

THE CRUSADER

Northwest Nazarene University

volume 69 issue 11

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Speaking the Truth in the Service of Justice

Avery Russell

editor for The Crusader

Connor Back

guest writer for The Crusader

Official Note: Many people have been involved in the ongoing conversation about the recent news of six positions being laid-off at NNU. It's a difficult and distressing situation, one that requires all of us to exercise good judgment and patience in our quest for truth. In the following piece, controversy regarding one of the six individuals is highlighted, but because of state and federal law regarding individual privacy and institutional requirement, we cannot use the individual's name. This is obviously a frustrating and difficult barrier in our quest for more information, but I ask your patience in read-

ing it, as it is a required step. If you would like more information regarding this restriction and its ramifications, please don't hesitate to contact me.

-Grant Miller, Director of Community Life

A Science and Religion Club panel to discuss evolution and the problem of evil turned into something larger than just a discussion Tuesday night, April 7, at Feltar Lecture Hall.

After an invitation went out last week on Facebook to "come to what will certainly be an interesting and enlightening discussion and show your support for [an affected faculty member] wearing NNU red," roughly 200 people showed up to the panel, most wearing red.

Please see Love on page 4



Faculty of the School of Theology, Christian Ministry, and Philosophy

Photo courtesy of The Oasis Yearbook

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features

From Student to RD: Papa Jeb

Eric Ostyn

writer for The Crusader

Jeb Anderson is a Resident Director of Kirkeide and Olson apartments and is responsible for the budgeting, meeting with the RAs, and helping with planned events, among other things. Before becoming an RD, he was a student right here at Northwest Nazarene University and went on to teach at Cole Valley Christian High School in Meridian, Idaho, as a Geometry teacher. He also served as the head Track coach.

“A lot of my job is just building relationships with students and with other faculty and staff,” said Anderson. He loves having meaningful conversations with people, whenever and wherever it may happen. A trustworthy personality is imperative to have as an RD, and he realizes that. If the RD

isn't approachable when you have a problem, then the only purpose they serve is to keep the dorms or apartments under control.

Giving advice is also something that Anderson enjoys. If someone is having roommate issues or even problems in their personal life, he can be there to help them through that and do what he can for everyone involved. Being personable and relatable are also important, and Anderson knows all about that since he was once a student here at NNU.

Anderson definitely made the most of his college experience. He and his friends created a mock fraternity that would meet and bring reports on topics of interest and even plan pranks. If any of the members missed a meeting, they would have to face the consequences. The most memorable part for Mr. Anderson was the

elaborate pranks they would pull, setting the bar incredibly high for future generations of pranksters.

One particular prank involved the group making a banner for one of the sports teams on campus. But here's the catch: it was for a team that the school didn't have; in this case, the women's boxing team. Everyone went out of their way to print out a very nice banner that read “Women's Boxing Championship 1987.” The idea was to make it look as close to the other banners hanging in the JSC so as to fool everyone into believing that there really was a women's boxing team that won in 1987. In the early hours of the morning, they snuck in and hung their creation up so they could proudly display it in front of the audience that would be watching the basketball game later in the day.

They were particularly proud of a pulley system that would allow the banner to unfurl during halftime. Everything was in place. Holding their breath, they pulled the rope and their beautiful work of art opened and was shown to everyone. They all waited to hear what people would say about it and hopefully trick them into believing in an actual NNU women's boxing team. No one even glanced at it, however, and their brilliant plan had flown past everyone's collective conscience. The banner was later removed, along with all



Photo by Angela Monroe

of the effort that went into it. Anderson fondly remembers this experience as just one of the many enjoyable times he had with his friends during his time on campus.

It just goes to show that our RDs are very interesting individuals who want to make your time at NNU as enjoyable as possible. They are not just the people keeping the peace; they are relatable and fun-loving, too. Take time to get to know your RD because chances are they'll take the chance to get to know you back.

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FCA: Our Link Between Sports and Faith

William Roemhildt

writer for *The Crusader*

“An athlete to me has the most outlived testimony. You think about it, and they have the biggest platform to show Jesus.”

Those words, from the hyper-quotable President of the FCA, Kassi Johnson, perfectly sum up what truly makes athletic competition so special: it is one of the most visible and effective ways to show Christ. “After the Superbowl, what’s the first thing that Russell Wilson did?” Kassi asked me in a recent interview. “He prayed, on national TV... How many looked up John 3:16 after Tim [Tebow] put it across his eye-blacks?” Asking yourself these questions as you read this now, you can begin to realize how great a witness acts as these can be.

Aside from these Christlike acts on the playing field, athletics in general have always been a source of inspiration, undoubtedly. Society points to success on the field of play as the definitive sign of excellence. It is probably true that in America today, success, or “excellence” are no longer enough, and only the first prize, a championship, is worth any lasting value.

How many times do we need to be reminded that Michael Jordan won six rings in his career? Every time someone is compared to him, that’s how often.

The Michael Jordan example is clearly a case of athletics going sour, and pride getting in the way of the virtues that are applicable to both sports and life. The hard work and perseverance of Michael Jordan are often overlooked for the titles he won, and those become his legacy. That card is of course being played because nobody of comparable skill has won that many titles, and when somebody does (and somebody will) the paradigm will shift for Mr. Jor-

dan, and his legacy will be, “ehh.”

