seattle and Raffaele Sollecito of Italy on charges of murder and sexual violence in the stabbing death of Meredith Kercher of England, said Francesco Maresca, a lawyer for the victim's family. Trial for the two, who deny wrongdoing, will start Dec. 4.

A third suspect, Rudy Hermann Guede of the West African nation of Ivory Coast, was sentenced to 30 years in prison after

being convicted on the same charges in a fast-track trial requested by his defense, Maresca said. Prosecutors asked for life in jail.

Knox's attorney, Luciano Ghirga, said his client "was quite disappointed" by the ruling. "She is ready to start again," Ghirga told reporters. "The (first) hearing is very close, we have to reorganize our defense line in time."

Lawyers for Knox and Sollecito, who were jailed shortly after the slaying last Nov. 2, had asked that their clients be granted house arrest if indicted. Lawyers leaving the courthouse said Micheli did not rule on the request.

Kercher, a 21-year-old student from England, was found dead in the apartment she shared with Knox. She had been stabbed in the neck.

Prosecutors allege Kercher died during what began as a sex game, with Sollecito holding her by the shoulders from behind while Knox touched her with the point of a knife and Guede tried to sexually assault her. Prosecutors say Knox then fatally stabbed Kercher in the throat.

Guede admitted being in the house, but denied any part in the killing. He said that he was in the bathroom when Kercher was attacked and that he rushed into the

bedroom to try to rescue her.

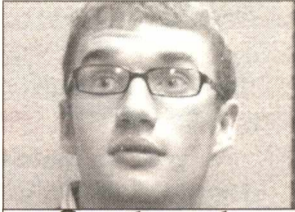
Knox initially told investigators she was in the apartment when Kercher was killed and covered her ears against the victim's screams. Later, Knox said she wasn't in the house.

Prosecutors say Knox's DNA was found on the handle of a knife that might have been used in the slaying, while Kercher's DNA was found on the blade.

They say they found Sollecito's DNA on the victim's bra, although the defense team says the bra bore multiple DNA traces and the evidence might have been inadvertently contaminated during the investigation.

Kill your God

This writing is an, ex-
postulation of God and religion. This is not however
a conceit for atheism, but
neither is it meant to be
ironic.



Sweatervests
by
ANDREW McCULLEY

Rather, despite the form,
the intent here is to find
God, to start with a founda-
tion of disbelief and claw
a path to God.

Starting with an assump-
tive belief in God—wheth-
er in conscious or subcon-
scious confirmation—and
then sliding down to doubt
is backward: one is innocent
until proven otherwise and
effect brings about cause.
To have this belief, auto-
matic and deaf to threat,

is to be led blindly, and
any good that results from
it is more likely a product
of chance than of genuine
intent.

So, just for a moment,
kill your God with me, not
to rebel as an individual—
to abandon church and ac-
countability—but in order
to make the individual a
more responsible member
of the whole.

To start, how many Gal-
ileos must we kill? In our
efforts to describe and give
meaning to this world and
to our lives, we, in lieu of
the answer, conjure God.

What meaning does suf-
fering and evil have in this
world? What caused the
universe to start turning?
Should there not be an
object, contingent upon
nothing, to provide this
meaning?

The answers to these
questions, with the knowl-
edge we possess now,
are unknowable, and in-
stead of searching for the
knowledge to make them

knowable, we kill Galileo,
we deny the explanatory
science, or halt curiosi-
ty altogether. We remain
content knowing the sun
moves around the earth—
all this to gratify the pro-
jections of the physiologi-
cal needs for purpose and
protection.

Even still, the certainty
with which these God an-
swers are given is absurd.
Atheism has the mirror of
this; after all there might be
a god, and to claim other-
wise implies that the claim-
er must know everything.

Similar to this is the be-
liever's claim on religion,
for religions do not sup-
plicate to probable gods or
supernatural what-ifs, but
to an orthodox, creedal and
certain God.

Therefore, reason and
faith are supremely op-
posed to one another, for
faith is the effort to see a
world ungrounded in and
prior to methodical and
certain reason. One can-
not purport a rational faith

because one cannot, in
good conscience, pick and
choose what aspects of that
faith will be rational.

When a faith is not en-
tirely burned away by rea-
son, any resulting good
is more likely a result of
chance than of any intent
on behalf of the faithful.

Post modernism is ap-
plicable here, for one really
does not need to be con-
fined by reason and expe-
rience—believers in resur-
rections and virgin births
are perhaps required to be
post modernists.

This is also to say how-
ever that doing away with
reason is the only method
of explaining away the ab-
surdities of religion, and
doing away with reason,
it turns out, is not among
the engagements of sane
people.

And so, the simple will
invariably believe in any-
thing; but we, the prudent,
will watch where we step.

Barack Obama will be president

As the election comes
to its final days, most
people are probably eager



EDITOR'S NOTE
by
AIMEE NILES

to see the endless politi-
cal commercials, rhetoric,
mud slinging and talking
heads come to a close.

I too am eager for the
end of the election season,
however, I beg you to be
patient and read one last
election inspired column.

I am voting for Barack
Obama. Despite popular
belief, I did not automati-
cally or easily come to this
decision.

I am an independent
thinker; I make up my own
mind and try to ignore

party politics.

I am not voting for
Obama because he is a
Democrat; or because he's
black or because he's the
"anti-Christ."

Obama's foreign policy
plans align with my cur-
rent views and understand-
ings of the world.

To be willing to sit down
and talk with leaders such
as Mahmoud Ahmadinejad
and Bashir al-Asad--the
president of Syria--shows
a humility and agreeability
currently missing from cur-
rent American policy.

The current impression
America gives to the rest
of the world does not win
us any friends or allies.
Obama's plan is a step in
the right direction.

Healthcare is something
that Americans cannot live
without. Obama's com-
mitment to ensuring every
American is given adequate
coverage shows a regard for
the poorer classes which

has been missing from
America's domestic policy.

The Obama tax plan
makes sense. Too long has
the middle class suffered
under the misguided care
of trickle down economics.

I am quite certain I will
never make more than
\$250,000 a year and I don't
like the idea that I will have
to pay more in taxes than
someone far richer.

I don't trust the wealthy
to pass on the abundance
to me when it is much
cheaper and easier to send
that money overseas.

But how will Obama
fund his elaborate schemes,
many are prone to ask. I
trust the tax plan Obama
has devised to take care of
it.

However, if it doesn't,
I'm also perfectly willing
to pay more in taxes--along
with the rich--in order for
myself and others to ben-
efit from programs such as
universal healthcare.

The most important rea-
son for Obama is cliché
and simple: hope.

Obama, for all his flashy
campaign slogans and ce-
lebrity laden internet vid-
eos, brings hope to people
in this country.

It's depressing to hear
nothing but danger and
doomsday from our
politicians.

Obama brings a different
message that is new and re-
freshing--especially to the
youth of American that has
come of age in a post 9/11
world.

Any candidate that can
raise the hopes of a nation
has a huge advantage.

I'm not naïve. I know
that Obama probably
won't be able to accom-
plish 90 percent of what he
says he will, but he'll bring
change and hope to a de-
pressed people. Americans
need that.

America needs Barack
Obama for president.

Don't treat Election Day like Christmas

STAFF EDITORIAL

December 25 is highly anticipated, and by 11 p.m. that evening the radios switch back to their regular play lists. Election Day is much like Christmas. So much emotion and time is spent prior to November 4, and once every decision is made, we go on with our lives. However, Election Day shouldn't be treated the same as the non-religious part of the winter holiday. Who is elected and what measures are passed affect our lives continually; therefore our pre-election day passion shouldn't plummet come November 5.

When our candidate wins, it's like getting that shiny red new bike under the tree you've been begging for all year. We all remember that one gift we wanted more than anything when we were young. But what happened a few weeks after Christmas? We got bored of it and found something new to play with. Don't treat Election Day the same way. Keep informed on your favored candidate, the winner of the valued election, by keeping tabs on his or her new job. This includes getting updates on what they are supporting or voting against. Follow that certain measure's progress. See what you can do as a citizen to keep informed on how the bill is coming along. If you were interested in the bill passing (or failing) last week, should your interest only increase a week from now? If you were interested in his or her candidacy several months ago, why not be more interested since they achieved the goal they were vying for—and you were hoping for?

When fellow voters don't take our side and we don't get our way, it's like pouting on Christmas Day when we find that the only thing in our stocking was underwear. Instead of wearing black a week from today, keep the passion alive that you had all election season. For instance, write to your senator (even if you believe he or she is the anti-Christ) if you are unhappy. Your candidate may have not have won the election, but you can still use your rights as a citizen to vocalize your own opinions.

A week from today some of us are going to be scrooges, and some of us much less so. Regardless, treat Election Day as the new beginning—not the end. Be one of those homes that leave up their Christmas lights until April.

The Crusader is starting a new feature called "Ask Emerson."

If you have questions for any of our administrators, please forward them to crusader@nnu.edu.

Put "Ask Emerson" in the subject line

Each week, an administrator working in Emerson will answer the questions submitted by students.

