

the MESSENGER

NORTHWEST NAZARENE UNIVERSITY / SUMMER 2019

VOL. 107, NUM. 2



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THE VALUE OF
HOLISTIC EDUCATION

2019 ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

STUDENT-ATHLETES IMPRESS
ON THE FIELD
AND IN THE CLASSROOM

NNU's Mission Statement reads this way: "The mission of Northwest Nazarene University is the transformation of the whole person. Centered in Jesus Christ, the NNU education instills habits of heart, soul, mind and strength to enable each student to become God's creative and redemptive agent in the world."


This issue of *The Messenger* focuses on one aspect of NNU's goal of educating students—the idea that education must do more than affect only the mind, that it must affect the whole person. We really believe this here at NNU, which is why it is embedded in our Mission Statement—did you see it? We are seeking to transform "the whole person" and we seek to instill "habits of heart, soul, mind, and strength..."

We truly believe that we are each created as whole persons—we sometimes use the word "holistic" to describe what we are doing. I realize that "holistic" is a hot-button word for some because it has at times been associated with the New Age movement. However,

the definition of "holistic" accurately describes what we are doing—"relating to or concerned with wholes or with complete systems rather than with the analysis of, treatment of, or dissection into parts" (Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary). Therefore, I believe that "holistic" is an apt word to describe our approach to education.

It was Jesus who reminded the teacher of the law of the first and greatest commandment: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength" (Mark 12:30, NIV). Jesus was describing that we must love God with our whole being, so we believe that it stands to reason that NNU should seek to educate the whole being—heart, soul, mind and strength.

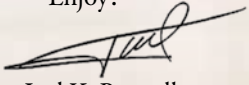
In the pages that follow, you will find an article by NNU's vice president for Academic Affairs that describes how we go about providing this sort of education. Employers are telling us that



NNU graduates are entering the workforce with an integrity that sets them apart from their peers. You'll also find articles that show a positive impact on students of this approach to education. One example is the way our student-athletes are supported and encouraged to pursue intensive degree programs—such as nursing—when other institutions resist the idea that student-athletes can successfully pursue the more demanding degrees.

Don't miss any of the following articles, because each shows a different aspect of NNU's education of the whole person.

Enjoy!



Joel K. Pearsall

COVER: Ian Williams
screenprints in his
McCall studio.



CROSSING THE BRIDGE

PAGE 6

The VP for Academic Affairs explains how NNU's holistic education instills habits of heart, soul, mind and strength to create people of integrity.



EMPHASIZING THE "STUDENT"

PAGE 9

NNU softball women are powerhouses in the classroom while earning accolades on the field.



LIVING AN NNU LEGACY

PAGE 12

Leanne Kendall graduated with a Master of Counseling and five generations of family history enriching her NNU experience.



PUTTING HOLISTIC EDUCATION TO WORK

PAGE 16

Ian Williams starts a business in an entirely new field, which connects him back to NNU.

ALUMNI NEWS PAGE 22

A new chair of the Board of Trustees is elected, a new Alumni Board president takes the helm, and an honorary doctorate is conferred at Commencement—see what else alumni are up to now.

CULTIVATING A COMMUNITY PAGE 26

The 2019 alumnus of the year shares his journey from NNU to the Camino de Santiago and the relationships that he found along the way.

ON CAMPUS PAGE 30

New coaches, new programs and a new purpose for the former student center—find out what else is happening on campus.