It’s cutthroat, it’s unjust, and it’s what the people want.

Into this world of sports we are born, and out of this world of sports we will exit; but the Russell Wilsons, Tim Tebows, and Eric Liddles stand for a different message, one that NNU’s FCA quietly instills on this campus.

To gain a greater appreciation of FCA’s ministry, I attended the March 30th’s meeting. Before I go any further I absolutely must stress that these meetings are open to any and all that would like to attend. Meetings are Monday nights at eight, just check your campus e-mail (there’s a reason everybody gets FCA announcements - because everyone is invited!).

“I want it to be for those that love athletics, those that have a heart for athletics,” says Kassi. I, not being a student athlete, was pleasantly surprised by the welcoming and authentic atmosphere. Anyone who attended the March 20th Chapel where Mark Wheeler spoke, can attest to the simple applicability of sports to faith.

You get a different message when athletics are the main focus, and it is refreshing; at least it was to me. At this particular FCA meeting Idaho FCA State Director Ken Lewis spoke and led discussion. With Easter approaching we talked about the “winning character” of Jesus and how he displayed qualities of excellence.

At one point in the conversation, Ken used the analogy that our relationship with Christ is like using an oxygen machine. I have never used an oxygen machine, but I have heard second hand that it can be a religious experience in itself. The image that first came into my mind when I heard the words “oxygen machine,” was the image of James Harrison, former linebacker for the Pittsburgh Steelers on the sidelines during Superbowl XLIII, exhausted, recovering



Photo by Angela Monroe

FCA President Kassi Johnson

with an oxygen machine. Harrison had just intercepted a pass from Kurt Warner of the Arizona Cardinals on the Steelers goal line in the final seconds of the first half. If caught by the intended receiver, Anquan Boldin, it would have given the Cardinals a 14-10 half-time lead. Not only did the Steelers linebacker intercept the pass, but he took it 100 yards, breaking three tackles along the way, for the score and the 17-7 lead.

The play has gone down as one of the greatest plays in NFL history, period. The play is amplified by the fact that it was a linebacker, someone who is paid to lay people out, who did it. James Harrison went above and beyond his calling for a 15-second, 100-yard, history-defying, catch-and-run, pick-six as time expired. The longest play in Superbowl history. At the end of that run it was clear that he most definitely needed that oxygen machine. Such is life.

It is plays like these that we point to and say, “that is greatness,” “that is ‘using your head,’” “that is admi-

nable.” The appeal of athletics goes beyond simply entertainment, as sports can and do take on moral narratives, teach lessons, and instill good habits.

Faith and athletics could hardly be talked about without quoting the Apostle Paul at least once. Writing to the Corinthians, who were accustomed to hosting the Isthmian Games (second only to the Olympics in ancient Greece), Paul uses sports imagery to connect with his audience.

“24Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. 25Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.” 1 Corinthians 9:24-25

Verse 24 is for all. It says to do your very best, as to get the prize. Verse 25 though, is for those who run the “race” for Christ - for their prize is eternal, imperishable.

When passing on advice to younger athletes, Kassi tells them,

“You have the biggest platform to witness. You may be the only Jesus that people will ever meet.” My hope is that this article has helped to reveal the truth in that statement. Athletes truly do have the biggest platform to witness and visibly glorify God. As much as that may be a charge to them, I hope it is an encouragement for others to be bold, and to not shy away when your own platform presents itself. Truth is, every day, someone, probably multiple people, work just as hard as Michael Jordan ever did; or exert themselves just as much and achieve just as much as James Harrison did in those 15 seconds - in their own way. A few pastors come to mind, my father as well. The only difference is platform.

In a world where the bounds of expressing our faith are shrinking, utilizing our opportunities to share our faith is becoming more vital. Athletics gives us the archetype, so living that out, as to get the prize. You just may be the only Jesus that people will ever meet.

Love

Supporters were responding to a recent administrative decision to reallocate budgetary funds, including the laying off of this particular faculty member,

of things: reducing travel, watching operational spending. These measures target \$900,000. The more difficult dimension is securing \$400,000. To accomplish this we will layoff six individuals (2 faculty, 4 university staff). Faculty layoffs will occur in programs that have experienced significant

faculty members, this interpretation of events makes them worry that their tenure is meaningless. So what does the term “tenure” now mean on the NNU campus in light of these events?

Dr. Steve Shaw, an esteemed professor of Political Science—who has also served as school

Policy Manual, it does appear to be the case that tenure means more in ‘financial exigency’ or retrenchment context than in a time of program reduction or personnel shift.”

The University has requested it be noted that the Faculty Policy Manual was written by the faculty and has been in existence for many years.

There is also concern about the process in which the decision to lay off this *loving* professor was done. Dr. Richard Thompson, professor of New Testament and department chair of Religion stated, “Our school and department basically had no input in the decision. This goes against standard procedure that is *always* taken in this circumstance.” This lack in protocol has proven to surface a much bigger problem on the campus of NNU. Faculty had no prior knowledge of the layoff policy taking place until the town hall meeting on March 31.

The University administration has also made the statement that all proper process and procedures were followed and that necessary employees were consulted.

The discussion of whether this was a personal attack on this *pas-*

confirmed seeking employment elsewhere since the events have transpired in the past two weeks.