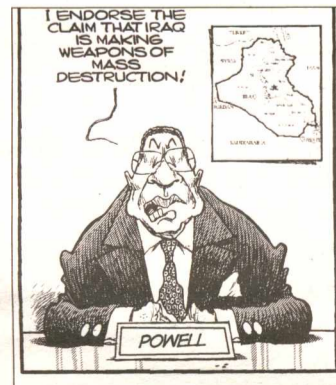
So if you've ever wondered why school costs so much, or why we water the grass so often, send it in the The Crusader at crusader@nnu.edu

Contact National Elected Officials

U.S. Sen. Larry Craig: 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. Bill Sali: 802 W Bannock,
Suite 101
Boise, Idaho 83702

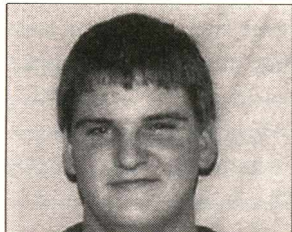


the crusader	
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NNU VOICES
Letters to the editor

This Halloween, universal health care is the scariest thing

In light of the Halloween festivities, I thought that it would be fitting



GUEST OPINION
 by
LOREN POUNDS

to bring up possibly the scariest thing of our time: universal health care. You might ask, "Why is universal health care so terrifying?" At first, it seems like a good idea (as many bad ideas do).

But universal health care attempts to ensure that every citizen of this country has access to quality medical services. That pursuit is definitely a noble one, but the implementation is anything but. Even though Michael Moore would have us believe that Britain, Canada and even Cuba are shining beacons of hope, providing world-class medical care to all, they have proven instead to be something closer to the health care that you would expect from Count Dracula: brutal, unforgiving and completely parasitical. Few people know that there are actually waiting lists to get on waiting lists in Canada, according to

the Canadian Institute for Health Information. Being forced to get in line for major surgery is no small trifle because it can mean the difference between life and death. It would be difficult to argue that the quality of medical care provided by the U.S. as compared to other countries is much different, but the draconian downfall of universal health care is its inability to provide those services to everybody and on demand. Beyond brutalizing the availability of services, universal health care also stagnates medical research and innovation by sucking incentives out of the picture. From pharmaceuticals to biomechanics to cell repair therapies, American innovators have been consistent leaders in the field of medical research.

However, if Uncle Sam takes over this private sector, he will cut prices and thereby cut profits. No profits equal zero money to reinvest in research. For example, look at cancer medications. The pharmaceutical industry has to constantly research better drugs to treat new and more aggressive cancers, and this costs millions, if not billions, of dollars in research. So sure, you'll be able to get cheaper drugs now, but the end result is the loss of new treatments. If universal health care were a haunted castle, then

limited services and undercut innovations would be the Frankenstein and Dracula of the residence. However, the hallmark of any ghostly abode is the creepy groundskeeper who welcomes you in because this is the part in a good story where people begin to scream at the unsuspecting victims-to-be, "No! Don't trust him, it's a trap!"

In this case, the groundskeeper is good ole Uncle Sam. It's funny that we would begin to trust him now, even after he has corrupted Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, just to name a few. The one major universal rule of all haunted houses is to never go in, especially when the groundskeeper encourages you to. We don't need to go in and get our blood sucked dry by Dracula (innovation) and then be dismembered by Frankenstein (services) because Uncle Sam should be quite enough to scare all of us straight. Look, the Democratic Party's candidates who push for universal health care all have noble and good intentions in mind for the American people (us), but the end result will nonetheless further ruin the already imperfect institution of medicine. Let's try to learn from every scary movie we've seen and book we've read and not make the mistake of becoming victims.

BSU's ranking is deserved

This letter is in response to the article by Derek DeRooy about BSU not deserving a BCS ranking. The article focused more on the supposed stupidity of Californians and BSU's inability to recruit, rather than the actual ranking.

If players from California are choosing to play at a school in "dirty, dusty Idaho" (the same state you currently attend school), isn't that a good thing?

Last time I checked, the talent levels in California are leagues ahead of those in Idaho. It baffles me that you say that BSU can't recruit from Idaho, when in reality most Idaho players aren't good enough to play for them.

All BSU can do for itself is win, which we all know it does. I realize it hurts seeing BSU do so well while your Cougars bite the dust. Here's a little fact though: the Cougars have 35 players from Washington to only 16 from California, so maybe if they recruited some more of those dumb Californians, they might win some games.

Mark Wade, Nate Branahl,

and Jay Seals
 sophomores

Columnists need to be more careful

The Editor's Note this week and the article "Can a Christian be the President" by Andrew McCulley left me feeling a bit of shame.

Here is the editor in chief of the paper and an intelligent staff writer writing opinion articles that quite frankly lack depth and understanding. They are both offensive and libelous.

Mr. McCulley wants us to believe that Obama's links to the Muslim world are of no consequence... I do not believe Barack Obama to be a Muslim, however, I do not discount the fear of his background and do believe it is something that needs to be explored. The fear is that when it comes down to a matter of national security that may involve the deaths of Muslims, he may think twice or not do what needs to be done.

If Barack Obama is truly a devout Christian, as he claims, then we should expect that influence to play a part in his decision making...just as if he were a Muslim.

So, faith does matter and it should be examined if there are allegations. This is a free country and Americans should have the right to know, fully, who they are voting for because to some faith does matter.

Next, the "Religious Right" as you explained does not exist. It is a figment of the imagination of the liberal agenda- a sort of ultimate evil who must be slain in battle.

In truth the "Religious Right" actually exists in a much broader sense. It's just not true when it comes to the more strictly defined policies.

Furthermore, I find it interesting that the example used for the 'Right's' martyr complex is homosexual marriage. An intelligent person will quickly find a much greater martyr issue on the left side, who consistently finds itself shouting chants at "parades" of martyrdom...

So please take time to consider what you are writing and the audience: an educated, free campus.

Tony Napier
 senior

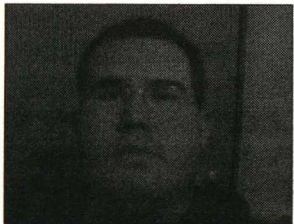
THE CRUSADER'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR GUIDELINES

SEND TO CRUSADER@NNU.EDU

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

The United States is moving quickly toward market socialism

The recent financial crisis has renewed interest in old issues. The Bush administration has announced plans to buy \$85 billion in



GUEST OPINION
 by
JOSHUA DOLLINS

preferred stock in what are (for the time being) private financial institutions. The total commitment by the Treasury is set at \$250 billion. While this move by the Treasury Department into the financial industry is unique in American history,

it has precedents elsewhere.

Karl Marx proposed "centralization of credit in the banks of the state, by means of a national bank with state capital and an exclusive monopoly." Years later, so-called "market socialists" proposed state control over credit and financial capital.

While these market socialists accepted trade and the use of money with consumer goods, markets for capital goods would be simulated and markets for financial capital would be wholly replaced by central planning. Capital investment would therefore be determined by state officials, rather than by competition for funds in financial markets.

State officials would set the overall rate of capital accumulation, instead of interest rates. State officials would also determine the pattern of investment, instead of profit-seeking capitalists and entrepreneurs.

Socialism is defined by communal control of capital, this system requires state control of investment and finance. Socialism therefore means replacing private dividends with social dividends and interest rates with edicts.

All private speculation and credit must be prohibited if capital is truly to become communal property.

The elimination of markets for capital goods and financial capital introduces arbitrary and political forces

into the determination of capital investment.

In capitalism, money prices direct capital investment. Socialist officials necessarily lack money prices relating to capital goods because the markets that form these prices are incompatible with socialist aims and ideals. Socialist officials will not determine investment by rational calculations in terms of money, but by political expediency.

The collapse of the Soviet Union was seen as a final verdict on socialism as an economic system. Whatever one might have thought about socialist ideals, the system was itself seen as unworkable. Yet, in only fifteen years, we have come to a point where a Lange-

type system is close to being implemented.

Of course, the federal government already holds strong regulatory powers over financial institutions. The regulation of American finance introduces an element of politics in financial markets. However, federal regulation of financial markets puts the voting public in the position of an active stakeholder in financial markets. With limited government and laissez faire, voters are passive stakeholders in financial markets. To put it simply, regulation changes the role but not the position of voters and interest groups in these markets.

The purchase of preferred stock by the federal government alters the position of

the general citizenry regarding financial institutions. If implemented, this plan will move voting citizens from the position of active to that of actual shareholders.

It is not yet clear if the federal government will be an active or silent partner in the financial institutions. But, given the historical record, it seems highly unlikely that the federal government would gain a \$250 billion interest in these institutions without asserting some influence over their operations.

It appears likely that the American public will become active shareholders in some of the largest and most important financial institutions.

Gunstream and Jones travel Down Under for the semester

by ANDREA SCHILLING

Two NNU students have taken their studies Down Under this semester, as juniors Taryn Gunstream and Chelsey Jones experience several months at universities in Australia.

Gunstream, psychology major, is studying at Bond University in Gold Coast, Australia. Jones, psychology and business major, is studying at the International College of Marketing in Sydney. Jones said ICMS is a sister school to Macquarie University.

"I decided to study here

because Australia is always somewhere I wanted to go and since there wasn't a language barrier, there would be less cultural barriers for studying," said Gunstream.

"An Australian teacher lived with my grandma for several years when I was growing up and she sparked my interest," said Jones. Jones said she is studying international business at ICMS.