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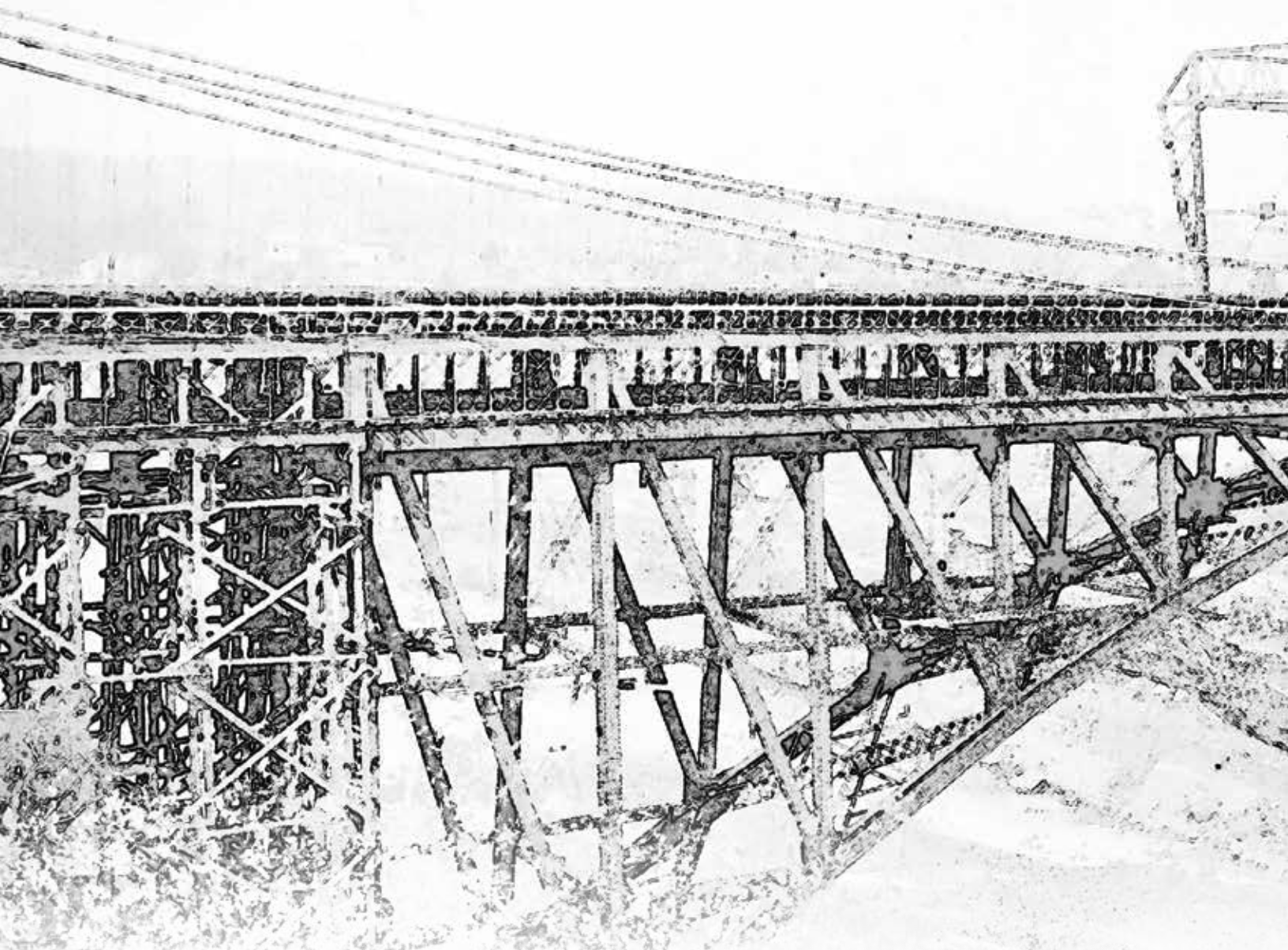
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YOU MIGHT NOT THINK TO PAIR A
FERRET AND A 3D PRINTER TOGETHER
BUT JUNIOR ENGINEERING STUDENT BEN
CAMPBELL (NAMPA, IDAHO) DID JUST
THAT WHEN HE SAW A PROBLEM AND
CREATED A SOLUTION. KIVI CHANNEL
6 DID A SPECIAL FEATURE ABOUT THIS
UNLIKELY DUO.