Jon Wren, a senior Philosophy and Religion major [Pastoral Ministry minor] said this: “When I heard about what had happened with [this faculty member], I was disheartened. I have been taught to *love* and that I am *loved*, and now one whom we all *love* has been cast aside in opposition to this *love*. As I know him, he is someone we must support and learn from, not condemn. He has made a difference in my life and my ministry, and I know many other students share these thoughts as well.”

SGA president Connor Back also has concerns about the recent events. While he is less concerned about his personal interest, he wants to “make sure that I represent both the student interest, and the student posture to the administration.” While Back understands that issues between faculty and personnel need to be worked out before the student body knows—and that not all issues need to be discussed with them, it has become apparent that many students feel left out of the conversation overall. He, along with others, would like to provide the students with an opportunity to learn what is happening.

“It seems to me that when it comes to a decision that affects students so directly, such as faculty layoffs, students should at the very least be informed when it is happening,” Back emphasized.

He is aware that a lot of confidential information is involved with layoffs and that most specific information cannot be released. The problem he sees is the way in which students found out about this: Facebook and other social media. When reaching out to faculty to get more accurate information, most have declined to respond.

“Our professors are afraid to



Photo by Angela Monroe

Students attend the evolution panel in red in support of a *beloved* professor.

which was confirmed by Dr. Kevin Timpe, who has been *lovingly* authorized to speak on his colleague’s behalf.

This *compassionate* faculty member, a full and tenured professor of Theology and Philosophy, has been teaching at NNU for many years. According to Timpe, he is one of the most published and internationally renowned professors currently teaching on campus. While being employed at NNU, this professor has brought in approximately \$1.3 million in external grants. He has also received the faculty of the year award six times in the graduate theology program.

Though NNU President Dr. David Alexander said he could not comment on personnel issues and specific information pertaining to parties involved, he did provide a letter sent to pastors across the region. In part, the letter states the following: “To shift spending we are doing a variety

enrollment decline.”

Although experiencing growth in overall enrollment this year, NNU has seen a decline in graduate student enrollment over several years in two departments: theology and counseling. The administration has stated that these layoff decisions have nothing to do with employee performance. However, these statements have become a hot topic with which many faculty have disagreed. It is being asked, if this is truly a financial issue, why has the administration rejected offers by the faculty to find other ways to free up the funds in question other than laying off faculty?

Aside from the community questioning the validity of financial issues that are reported as a reason for the layoffs, a number of faculty worry that what is really behind laying off this beloved professor is an attempt to silence his theological and academic views, which some find to be controversial. According to several

dean, department chair, division chair, faculty chair for four years, and as the Honors College director—has taught at NNU for 36 years.

In response to this *caring* instructor’s layoff and the question of fear, Shaw stated, “I’m not sure

“

Our school and department basically had no input in the decision. This goes against standard procedure that is *always* taken in this circumstance.”

Dr. Richard Thompson
STCM Department Chair

fear has been instilled so much as it seems to have increased. Some faculty—not all but more than a handful—are wondering what tenure means now, given that apparently a rather senior, tenured colleague can be terminated rather quickly and privately. I don’t think tenure has been abolished, functionally or otherwise—based on policy language in our Facul-

tionate instructor for his theology or a true financial issue is not one that will end quickly. Many are asking how they are expected to not interpret the situation this way. A number of faculty have indicated that they are contemplating employment elsewhere, in large part because of the culture of fear and distrust of the administration. At least one faculty has

“**Our professors are afraid to speak, I believe that to be entirely counter-productive in an educational environment.**”

Connor Back
SGA President

speak,” Back said, “I believe that to be entirely counter-productive in an educational environment.” Back reflects the stated sentiments of many students in asserting his confusion about the discrepancy between academic pursuits and an inability to find information.

While NNU claims to be strategically positioning itself to be responsive to student demand, it’s clear that what students truly demand is an explanation regarding the seemingly needless loss of a *beloved* professor. What is also clear is that a multitude of people

feel the administrative decision to lay off this *loving* person has been a mistake.

“[He] is one of the most genuine people I know. He models what he teaches and that is *love*,” added Thompson, who echoes the sentiments of many on campus and beyond the confines of NNU.

No matter the outcome, this *compassionate* professor continues to be a beacon of light at the **heart** of an extremely tough and personal situation. “I want to conclude by thanking many of you who came tonight to wear

red, and my final thought for you is that, in the midst of the things that I and this campus are going through, I want you to know that I plan to live a life of *love*,” he emphasized at the discussion panel.

A Facebook page entitled “Support [redacted]” was created April 2 by Dean Cowles and the page currently has more members than the NNU undergraduate enrollment (more than

1,302) and thousands of comments from professors, pastors, students, alumni, and friends.

In response to student concern, there will be a Presidential Q & A regarding the financial decisions that have been made next Wednesday, April 15, at 7pm in the Little Theatre.



“**I think the laying off/termination/firing of [this instructor] is a mistake. Even if policy were technically and legally followed, it’s still a mistake. [He] is one of the most productive, respected, published, and renowned faculty members on this campus. If it is the case that this semester is his last at NNU, I envy the institution that avails itself of his services.**”

Dr. Steve Shaw
Professor of Political Science

Mysterious Works of Art Appear on Classroom Walls

Eric Ostyn

writer for The Crusader

For more than a year now, this university has been the victim of a very subtle prank carried out by a few select students. Mysterious paintings have been appearing on walls all over campus. No one knew where they came from or who was putting them there...until now. I recently got the chance to sit down with the mastermind behind this intricate scheme and find out what prompted them to start adorning walls with bizarre art.