For both students, classes are proving to be difficult, despite the fact that they're in the classroom less than a normal semester at NNU.

"There aren't nearly as

many assessments here and they make up a lot more of your grade. It's a bitter-sweet arrangement. Overall, classes are challenging here, but I can't complain going to school two days a week," said Gunstream.

"I have found that A-work in the States is more like B-work in Australia. You definitely have to put in more effort to get the high grades," said Jones.

Gunstream said Bond is much like NNU; her classes are small in size. However, Gunstream has noticed her professors are less approachable compared to here in

Nampa.

The different culture in Australia has been interesting for both Gunstream and Jones to adapt to.

"Driving is ridiculous. It is weird driving on the other side of the road," said Gunstream. She also said it's a nice change not having to tip at restaurants, as it's considered an insult.

"It seems like every beach I go to there is a topless woman nearby," said Jones.

Gunstream and Jones' schools are nine hours away from each other, but the students are still finding time to visit.

Gunstream and Jones were able to meet up this weekend for the first time.

Overall, Gunstream is enjoying her time at Bond. She was surprised to find that her school was made up of 50 percent international students. Gunstream says she enjoys the great amount of diversity.

Gunstream's school is on the beach. According to her, Gold Coast is considered the vacation spot of Australia. At this location, Gunstream is not easily bored.

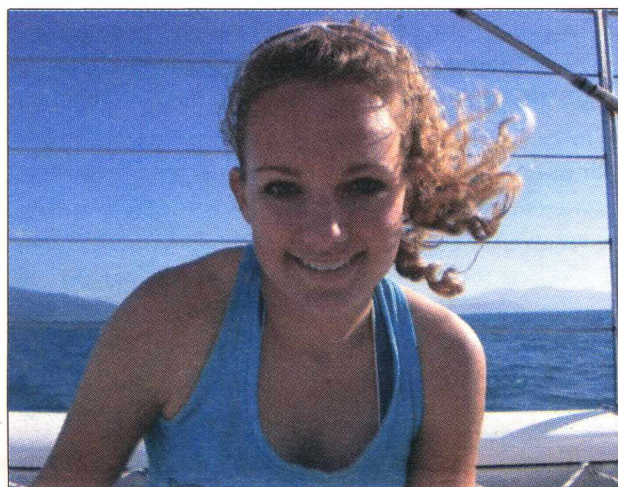
"I'm enjoying the change of pace. There is always something to do and

something to see. I've really enjoyed meeting new people and I've had the chance to learn a lot about myself too."

Both Gunstream and Jones have considered their time thus far in Australia positive.

"I don't want to leave! I love it here," said Gunstream.

"I encourage anyone who wants to study abroad to do it now! You'll more than likely not get the chance later in life," said Jones.



Top: Jones goes sailing on the Great Barrier Reef (photo from Chelsey Jones). Above: Gunstream and Jones get together in Sydney last weekend. Right: Gunstream pets a kangaroo earlier in the semester (photos from Taryn Gunstream).



Continued from page 1: Music Department prepares for Homecoming Concert

of the Boise Philharmonic Brass Quintet. The quintet will impress the campus with some traditional pieces as well as some jazz.

NNU music ensembles will also be performing. Crusader Choir, Northwesters, Bella Voce and Concert Band will get to choose a few pieces of their own to contribute to the concert.

The selection of those pieces will depend upon the directors' final decisions, as well as the progress each ensemble has made

throughout the semester.

All ensembles will participate in the opening number, "The Heavens are Telling," a selection from Franz Joseph Haydn's oratorio, "The Creation."

The Homecoming Coronation ceremony will take place during the concert.

This is the second year that Homecoming designated the concert to present the Homecoming Court

Swanson said the idea to hold the coronation during the concert went well, so it

will be continued for this year.

The coronation brought many more students to the concert last year and Swanson hopes that the combination of the events will bring more students again this year.

The concert will be after the women's volleyball game on Friday, to which students will have free admission.

old friends, **new faces**



nnu music department
homecoming concert

Friday, Nov 7, 7:30pm—NNU Brandt Center

Featuring NNU Music Department ensembles and the crowning of the 2008 NNU Homecoming royalty
Special Guests: Trombonist George Turner and the Boise Philharmonic Brass Quintet

Tickets \$7 (seniors and students \$5)
Available at NNU Alumni House—487.8841
or at the door

Senior education majors gain field experience in local schools

by RACHAEL FINCH

Senior year is when education majors make the leap from field experience to student teaching, and this year's student teachers said that the experience is eye opening.

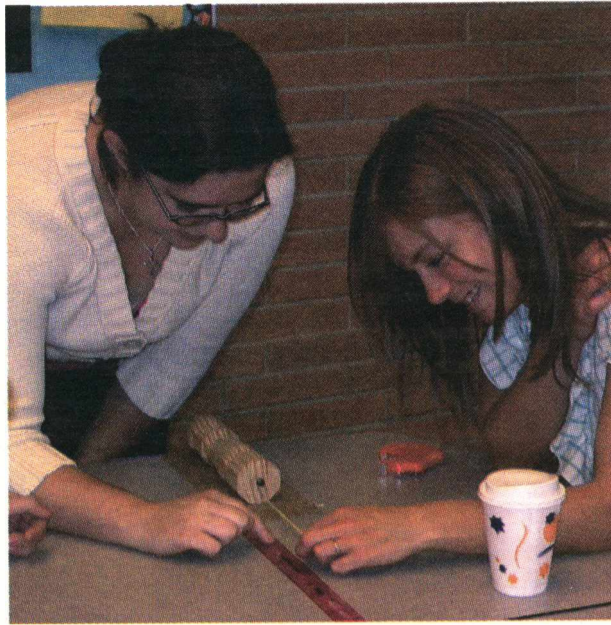
"I have come to enjoy teaching more and enjoy the kids more because now that I am actually teaching I am really involved," said Austin York, who is teaching seventh and eighth grade health and P.E. at Kuna Middle School.

Before student teaching, education majors complete field experience and methods course requirements, but student teaching gives them more constant access to students and requires more responsibility in the classroom.

"Student teaching is the period of guided teaching when the elementary intern or secondary student teacher takes increasing responsibility for teaching a group of learners over a period of consecutive weeks while under the guidance of competent, certificated and experienced personnel," said Professor Debra Ujiiye, director of student teaching.

The student teacher acts as an assistant to his or her cooperating teachers until the cooperating teachers decide that the student teacher is ready to take on the full duties, which is usually in the last six to eight weeks of student teaching, said Ujiiye.

Many student teachers have assumed complete responsibility for teaching



Peggy Egan and Dani Wilson work on a science project for their internship (photo by Phyllis McMillin).

and even curriculum at this point in the semester.

"I am teaching all six periods of sophomore English and I am teaching my

curriculum. I have looked at what my teacher has done in the past and I have taken the curriculum standards and designed my own

units," said Amber Ford, who is teaching at Nampa High School.

Elementary education internships are different than secondary education student teaching. Secondary education majors complete student teaching in one semester, while elementary education internships are yearlong programs, including on-campus methods courses as well as classroom experience, said Ujiiye.

Elementary education interns are already in the classroom, but have not yet assumed the full responsibilities as secondary student teacher have.

"For right now, I mostly observe and work one-on-one with students who need extra help. When I start working in the classroom full time, I will slowly start

taking over the responsibilities of the classroom teacher," said Stephanie Swanson, who is interning at Ronald Reagan Elementary School.

Student teachers said that interning is an important experience that they would recommend to students in any field.

"Getting experience in your chosen field helps tremendously. If you don't do any interning, then your first year is the year of trial and error and a great deal of frustration. But by interning in an office, a classroom, a hospital or wherever, you get to make the mistakes that could potentially hurt you if it had been your first year," said Michelle Holverson, who is student teaching at Caldwell High School.

Environmental Services strives for personality behind the dust pan

by RACHAEL FINCH

He has been a Marine, worked in the media, and is even a Road Rider for Jesus, using his motorcycle as a ministry tool. But he is also a janitor.

Ron Tidmarsh and many other custodians at NNU are not only good at their jobs, they also have interesting backgrounds to share, said staff and students.

Imagine starting the work day at 7 a.m., making coffee for the staff, vacuuming, emptying the trash, disinfecting and cleaning all day. That is what Ron Tidmarsh does every work day.

"It's really not an exciting career," but the social interaction on campus makes this job enjoyable, said Ron

Tidmarsh.

"I've been so blessed to find this, and I wish I would have found it 16 years ago. It's an amazing place to work," said Ron Tidmarsh.

"My favorite part is all the friendly people that are everywhere," said Shelly Tidmarsh.

Shelly is Ron Tidmarsh's daughter, who is also a custodian at NNU.

One of the ways the custodial staff supports students is through living by example and displaying a positive attitude, said students and staff.

"You pay big money to instill Christ-like character and the university outcomes, and these people demonstrate it just by taking

out the garbage," said junior Micah Campton.

"It's hard not to smile when you're around the guy," said Bryce Quarve, director of conferences and events.

"He is willing to take any assignment at any time," said Britton Hall, director of custodial services.

Campton, who has worked for conferences and events, knows first hand how important it is to get to know the people that are cleaning her campus.

"It's those kinds of people who contribute so much to the university," said Campton. "It's about taking care of the facilities that they [the students] use, and it's about taking care of the

environment in which we learn. And that's essential, I think, to the learning environment."