What makes a good prank work best is never finding out who did it. Thus, my interviewee wanted to remain anonymous to not only protect their identity, but so that the student body won’t expect this individual to keep up this prank. If you start expecting something, it just isn’t special anymore!

Beginning at the end of last year, this person realized that they had amassed an impressive collection of strange art from various thrift stores. This little hobby was getting a bit out of hand, as the paintings were taking up way too much space in their room. Realizing this, The Mysterious Art Collector decided that they needed a new home and that the hallways and classrooms of the school were the best place for them. It not only got them out of their room, but also made them available for viewing to each and every person that passes by.

This individual accepted a tough challenge when they decided to take on this mission: to not only get the art up on the walls without anyone noticing, but also to have them stay there. Some of them have been moved from department to department or even taken down entirely. It seems that

some people just can’t take a joke. There are currently eight pieces of art still on display around campus. See if you can find them all!

“I’ve tried very hard to get one up in Dooley; they always notice. [laughs]” Certain places on campus have proven to be difficult to keep art up in, particularly in Dooley Hall. Displaying this art is a constant effort of seeing whether a painting is still up or not, and then, if it was removed, deciding if it should be replaced. Some places have been more accepting of the new additions to their walls, while others are not appreciative of the beauty of thrift store art.

This person’s favorite piece was unfortunately removed from its exhibit. Originally displayed in Helstrom, it was a magnificent embroidery housed in a gold-colored frame. “It was a nice enough embroidery, to where it was right on the line of almost being good.”

The prankster took great pride in this one simply because they put it up next to a collection of other objects with the same color as the frame, so that it looked like it was part of the overall display. It was not to last, however, and can probably be viewed in a trash can somewhere.

When the idea was still coming to fruition, this individual would go to thrift stores and look for new additions to the ever-growing collection. Their busy schedule has sadly slowed down that trend, but the drive to bring art to the masses has not been stopped completely. You may find more popping up in odd places in the future...

This is by no means the first time the school has been pranked; many other attempts have been carried on by former students. One such prank involved trying to sell the entire university. To any other students, this would

have been an outlandish, ridiculous idea, but to this group of gentlemen, it was comedy gold. They gathered up “For Sale” signs from lawns around the campus and moved them to the front of the front entrance of the school during the wee hours of the morning. Needless to say, more than a few people were angry about the ordeal, but no real harm was done.

Pranks can be a fun way of getting back at a friend or amusing passersby, as is the case with our growing art collection. It is, however, easy for a simple gag to get out of hand, so be sure to keep them under control, okay? You have a good chance of getting a serious fine if your plan becomes too elaborate and starts hurting people. Take all of this into consideration and maybe you can subtly make your mark on the school, just like our friend the Art Displayer.

campus

Student Highlight: Kelly Condon

Marina Rose

assistant editor for *The Crusader*

I know that our nursing students have a grueling schedule, leaving them little time to socialize, work, or do much of anything besides homework, class and clinicals. But BSU transfer, Kelly Condon, a sophomore nursing student, managed to find time to be in the musical *Little Women* at BSU earlier this semester. When asked how she found the time, she said, "It was really hard, especially during the last week, but theatre is my passion, and I really enjoyed

being a part of the show."

Condon has been performing in plays and musicals since elementary school. Her best friend was very involved in Christian Youth Theatre and invited Condon to participate. She estimates that she's been in 25 musicals since she started.

"I fell in love with it. Having a creative outlet like theatre is really important to me, and I hope to always be involved in community theatre."

BSU's theatre program opens casting to everyone in the community. So although Condon transferred to NNU, she was still



Photo by Brittany McCarty

able to take part in the BSU theatre program. She was cast in the role of Amy March and had a wonderful time both on and off stage.

"The casting was perfect. I now have very close relationships with

other cast members; we created a family. This was the best show I've been in."

Condon has also enjoyed being part of the nursing program at NNU. She loves helping others and her community. As part of

the Student Nursing Association she participates in community projects, but with all that she has going on, she doesn't have a lot of time to spare. Although she loves theatre, she has decided to only participate in a musical every other year, so that she doesn't overwhelm herself. The last musical she was in was put on to raise money for the Morrison Center at BSU. Condon has taken to another creative outlet: making personalized cards. She makes thank you cards for the production teams after shows end. Where does this girl find the time? Her passion for others seems to be all the motivation she needs.

So if you see Condon in class or around campus, don't be shy, strike up a conversation about theatre, nursing, philosophy, literature, or the weather. You might make a new, and very good, friend.

Senate Report

William Roemhildt

writer for *The Crusader*

This past week in Senate, the Senate was unable to muster enough senators to meet quorum, the minimum amount of Senators

that must be present to precede with a meeting. This is the first time all year that quorum was not met. Two bills were on the table as "Old Business" to be discussed:

- 1) Sigma Tau Delta Convention Registration, and 2) AMA Classification Change. The two bills will be moved to next Senate meeting to be discussed. No New Business was to be presented at this Senate meeting.