Environmental Services works behind the scenes most of the time, but without them the campus could not carry out its mission, said Hall.

"Often times a lot of students will walk right past and not even notice somebody scrubbing the toilets, sweeping the floor, vacuuming, taking the garbage," said Campton.

Shelly Tidmarsh said her father has a lot to offer students outside of cleaning and maintenance.

"He's had lots of experience throughout his whole life, with radio, with

education, just with a lot of different parts that every student kind of goes through," said Shelly Tidmarsh.

Interaction with people and talking to students is the best part, said Ron Tidmarsh.

"I've built relationships with a lot of the kids that did research here over the summer," said Ron Tidmarsh.

Being the unseen hand of the campus has unexpected social benefits, like a sense of trust and camaraderie, said staff and students.

"There is something about a janitor," said Ron Tidmarsh, "in this profession people confide in you."

"I have one person in particular, she works in the

Dex area, and I think she knows my whole family and she knows the situations that we have been in, and in turn, we choose to pursue a relationship with her," said Campton.

There were custodians and maintenance people in college who "by virtue of who they were as people and that they were genuine and very upbeat, still had an impact in my life," said Quarve.

However, the energy and the life of this campus are unique, said Ron Tidmarsh, "I believe that the Holy Spirit lives here, among all of us."

TWIRP SCHEDULE

Day 1:

5:00-6:30--Dinner on the Brandt Center Lawn

6:30-8:00--Human "Clue" on campus

8:00-9:30--Trick or Canning

9:30-11:00--Red Group: On campus Harvest Party

Green Group: Cosmic Bowling at Nampa Bowl

11:00-1:00--Switch

Day 2:

5:00-6:30--Dinner at Lakeview Park by Panda Express

6:30-7:30--Giant Twister

7:30-9:00--Corn Maze

9:00-12:00--Boondocks Fun Center

12:00--Midnight movie at Overland Park Cinemas

Student Life Events

Wednesday, October 29

5:30 p.m.: Born into Brothels (Harter)

9:00 p.m.: Timeout with Brittan Aebischer

(Brandt Center)

10:00 p.m.: Wednesday Night Live with Arjuna

Thursday, October 30

9:00 p.m.: Brickhouse

Friday, October 31

5:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.: TWIRP Day 1

Saturday, November 1

5:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.: TWIRP Day 2

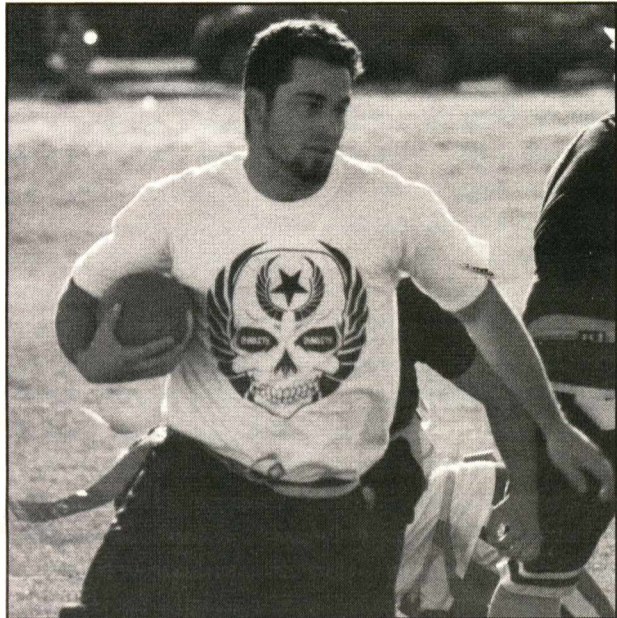
Tuesday, November 4

Election Day

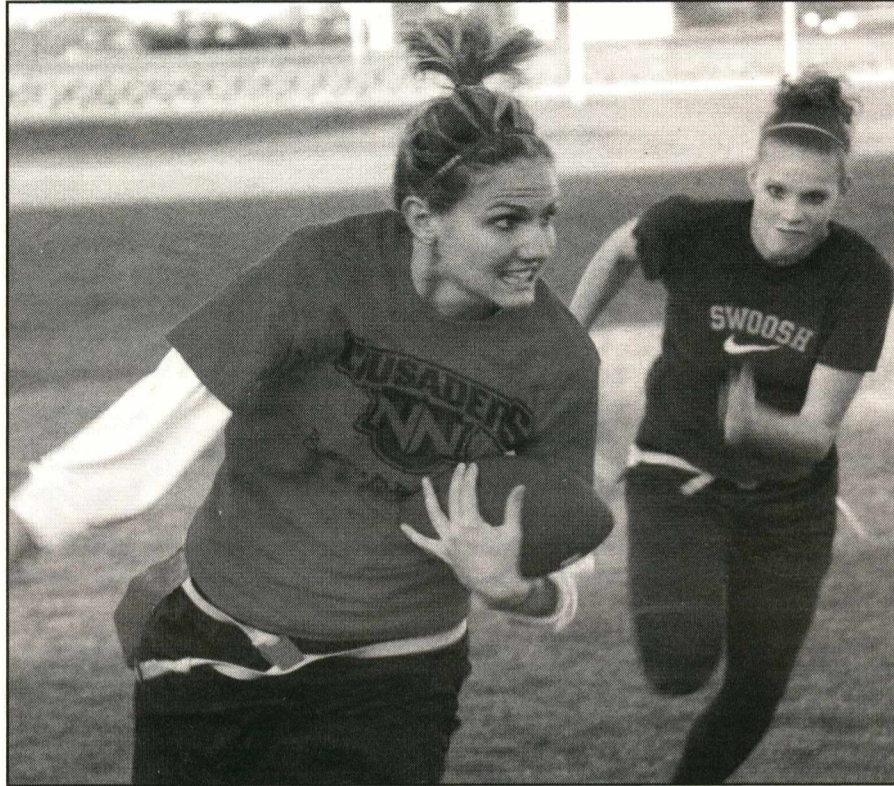
November 10 and 11

Auditions for "Godspell"

Continued from page 1: Two teams redeem championship losses from last season



Above: Senior Ryne Phillips of Dynasty carries the ball in the backfield Saturday. Left: Senior Paige Knudson (left) of Bloodbath takes off down the field with Brusier's defender Lakiesha Nilles (right) hot on her trail (photos by Andrea Schilling).



Paige Knudson, Jael Henthorn and Jessie Monroe each contributed to Bloodbath's victory with touchdowns.

While football is over, soccer is just beginning with nine teams signed up on the roster.

"I'm really enjoying

intramural soccer because I enjoyed playing it in high school and this is a great outlet for me to continue playing," said sophomore

Grayson Belleque.

Lacey Bruner, a student working for the intramurals program, said soccer continues through Nov.

11, when the championship tournament is set to begin.

Volleyball team beats Anchorage and Fairbanks on the road

by LAURIE BURGEMEISTER

The Crusader volleyball team shut down two Alaskan universities last Thursday and Saturday nights at the Johnson Sports Center giving the ladies 5 consecutive wins.

The two games were Great Northwest Athletic Conference matches leaving the Lady Saders 7-4 in GNAC standings and 14-7

overall.

On Thursday night, the Saders faced the University of Alaska Fairbanks, a team they beat earlier on in the season. The Crusaders defeated the UAF, 27-25, 25-22, 25-13.

Amanda Boschma led the Thursday game with 11 kills and Cammy Dranginis had 10 kills. Eki Punimata had 21 assists and Amy Higginson finished the

game with 8.

Coach Jared Sliger said that Boschma was the spark that gave the ladies the edge for winning this game.

Before the games started, the NNU ladies handed out pink bags in support of the Breast Cancer Awareness campaign. Fans are to fill the bags with money and return them to the Breast Cancer Awareness night during the Oct. 30

game. If the bags have ten dollars or more, the person will receive a free pink volleyball shirt. All the money will be donated to cancer research, said Sliger.

On Saturday night, the ladies defeated another team from Alaska in three games, the University of Alaska Anchorage, 25-28, 27-25, 25-20.

Dranginis led the game with 11 kills and 5 blocks,

Boschma had 7 kills and 3 blocks.

Punimata had 26 assists, 5 kills and 5 digs.

The Crusader Ladies go up against Montana tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. This will be the NNU Breast Cancer Awareness game night and the team members are expecting a good outcome.

Cross country teams take fifth and sixth in GNAC conference championships

by Jael Henthorn

On Oct. 25 the Crusaders competed in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference cross-country championships in Yakima, Washington. The women finished fifth overall while the men finished sixth.

According to junior Greg DeSimone, both teams ran well. Freshman Josh Merioles said "all of the freshmen guys ran their best races ever."