Campus Events

Dates to Remember

April 14th

Housing Info Meeting 11am

April 15th

Presidential Q & A 7pm

Weekly Events

Timeout:

Wednesday Nights 9pm

Brick House:

Thursday Nights 8:30pm

Cassie Wade: SGA Athletic Liaison

Avery Russell

editor for *The Crusader*

Who loves sports, engineering, Pinterest, and art? Cassie Wade, that's who!

For those who haven't had the pleasure of meeting Wade this year, you have definitely missed out on a lot of good laughs—really, you should go meet her. Wade has been serving all year as the 2014-2015 SGA Athletic Liaison.

Wade, who has always had a passion for athletics—she played volleyball, tennis, and track & field in high school and currently throws hammer, shot put, weight, and javelin for the NNU track team—decided that running for Athletic Liaison was the right choice for her.

After applying for a Ford RA position and not getting it, Wade refused to be defeated, “I wasn't sure what God was calling me to do. I still wanted to be involved

and serve, so I was looking around for ways to be connected,” she emphasized.

Although Wade was too young to actually be on the SGA team, she appealed to Kenton Lee and was ultimately approved to interview for the position. A few days later, Wade was surprised to hear that she had gotten the job. “It was really cool to see how even when our plans don't work out the way we want them too, God will provide and His plans for our lives are so much better than what we can imagine,” she stated.

As Athletic Liaison, Wade has learned many valuable things about working with a team. She loves her SGA team because they are extremely encouraging and supportive, especially when it comes to making events possible for our student body. Wade stated, “Even though we all have different positions and roles on the team, it is important that we come together as one in order to serve the campus.”

While her job may be fun, it's also a lot of hard work! Wade has worked closely with the JSC staff in order to make every game a fun experience for all who attend. Her personal goal this year was to bridge the gap between athletes and nonathletes to make NNU more of a unified community. “I know how amazing it is to see the stands full of your classmates cheering you on and supporting you, and that is what I wanted for our athletes here at NNU,” Wade said.

Through her experience with SGA, Wade has learned that she is capable of whatever she puts her mind to. Her advice for the next Athletic Liaison is this: “Have fun and be passionate. If you aren't willing to do crazy things and get excited at a sports game, then other people won't either. Don't let stress or fear get the best of you. This job is about getting people involved and excited about our athletics, and it is so much fun.”

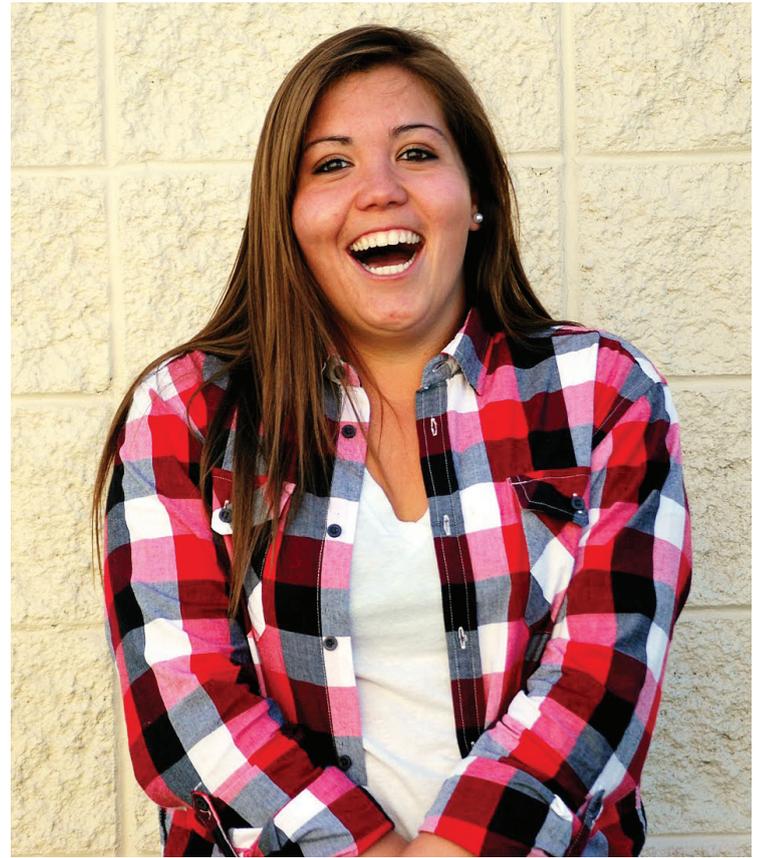


Photo by Angela Monroe

Opinion: To Tip or Not to Tip

Sarah Blum

writer for *The Crusader*

“Here's a tip—” said the little girl who had joined our volleyball game uninvited. She went on to lecture us on the proper way to bump the ball, which was actually completely wrong—but she was not to be bothered with petty details. When it comes to tipping, some people don't quite have it mastered. The kind of tips this little girl was giving out were not the typical monetary kind, but they did bring up a question to me while I was ignoring her annoying

little lecture: When should one tip?

Recently I listened to a sermon on the practice of offering first fruits in the Old Testament. We've all heard the story of Cain and Abel, and when we were beyond annoying-little-girl level of understanding, were taught that God rejected Cain's sacrifice not because he hates fruit, but because Cain did not give the best of his crop.