The men's team just missed a chance to go to regionals. The women are still

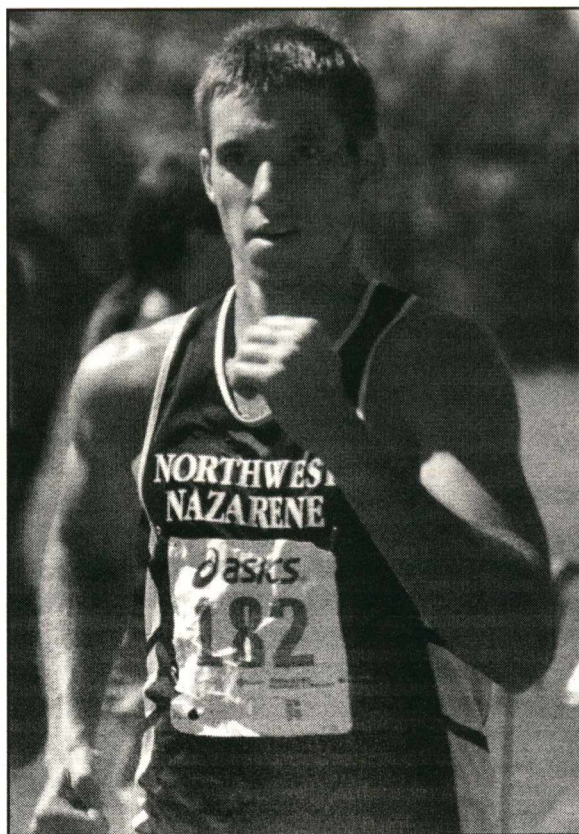
waiting for confirmation as to whether or not they will go to the regional race together.

Unfortunately both the men and women suffered from untimely injuries. The men's top runner Josh Wageman passed out during the race and was unable to finish. He would have added points to the Crusader team total. Josh Merioles said that it was disappointing, but the team ran well and that's where the team's focus remains.

As for the women, sophomore Elisa Decker was

sidelined with a knee injury. She also could not finish the race. No further details have been provided about these athletes' injuries.

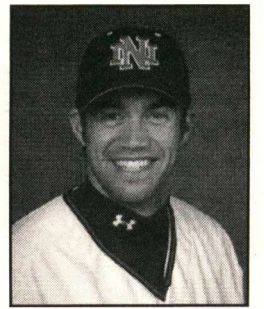
Because of their top thirty finishes, three of the Crusader athletes will be representing NNU at regionals. Senior Ashley Puga and sophomore Jackie Puga both had top ten finishes in 6K races. Ashley finished sixth overall with a time of 22:56.24. Jackie finished ninth with a time of 22:56.86.



Junior Hank Hetrick runs during the Roger Curran Invitational for men's cross country (photo by Aimee Niles).

PLAYER PROFILE

JARED JOFFER



Name: Jared Joffer
Major: BioChemistry
Sport: Baseball
Year: Junior

What is the best moment in your sport?

Whenever my bat runs into a ball while my eyes are closed.

If you could hang out with any one person for a day who would it be and why?

Tim Onofrei so he could show me how not to play golf, but how to peel a banana and sell a box of oranges.

Which dex worker always puts a smile on your face?

All of them.

What is your claim to fame?

Trail 90.

What is your favorite quote?

"So you are telling me there is a chance."

What kind of music do you listen to?

Music with beats.

If you could give Dr. Alexander (our new president) one piece of advice what would it be?

Wear something other than a suit sometime.

If you could be a superhero who would you be?

Big Bird.

If you could be a part of any TV sitcom family which family would you choose?

Does Friends count?

What are some random facts about you?

I am random.

What is your favorite food?

The Dex.

Give a shout out to your team or the student body...

The baseball team likes short shorts and the signs will come.

Men's basketball prepares for Utah State on Friday

by JAELE HENTHORN

Men's basketball coach Tim Hills and assistant coach Brandon Rinta are preparing the Crusaders for their upcoming season. The Crusaders are preparing for their first exhibition game scheduled for Oct. 31 against Utah State University.

Hills said the Crusaders are ranked fifth in the GNAC preseason coaches poll. With senior returners Joel Ryman, Adam Shildmyer, Scott Helpenstell and Matt Mgebroff, the Crusaders can feasibly finish in the top three in the conference.

Hills said, "Our league is extremely good this year so we will have to play great." With playmakers like juniors Louie Beech and Tyler Roberts, and sophomores Kendal Geilow and Tippy Burke, the team should be able to remain competitive throughout the season. Burke should be playing despite having knee surgery early in the fall.

Sophomore Joe Grewe is bothered by a sore knee. There is no news on the details of that injury.

The Crusaders add two junior college athletes. Junior Robert Lippman comes from Spokane Community College. He is a 6'8" post coming off a good season in Spokane. Senior Derek Miller comes

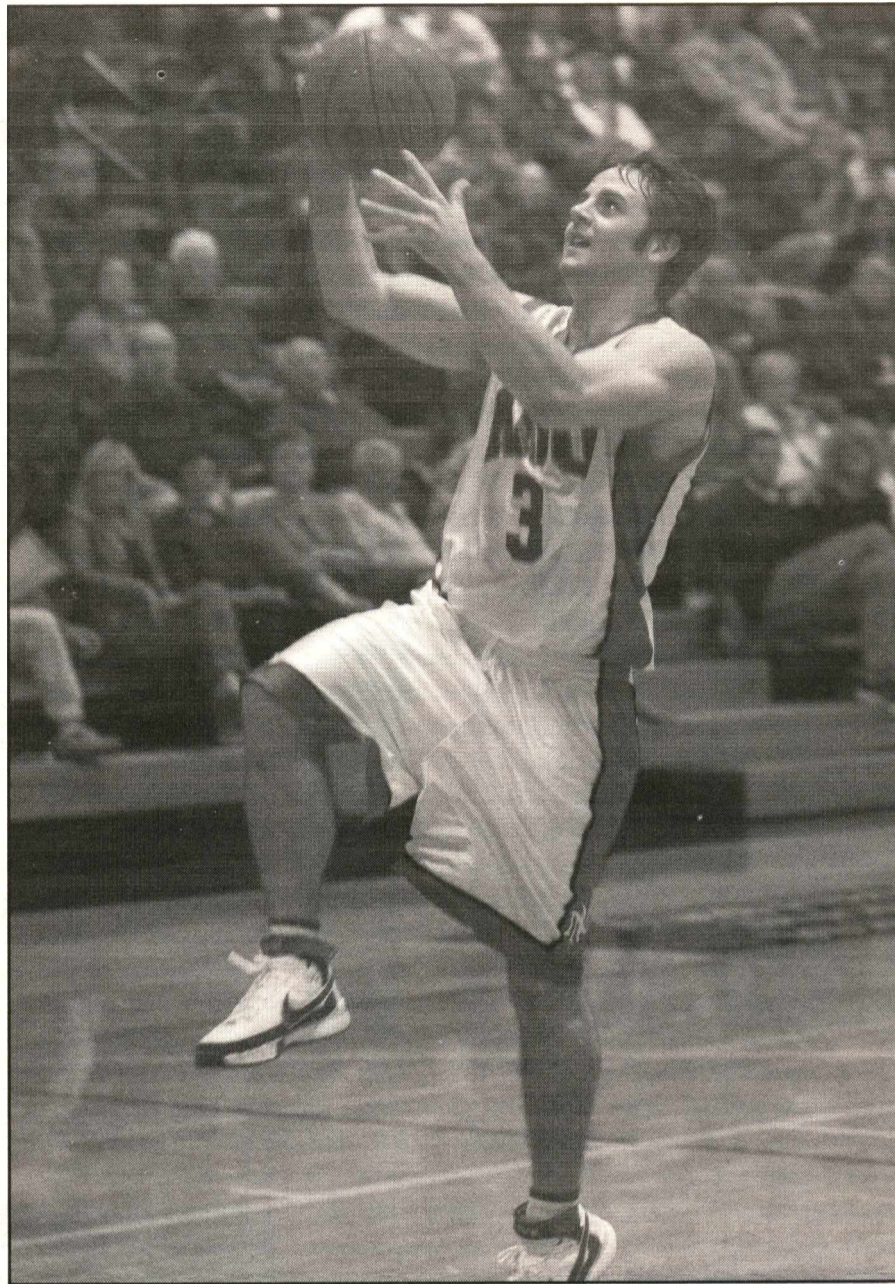
to the Crusaders after playing for Big Bend Community College and then for Northwest University. He is a 6'2" guard.

The team seems excited about its upcoming season. Some members have even mentioned playing toward the goal of a berth to nationals.

The Crusaders lost Justin Parnell and Jason Simmons, but Hills seems very impressed with this year's new recruits. He said, "We have a very good group of new guys that we are counting on in practice and some of them in games to make strong contributions this year. I like their future." He adds that this year's team is "totally unselfish and willing to accept their roles and they are glad to be here. Coaching players who aren't concerned about their stats and number of shots is a real blessing."

According to Assistant Athletic Director Barb Robertson, the team is not only impressive on the court but off the court as well. She said, "Both teams (men and women) have great athletic ability. They're great students. They're just great kids. I just love 'em all!"

The team is turning heads during preseason. The only element missing is the student body. Hills encourages the student body to get involved in



Senior Joel Ryman (pictured above from last season) will return this year for the Crusaders after a brilliant season last year averaging 11 points per game (photo by Jenn Hush).

the excitement by coming out to the games. He said, "We are an exciting team to watch bombing the 3's and fast breaking. The fans will see some awesome dunks

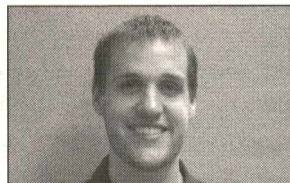
and a team that will play hard. Our team will represent our school well and there will be lots of high quality basketball. As you all know, they are great

guys and some of your best friends. Let's get rowdy in a good way and have lots of fun. Go Crusaders!"

Where have all the ethics gone?

Why is it so hard for professional athletes to keep their noses clean?

It's simple, really. Everyone has seen minor scuffles



LOCKERTALK
by
DEREK DEROOY

between friends, or between two guys on the street. But while the media knows so many dirty little secrets, it isn't always in our interest to make them known. Meanwhile, the fans hope to never imagine our idols-- normally men who make millions of dollars every year-- making those same mistakes and living

with those same vices.

The media looks for opportunities to make a buck, to get a story published. If it's a steroids scandal, news of a star infected with HIV, one boxer biting off the ear of another, a player charging into the stands, or, most recently, spitting on a woman at a club, we immediately have a story worth selling.

Forget for a minute that these multi-millionaires are all too often prima donnas, that they forget how gifted they are and how ridiculously much they are paid to play games. Forget that many of the players (though by no means the majority) end up living with family or become bankrupt within a few years of their retirement because they didn't manage their money or their spending



San Francisco Giants star Barry Bonds has faced allegations of steroid charges in the past two years (photo from wikicommons.com).

habits well.

How can the superstars, the idols, the people that are the highlight of our weeks, bring the fans down so easily? How are they so fragile, so moody, and so

unpredictable that they end up in allegations of drive-by shootings, of DUIs, or of shady relationships off the court, field, ring, etc.?

When a few athletes do end up donating money

to charities, working with United Way on inner-city projects, or upholding some ethical standards, we are often suspicious or overly grateful. "Did they really care about sharing their gifts and their experiences with less fortunate citizens?" we ask. "This player has done so much to help his community," we think. The media turns those amazing athletes into puppets and stooges for us.

Should we really be so suspicious of their activities? Should we be any more concerned with their crimes and petty offenses than those of our neighbors? Should we be too grateful for things that, just maybe, these athletes should be doing in the first place?

No.

AP

Sports Blurbs

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Boise State left little doubt as to who the best team in the WAC with a 33-16 win over San Jose State on Friday night. If the No. 13 Broncos want to make it back to the BCS they may need to show a little more the rest of the season.

PHILADELPHIA— Sooner or later, someone will win the World Series. Just not Tuesday night. With rain still falling in Philadelphia, Major League Baseball decided not to complete Game 5 between the Phillies and Tampa Bay Rays. The game is tentatively set to resume at 8:37 p.m. Wednesday in the bottom of the sixth with the score 2-2. "You're not going to win against Mother Nature," Phillies pitcher Cole Hamels said.

UNDATED— Four interceptions by Ben Roethlisberger and half a dozen injuries to key players — the Steelers just might have overcome that. An injured long snapper, however, was another story. Pittsburgh's special teams blunder helped the New York Giants to a 21-14 victory.

COLUMBUS, Ohio— The lead in the Big Ten and the inside track to the championship are on the line when No. 3 Penn State plays No. 10 Ohio State in a rare night game at Ohio Stadium.

UNDATED — Nikolai Zherdev and Marian Hossa gave their former teams glimpses of what they're missing. Zherdev had a goal and two assists in his return to Columbus, leading the New York Rangers to a 3-1 victory over the Blue Jackets on Friday night. Hossa had two goals and an assist to help the Detroit Red Wings beat the visiting Atlanta Thrashers 5-3.

ATHENS, Ga. — Urban Meyer and Mark Richt won't talk about it. But everyone else can't wait to see what happens a year after the "Gator Stomp" — Georgia's end-zone celebration against Florida — when the teams meet again Saturday.

Sit down this Halloween weekend with a classic horror film

These thrillers are sure to make you scream



REVIEW

by NATE BERRIAN and
MATT HENRY

Halloween is the only holiday that has an entire film genre created for it.

To support this, the studios politely offer a new Saw movie year after year for this purpose.

We would, however, ask you to pause briefly before shelling out your hard earned cash for another trite, formulaic torture film that has come to represent the horror genre.

There is a disconnect between the expectations and results of modern horror film attempts, which is so pervasive that it has almost become accepted. This is the confusion between fear and similar emotions.

Modern horror movies typically rely on two devices to achieve their objective: gore and shock.

The aforementioned Saw movies are the supreme example of using gore as the main attraction point, but films such as 2005's *Hostel*

also come to mind, where the creative ways in which bodies are mutilated replace the conventional requirements such as story or genuine creativity.

You've seen it before. A vulnerable character is creeping slowly around a dark hallway when the murderer suddenly appears, punctuated by a loud

or hotels.

A good example of a modern success is "The Others" (2001). Nichole Kidman's performance as a mother of two children who are allergic to light complements the creepy and often beautiful atmosphere created by director Alejandro Amenabar.

Asian horror films tend to provide psychological horror by default, and the original versions of "The Ring" (1998), "The Grudge" (Jun-On: The Grudge, 2003), "One Missed Call" (2004) and the Korean film "A Tale of Two Sisters" (2004) are prime examples.

Looking further back, the classic Kubrick film "The Shining" (1980) is a flawlessly atmospheric horror film and David Lynch's "Eraserhead" (1977) contains everything that makes horror films creepy without being explicitly horrific.

If you're content with only experiencing horror between the opening and closing titles of a movie, then we won't stand in your way.

But if you ever crave something that can go a little beyond, then skip the next Saw installment, and Netflix something a little different.



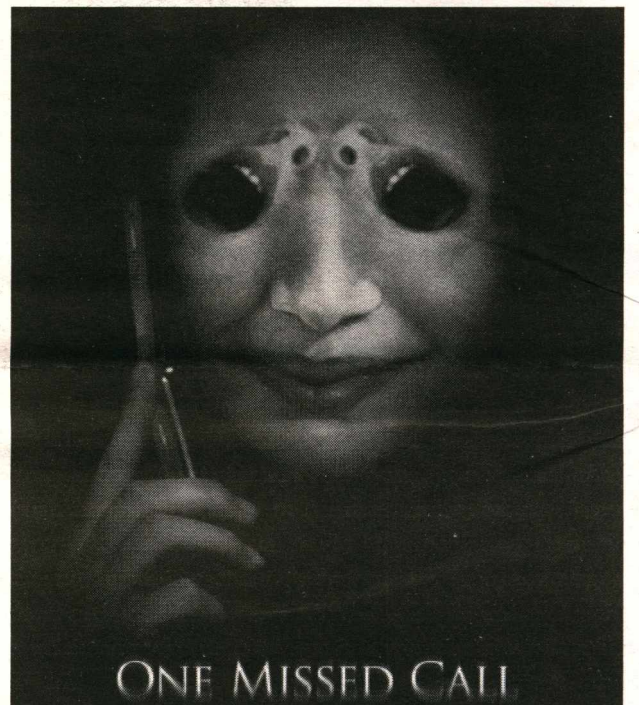
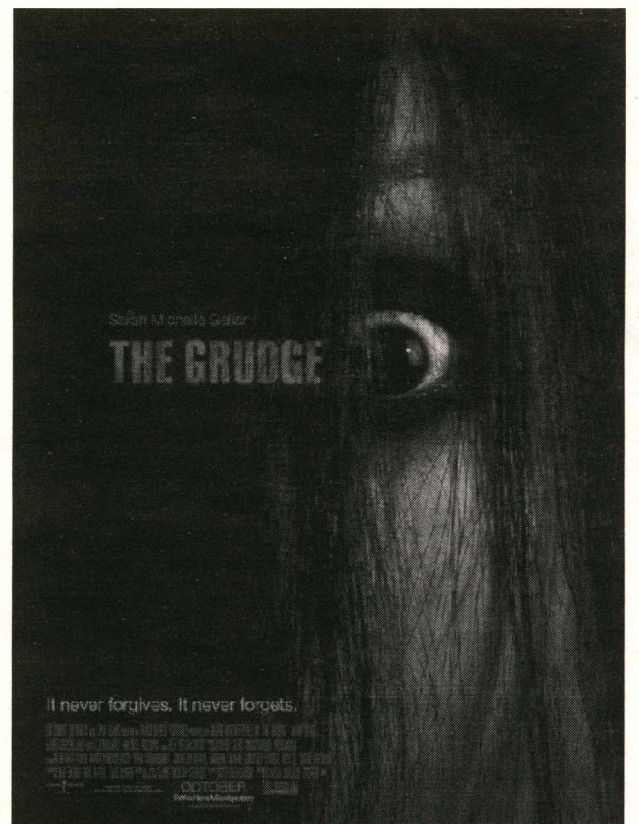
The commercial success of these films is a rather disturbing trend, a sign of how desensitized we have become and how filmmakers are seeking only to desensitize us further.

The other device, shock, is more of a trick to achieve a cheap scare than it is a vehicle for an entire film to ride, but the amount of these cheap scares in a given horror movie is inversely proportional to the creative ingenuity of the filmmakers.

noise. You jump, but is it really because of fear? This is the film equivalent of your roommate popping a balloon while you're eating cheerios.

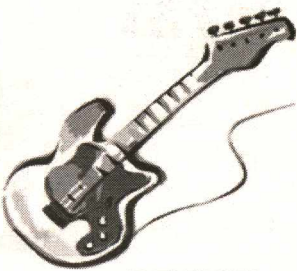
Instead, we would recommend films that can truly get under your skin and create atmosphere and mood.