Leviticus 27:30 says “A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.”

Exodus 22:29–30: “Do not hold

back offerings from your granaries or your vats. You must give me the firstborn of your sons. Do the same with your cattle and your sheep. Let them stay with their mothers for seven days, but give them to me on the eighth day.”

So, what does this weird talk of giving your cows to God have to do with tipping? (No, I am not advocating cow-tipping). God didn't need Cain's fruit, and he doesn't need our money. Giving first fruits, applied here to tipping, is a gesture of recognition and thankfulness, but it's also a sign of trust that God will provide for us and put our money to good use. Tip-

ping isn't about you. It's not even about the waitress or the taxi driver on the receiving end. It's about God. Yes, cliché as it is, somehow everything comes to back to him. Don't get me wrong, appreciating the serviceperson is very important, and it's good to acknowledge when someone does their job well. (That's biblical too). Tipping is an accepted measure of accountability to remind people who aren't doing their job well to bump it up; however, that only works if we consistently tip *well* when people serve *well*.

Many people in service industries depend on tips for their in-

come. I've been guilty of the common excuse—“That food wasn't worth what I paid, much less a tip!” Unfortunately, that is a truly selfish excuse that ignores the efforts of the people who serve you as well as shows self-entitlement toward the God who gave you the money in the first place. If the food is too expensive without tipping then don't eat there. Remember, you reap what you sow. And if you don't know whether to tip or not, always err in favor of generosity.

Consider what my pastor said about first fruits: “It is a tangible discipline to save us from ourselves.” Next time you're reluctant to tip, tell yourself to be thankful for what you have, and prove it by leaving a good tip. Don't be the annoying little girl who gives bad tips.

C.A.S.A.: Working Together for Student Success

Marina Rose

assistant editor for *The Crusader*

Most of us remember when Academic Advising and Testing and the Academic Support Center were located in the basement of the Administration building. Academic Advising was carefully blended into the Registrar's office and the Support Center always offered free tea, hot chocolate, and a quiet place to study. Many of us also know that these two departments merged when the Learning Commons was built, and they are now called the Center for Academic Success and Advising or simply CASA.

CASA is home to three faculty members, Heidi Tracht, Barbara Howard, and Kathy Burns, and one staff member, Monti Channon. It can be found in the middle of the first floor of the Learning Commons.

"Where the underprepared student prepares, the prepared student advances, and the advanced student excels." –Academic Support Center

CASA's primary purpose is to support students in their academic journey. This is done in many ways, such as subject tutoring, class advising, and specialized testing. One of its pilot projects this semester is Brainfuse, an online scheduling and study system that can be used to set up appointments with tutors and study for classes. It can be accessed through your Canvas account.

Professor Howard is in charge of the student tutors. These tutors help both undergraduate and graduate students in a variety of subject areas, such as math, English, chemistry, and history. As mentioned previously, students can schedule appointments with tutors by logging into Brainfuse through their Canvas accounts. Howard also teaches math strate-



Photo by Brittany McCarty

gies and three independent study computer courses.

Professor Burns is in charge of the writing consultants. Each consultant must take an advanced study skills course in tutoring from Burns. Writing consultants can help their fellow students revise papers, brainstorm topics, and draft papers. Burns also teaches Cornerstone and English strategies courses.

This semester, a couple of tutors are offering walk-in help hours for math and writing. Math tutoring is offered Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-10pm and Wednesdays from 4-8pm; writing consulting is offered on Mondays from 7:30-

9:30pm.

But CASA offers more than just tutoring to NNU students. It is also a center of academic advising and testing. Professor Tracht, the director of CASA, advises students who are deciding majors, and those who are majoring in liberal arts or applied studies. She also conducts general education advising. Basically, Tracht works one on one with students to make sure they are fulfilling the requirements they need to graduate and to make sure they are not overworking themselves.

Monti Channon, the office coordinator helps proctor exams such as the CAAP exam that all undergraduate students must take.

She also proctors CLEP, DSST, and COMPASS exams. The COMPASS exam is used for English and math placement, CLEP and DSST exams can be taken in place of a class for credit.

But wait! There's more! CASA also provides disability services to those with documented disabilities. They provide accommodations on a case by case basis to ensure all students have the opportunity to excel in their coursework. What else? You know that handy schedule you were given for your first semester at NNU? Yep, CASA makes all of those academic coaching to any student who needs it, particularly provi-

sional students and those on academic probation.

How can one department, run by four people, do so much over the course of the school year? Well, each person in CASA genuinely cares about the students at NNU, their academic success, and, perhaps most importantly, their personal growth. So if you feel like you need some extra help in your classes, or you are trying to figure out your schedule, talk to one of the ladies in CASA; you won't be disappointed.

For a full list of tutors and their specialties visit <http://www.nnu.edu/academics/academic-support-center/tutors/>

world news

Around the Globe

William Roemhildt

writer for The Crusader

Nuclear Deal Reached with Iran

After 8 days of negotiations in Lausanne, Switzerland, the P5 + 1 (US, UK, France, China, Russia, plus Germany) came to a controversial nuclear deal with Iran. President Obama has said that this deal has brought about a “histor-

Main Points of the Deal

- Iran will reduce their operating centrifuges by two-thirds (centrifuges are used to enrich uranium)
- Reduce current stockpile to “low-enriched uranium”
- Centrifuges no longer in use will be put in storage and will be monitored by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

ed in phases, but can be brought back if Iran does not meet its obligations

- This deal is not a formal written agreement, but an unwritten understanding, that is a great step toward drafting a formal document. The P5 + 1 and Iran plan to pen such a draft by the 30th of June.