These are the films that keep you thinking long after the movie theater lights have come back on. They're the ones that make you irrationally afraid of things such as television, mirrors



(photos from wikicommons).

Mason Jennings writes music about God, love and everything else



REVIEW

by RACHAEL FINCH

If Jack Johnson is a relaxing day at the beach, then Mason Jennings is a lazy Saturday morning of catnaps and hot coffee.

Jennings' music is a culmination of folk and indie that is simply comforting regardless of how fun loving the lyrical content may or may not be.

Questions, struggles and

pain are just as reassuring as joy and understanding in Jennings' music because they are constants.

It's comforting to know that music can be conscious of pain and still be beautiful and simple.

Jennings six album trek from 1996 to 2008 grapples with God and love, but he also records songs that are just fun.

Music is a creative, emotional, intellectual and spiritual journey taken by the musician, and hopefully experienced by the listeners.

Jennings' music is truly an outlet for all emotions and moments of a life.

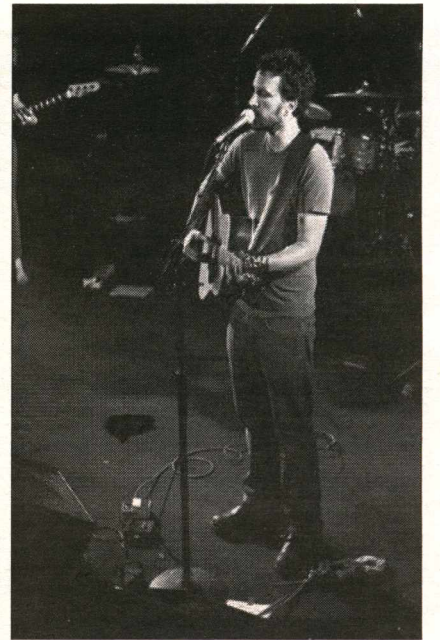
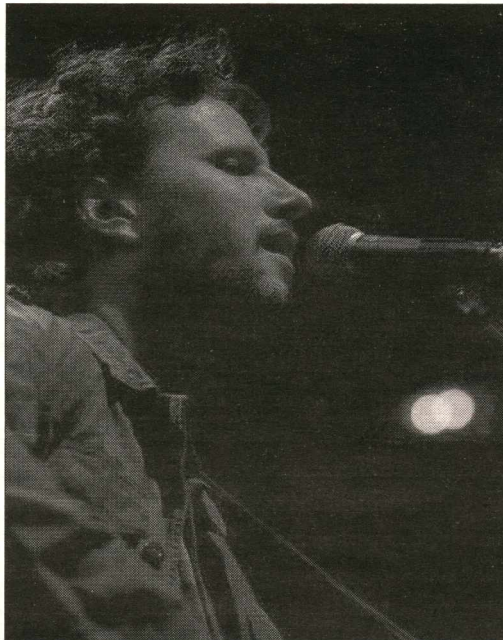
"Your New Man," on 2008's "In The Ever," is a

classic folk song that tells a humorous love story which harkens back to early country western traditional songs.

However, songs like "Jesus Are You Real," on 2006's "Boneclouds" represent struggles with God, religion and truth.

Stylistically, Jennings borrows from several traditions and can be compared to a wide variety of artists.

Fans of Bob Dylan will enjoy the story telling element of Jennings' songs, while fans of Ben Kweller may find similarities in vocal tone. Fans of Devendra Banhart may also enjoy Jennings relaxed and intimate sound.



Mason Jennings, indie artist, comes from Minneapolis. Jennings is currently touring the United States, and will be hitting the west coast next week (photo from Myspace.com).

'High School Musical 3' explores cliché situations seniors face

by LAURIE BURGEMEISTER



REVIEW

Surrounded by little kids fighting over the popcorn and pre-teens drooling over Zac Efron isn't exactly my idea of a great Saturday afternoon, yet "High School Musical 3: Senior Year" proved to be an entertaining show for the whole family.

I'll admit it's cheesy. But really, most musicals are. I mean, who honestly looks at gangs snapping their fingers in "West Side Story" and says, wow, that's some serious stuff right there?

In "High School Musical

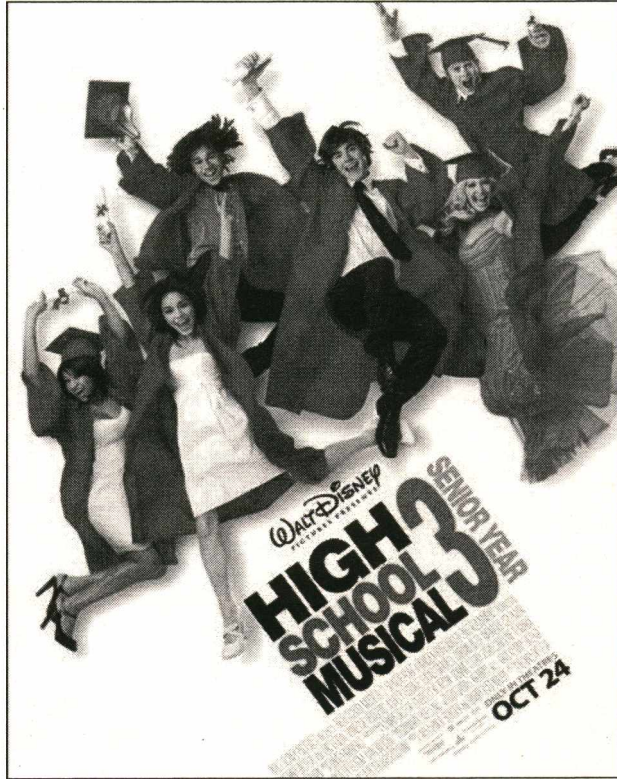
3: Senior Year," we again join the Wildcat basketball team as it fights for the state championship for the second time in a row. We see the whole gang, Troy, Gabriella, Sharpay, Ryan and Chad prepare for the spring musical showcasing their senior year, including prom! And we also join in the struggles these teens have to face as they leave their high school days behind them and try to discover what they want to do

with their lives.

The themes are cliché. What to do after high school, listening to parents or following your own dreams, being separated from the ones you love, saying goodbye... it's all been done. But the themes are universal and this movie provides a fun story for teens and a clean movie for parents who are concerned with what their kids watch.

The movie did make me laugh—sometimes because it was awfully silly. For instance, Troy (Zac Efron) and Gabriella (Vanessa Anne Hudgens) sing a duet in the tree house and magically, whilst the two dance and sing, the tree house roof opens up and the teens are magically gazing at a star-covered sky. Seriously, so ridiculous.

Yet the movie also had



Official movie poster (photos from disney.com).

some good jokes and I enjoyed poking fun at some of the childish aspects of the

movie. For example, during the championship game, Troy is spotlighted while

everything around him fades and Gabriella sings to him from the stands, giving him the motivation to keep going.

Despite the corny lines and the teenage drama, the musical aspect of the movie was really fun. The choreography was incredibly detailed and very well executed. Choreographer and director Kenny Ortega's dances were innovative and creative. It was hard to sit still.

I must admit my favorite part of the movie was set in a junkyard as Troy and Chad (Corbin Bleu) sang and danced their way around the old cars and scrap metal. It almost had a boy band aura about it.

It's fun. Maybe you shouldn't go see it for full price in theaters but for sure the dollar theater. It'll be fun.

High School Musical 3
 Directed by: Kenny Ortega
 Starring: Zac Efron, Vanessa Hudgens, Ashley Tisdale and Lucas Grabeel
 Rated: G
 Running time: 112mins
 out of 5



Creative Corner

by ANDREW McCULLEY

"Upon Fishing in Alaska"

There's not much happening,
 And what is, it'd be a fair guess,
 Has to do with water.
 Some rain falls,
 Waves slap against the boat,
 The base of that island is obscured by mist.

I wish there was someone to talk to,
 I actually ache for it.
 But cell phones and laptops are only good
 For weights out here.
 So I put my ear to the

wind
 And snap my neck looking.

But hours add up and waiting is lonely,
 And absurd.
 I settle on counting things,
 Like all the shades of gray
 I can see
 (the average is around seven),
 Or the mindless jellies,
 But cribbage is my game
 So the highest I count to is always 31.
 Next I wait on sleep to distract me,
 But the sun, falling in 55 latitudinal slow-motion,
 Is a long way off from

setting.
 My mind is washed
 Like the gray atmosphere.

There is work, yes, and food, and rest,
 But these saturate me, become the problem,
 For what else is there?
 Nothing, for me, can fill the hole once filled
 By people.
 Especially the one once filled by her.
 I reflect on this. Then on the rest of my day.
 I think I would have disappointed Thoreau.

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CONCERT BOX

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JASON MRAZ	11.05.08	KNITTING FACTORY
COPELAND, LOVEDRUG	11.05.08	THE VENUE
HAWTHORNE HEIGHTS, EMERY	11.05.08	KNITTING FACTORY
LORD OF THE DANCE	12.18.08	THE MORRISON CENTER

Newsday Crossword

VERBAL VITTLES by Billie Truitt
 Edited by Stanley Newman
 www.stanxwords.com

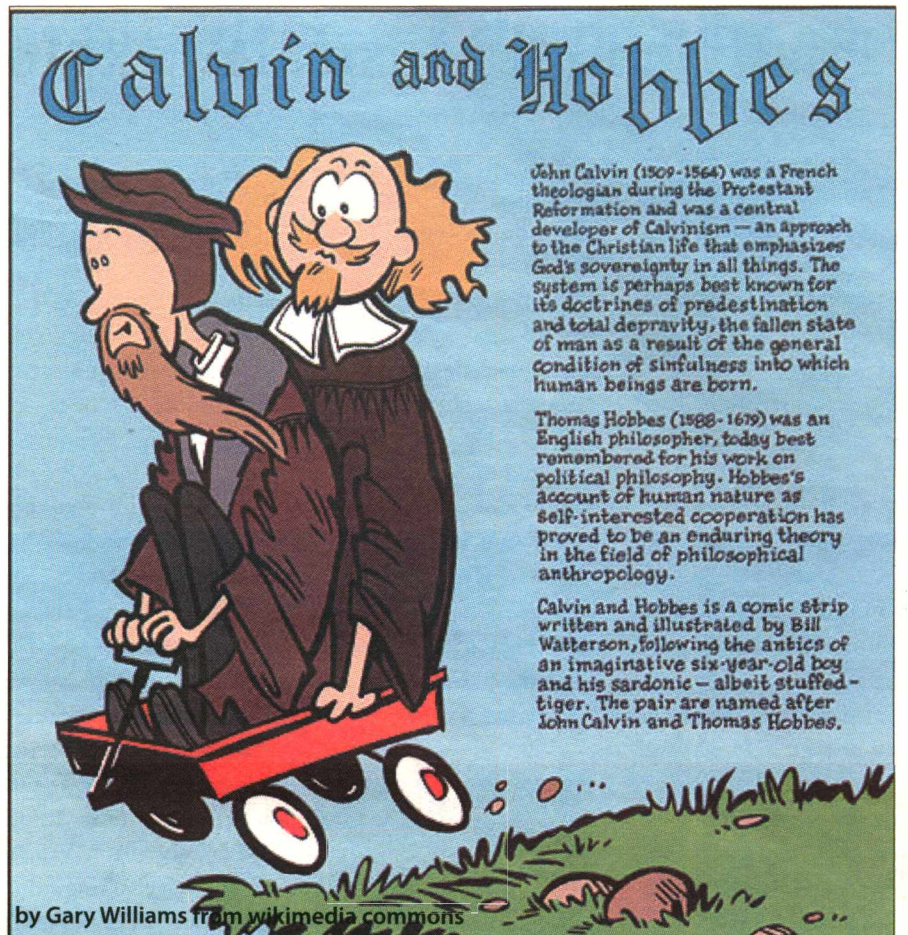
- ACROSS**
 1 "Now hear ___!"
 5 Spill the beans
 9 Layer of paint
 13 Solemn promise
 14 Tardy
 15 High exam grade
 17 At any time
 18 Memo abbr.
 19 Takes a breather
 20 Prefix for circle
 21 Lose one's nerve
 23 Antlered beast
 25 IOU
 26 Minuteman's weapon
 29 Muss up
 34 Superlative ending
 35 Ten Commandments mountain
 39 March Madness org.
 40 Phrase in old gangster movies
 44 So-so grades
 45 Sits for a portrait
 46 Take advantage of
 47 Take into custody
 50 Steeples
 52 Biggest of the Three Bears
 55 Rustic hotel
 56 Strengthen slightly
 61 Competent
 65 Intense devotion
 66 Musical postscript

- 67 Lockup
 68 "Go ahead, eat!"
 69 ___ so (nevertheless)
 70 Word of regret
 71 Snaky swimmers
 72 Chair or sofa
 73 Nothing more than
- DOWN**
 1 Tot's little piggies
 2 Possess
 3 Part of a list
 4 Piercing scream
 5 Formal-affair wear
 6 Wood strip
 7 Top floor of many homes

- 8 Park amenity
 9 "Would you ___ dance?"
 10 Word on a store sign
 11 In addition
 12 Ballerina's skirt
 16 Grounded jet, for short
 22 Tool container
 24 Not so much
 26 Muslim holy city
 27 Wedding-party member
 28 Take the wheel
 30 Mom's brother, familiarly
 31 Scrub thoroughly
 32 Expire, as a subscription
 33 Lets up
 36 Small bite
- 37 From ___ Z
 38 Part of TGIF
 41 Point opposite WNW
 42 Indecisive
 43 Armchair athlete's channel
 48 Cold-shoulders
 49 Spigot
 51 Up the creek
 53 Walks back and forth
 54 On top of
 56 Rotten
 57 A Great Lake
 58 Boundary
 59 Aluminum wrap
 60 Flash of inspiration
 62 Hay bundle
 63 Truth twister
 64 Otherwise

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CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2008 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 10/28/08



by Gary Williams from wikimedia commons

John Calvin (1509-1564) was a French theologian during the Protestant Reformation and was a central developer of Calvinism — an approach to the Christian life that emphasizes God's sovereignty in all things. The system is perhaps best known for its doctrines of predestination and total depravity, the fallen state of man as a result of the general condition of sinfulness into which human beings are born.

Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679) was an English philosopher, today best remembered for his work on political philosophy. Hobbes's account of human nature as self-interested cooperation has proved to be an enduring theory in the field of philosophical anthropology.

Calvin and Hobbes is a comic strip written and illustrated by Bill Watterson, following the antics of an imaginative six-year-old boy and his sardonic — albeit stuffed-tiger. The pair are named after John Calvin and Thomas Hobbes.

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11/18/08

11/17/08



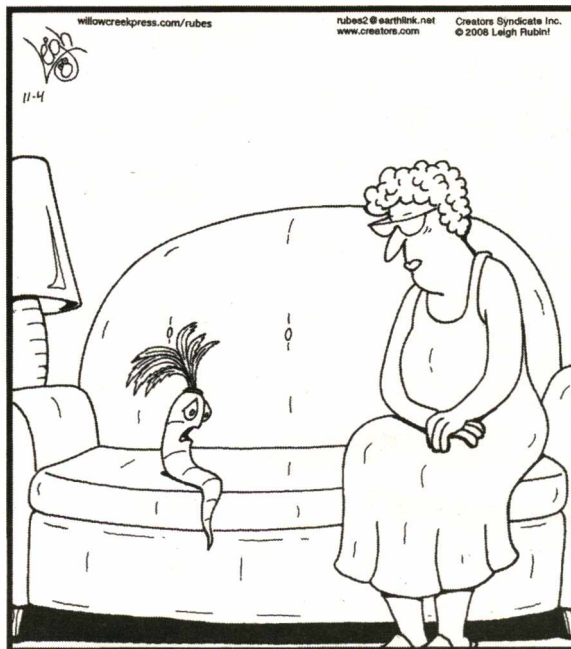
TOP TEN...

things overheard at the candidates campaign parties

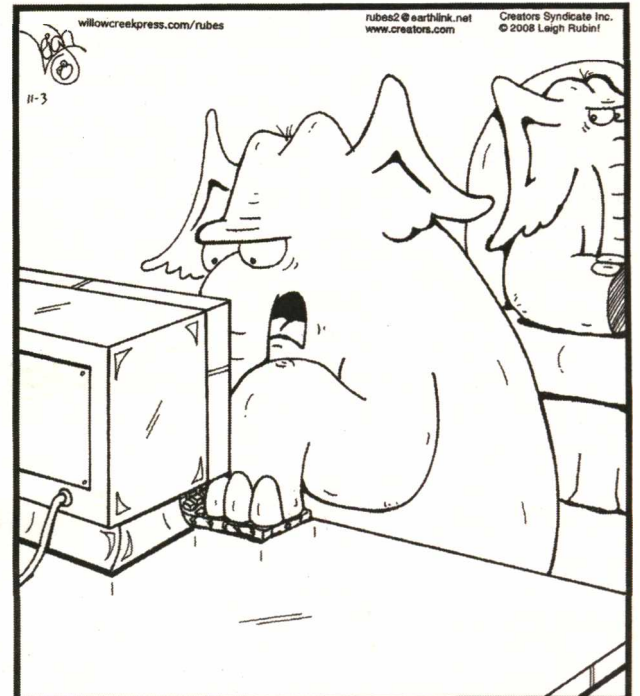
- 10. Hey, the toilet's clogged... where's Joe?
- 9. Who's tapping my shoe...
- 8. What's this in the trash? It's just Hillary's dignity.
- 7. Hey, John?! Where's Powell and Buffet?
- 6. Hey Sarah!...wanna go shopping?
- 5. Who invited "W"?
- 4. Who invited "Ayers"?
- 3. Why is Sarah drilling in the punch bowl?
- 2. Why is Barack wallowing in a bed of cash?...He's spreading the wealth....
- 1. CNN NEWS: "The Democrats Win!...wait there seems to be a problem in Florida..."



Intelligence gathering in the Middle Ages



"That's why you're breaking up with me? Because I'm not intellectually stimulating? Hey, vegetables have feelings, you know. Oh, wait a minute. No, we don't."



"Cripes. ... Well, there goes another perfectly good keyboard."