While the deal is largely looked

The tenor of President Obama in his speech after the deal was struck reiterates this uneasiness. “If Iran cheats the world will know it,” adding that the deal was based not on trust but “unprecedented verification.”

Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has been the most outspoken opponent of any negotiations at all with Iran. Iran is of course Israel’s natural enemy, so Netanyahu’s belief that any coordination with Iran is essentially a “deal with the devil” is understandable – especially given Iran’s shady history. President Obama has voiced reassurance to Israel of the United States’ support of their well being: “[This deal] in no way diminishes our concerns with respect to Iran’s sponsorship of terrorism and threats towards Israel.”

Ukraine Reaches Gas Deal with Russia

Despite constant tensions between Russia and Ukraine, stemming of course from the Russian annexation of Crimea in March of last year, and the allegedly Russian supported rebels in eastern Ukraine seeking separation, Ukraine seems to have negotiated for themselves a favorable deal with Russian gas giant, Gazprom.

With this new deal Ukraine will pay \$248 per thousand cubic meters of gas for the next three months. The previous settlement was \$329 per cubic meter. This is both surprising and promising, as Russia has threatened to entirely cut off Ukraine’s energy supply in the past.

On a lighter note, on April 1st Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko challenged Russian President Vladimir Putin to single combat to decide the future of the eastern breakaway region. He gave Mr. Putin until the end of the day to respond. Putin entertained the

idea, his spokesman saying that he would agree as long as the fight is judo, and that one of his associates gets the contract to build the venue. Unfortunately, nothing became of the fight. Although Vladimir Putin is a highly publicized black-belt in judo, side by side comparisons reveal that Mr. Poroshenko stands a good three or so inches above Mr. Putin, and outweighs him by quite a number of pounds, as well as being 13 years his junior. Both countries have rich histories in martial arts.

Kenyan University Attack

On Thursday April 2nd, four al-Shabab gunmen forcefully entered the Garissa University College in Garissa, Kenya and began to shoot students. A total of 147 were killed in a four-hour siege of the campus and another 104 were injured. Their first victims were a group of Christian students in a prayer service. A Garissa University student who escaped the attack told reporters, “If you were a Christian you were shot on the spot. With each blast of the gun I thought I was going to die.”

The Kenyan government has named Mohamed Kuno as the man behind the attack. Kuno was a headmaster at an Islamic school in Garissa until he quit in 2007. They have put out a \$217,000 bounty on Kuno.

Al-Shabab is a Somali based Islamic terror group, and al-Qaeda affiliate. The border between Somalia and Kenya has been described as “dangerously porous” and in the past 6 months al-Shabab militants from Somalia have killed nearly 80 people in Kenya, singling out Muslims and killing those who are non-Muslims. Five people have since been arrested in relation to the Garissa University College attack.



Photo by Fabrice Coffrini, AFP/Getty Images from USAtoday.com

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif and French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius react after a landmark deal on Iran’s nuclear program was reached in Geneva.

ic understanding” with Iran. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said of the deal, “It will respect Iran’s needs and rights while providing assurances to the international community that its nuclear activities will remain exclusively peaceful.”

- Nuclear facilities will be subject to regular IAEA inspections
- Iran will redesign its “heavy-water reactor” in Arak (Iran) so that it cannot produce weapons-grade plutonium

If concessions are met, sanctions by the US and EU will be lifted

as a positive by both sides, distrust of Iran’s nuclear intentions keeps leaders uneasy. French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said of the deal, “It’s a positive step, but at the same time there are still questions and details that need to be resolved.”

sports

Women's Golf: Growing Up and Making History

Sarah Blum

writer for The Crusader

At Ridgecrest Golf Course in Nampa on the last weekend of March, the ladies won their first tournament in the program's young three-year history with a score of 38-over 326. Samantha Miller, who earned GNAC Freshman of the Year last spring, won her first individual championship, followed closely by Gochnour in third place. Miller spoke of her goals for the rest of the season: "As a team I would like to see us finish well at conference! Individually I would like to win conference this year." Coach Craig Stensgaard commented, "It's a nice accomplishment to get a trophy to put in the case in just three years."

A few of the golfers explain why they love their sport so much. Sophomore Haley Gochnour describes the intricacies of the game: "Golf is unique as it is just as much a game played in the depths of the conscious mind as it is physical aptitude, at any level whether collegiate or professional." Gochnour is in her third year golfing for the Crusaders, and she began her career in sixth grade when her grandparents started taking her to youth golfing clinics. Her teammate Carleigh Sturm affirms the difficulty of their sport: "Since it is an individual sport technically, it takes a lot of focus



Photo by NNU Athletics

From left to right: Brittney Paterson, Jessica Knight, Cali Carpenter, Danielle Finley, Samantha Miller, Carleigh Sturm, Haley Gochnour

and although sometimes stressful, when you play well, it is the best feeling in the world and makes you feel proud." Sturm started playing with her dad and then joined the high school team because she wanted to play a spring sport, but she found the transition to college athletics a little bit diffi-

cult because practices were more rigid and required much more time. "However, it was really exciting because I quickly learned how to practice with intention, and competing quickly became one of my favorite things to do."

Gochnour agrees that playing collegiate golf has been a big per-

sonal challenge, but one she has enjoyed. "My greatest achievement as a golfer has been breaking the mental barriers of shooting a 79 versus an 80. This one stroke difference may have been small, but to a golfer it means all of the difference and is one step closer to playing a perfect round." As

Sturm said, the greater the level of finesse and technical challenge, the greater the feeling of reward when one performs well. This attitude and dedication drives the women's golf team. It may be a young program, but the ladies are definitely primed for a breakout season this year.

Men's Golf Team Works to Defend their Title

Sarah Blum

writer for The Crusader

Last April, the NNU men's golf team made history by winning the GNAC Championship. (The 2001 men's cross country team and the 2014 women's volleyball team are the only other NNU teams to have earned that honor). For those of you who missed it, the inclement weather and the intense tiebreaker at the end made for an exciting and well-earned victory. Connor Magnuson, now a senior, has been a staple of the team throughout his career, and was the only NNU player to break par in the final round that day, finishing with a very timely eagle that sealed the deal.

"Last April in Coeur d'Alene was a time with our team that I will never forget," recounts Magnuson. "We finally got the five guys together that we wanted and it seemed that we could play freely on the course because we knew who we had backing us on the rest of the course." Some confusion with the scorekeeping had the team convinced that they had lost, but then they found themselves in a two-team playoff with St. Martin's, "When we got our 'new life' going into the playoff, I knew that we would win and the



Photo by NNU Athletics

From left to right: Derek Thompson, Jonathan Koenig, Ian Briske, Keynan Fanslow, Connor Magnuson, Michael Delie, Wyatt Imhoff, Taylor Judy, Kory Gaona

rest was history. The peace and pride that I felt with my teammates on that final playoff hole will be something that only us five guys will ever truly know the feeling of."

Justin McAfee is also a senior this year who was a part of last year's winning team. He picked up golf in high school when he had to give up other sports after suffering from cardiac arrest.

"What makes golf enjoyable is the atmosphere we get to play in. Its unlike other sports where the field or court is always the same; every tournament you go to is a different course and that makes it a fun challenge to figure out the best way to work my way around the course."

McAfee explains that when the team goes to a tournament, five guys get to compete as a "team,"

and the best 4 of those 5 scores are counted for the team score, although players are also ranked individually. He says, "It is my senior year, and this is the most talented top 5 that have been here during my time." At the home tournament March 30-31, the men won their first victory of the season, a huge push of momentum for the final weeks before conference. Michael Delie and Keynan

Fanslow broke and together tied a new school record for a single round with 5-under-67. Connor Magnuson, Justin McAfee, and Ian Briske also placed high to help the team to its victory. Coach Craig Stensgaard's speak volumes for the potential for the rest of the season: "We couldn't be more excited about that many scores under par across the whole team."

Home Sports

Baseball

4/14 C of I at 6:30pm
4/17-18 CWU at 3pm & 1pm

Softball

4/24-25 SMU at 2pm & noon

Intramurals

4/18 Track & Field Meet
sign up in StuCen

Check your email for more info about sporting events sent out by SGA.

a&e

Ask Mama Mandy

Dear Mama Mandy,

Why is Brent Conrad single?

Sincerely,
NY152

My Dear Miss Meg Ryan Wannabe,



Joe Fox says, “The Godfather is the answer to any question,” but when you’ve got male pre-med majors with a quick wit and empty arms running around a campus with twice as many girls than guys, Joe Fox might need some help. We are talking about a well-known comedy series host with eyes like the stormy sea and a sense of humor more potent than Axe on a thirteen year old boy, who does not have a girlfriend. Perhaps his punditry is a bit too potent for the female population; many girls prefer the strong silent type. Then again, we’ve seen Conrad look the spitting image of James Bond at Black Tie, and I’ve heard that at least 152 people think he looks like Clark Kent.

Maybe Conrad, like Meg Ryan, is living on “the dream of someone else.” Most likely, he has a secret identity and an anonymous girlfriend. How else could he get away with wearing pants that don’t reach his ankles, sprinting full speed around campus in knee-high socks, or performing dually as a football superstar and skilled thespian in high school? The true sign of a brilliant undercover agent is authenticity, and I assure you, like Clark Kent, Brent Conrad is genuine. Unlike Clark Kent, he once accidentally de-pantsed himself in front of the entire school while attempting to reveal his Superman costume, which may have significant relevance to his single relationship status. Yes, I must conclude that Mr. Conrad is single either because Lois Lane has not seen past this Clark Kent act yet, or that she already exists, and we just don’t know about it.

Yours truly,
Mama Mandy

Quote of the issue

“Just as we will never grasp the full meaning of God, we will also never grasp the full meaning of love.”

Thomas Jay Oord
The Nature of Love: A Theology

Sudoku: easy

	9	3	1		5	6	4	
7								5
5		1	2		9	3		7
2								3
	3	6	9		7	5	2	
9								1
3		2	4		8	1		9
6								4
	4	7	3		2	8	5	