▶ WATCH THE FULL STORY AT
NNU.EDU/FERRET





CROSSING *the* BRIDGE

The integrity of holistic education

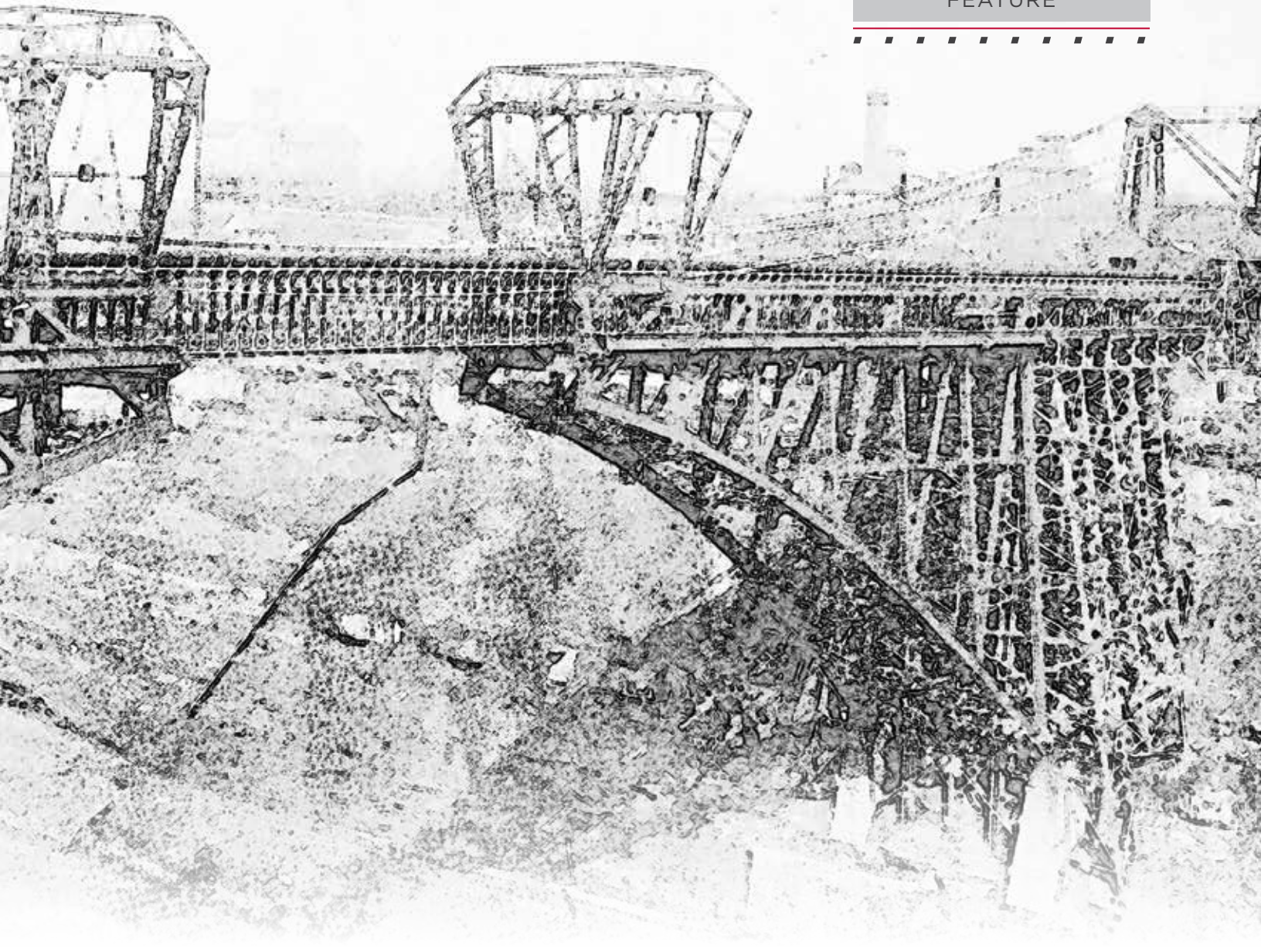
BY DR. BRAD KURTZ-SHAW, VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

When I hear employers tell me that they love NNU graduates because of their high integrity, I think I know what they mean: An NNU grad develops habits of heart that set her apart from other potential employees. NNU grads have cultivated characters marked by honesty and trustworthy behavior, and these are valuable commodities in an economic world where the pressure to return short-term gains becomes dangerously combustible when paired with young employees who lack a moral compass.

But over time I've come to believe that what employers easily recognize and name as honesty really points to a deeper and broader understanding of the integrity of an NNU graduate. There's an old story from 19th-century railroad building that may be more folklore than fact, but it helps to illustrate this deeper understanding of our graduates' integrity. When engineers were first faced with the monumental task of linking the United States

together via railway lines, they were forced to innovate and develop new bridge designs to cross the amazing canyons, ravines, mountains and waterways of our varied American landscape. As is often the case, this innovation involved risk, and many of these new structures failed when put to the test of carrying a locomotive entrained with a massive load of freight cars.

After one such catastrophic bridge failure, the new project engineer volunteered himself and his family as passengers in the first railcar to cross the redesigned bridge. The promise embedded in this act was that the engineer's life was a personal guarantee of the bridge's sound design and construction. As the engineer bet his and his family's lives, his personal integrity convinced others of the trustworthiness of his ideas and the execution of his design—in other words, he had integrity of the highest order. At NNU we don't typically ask our students to risk their



lives during a senior internship in order to secure employment upon graduation, but we do try to instill habits of heart that resonate with deep personal integrity and trustworthiness. We want our students to bet their lives on this more excellent way.

At the same time, NNU is committed to a kind of education that addresses an underlying meaning of integrity that is also obvious in this 19th-century bridge building story. It wasn't just that the engineer had integrity—it was also essential that his bridge design, the execution of that design, and the actual bridge had integrity. The root meaning of this word denotes how something holds together; how it resists fragmentation; how it maintains its singular wholeness when everything around it—gravity, load, vibration, wind, rain and river—are all threatening to pull it apart.

NNU has deep faith in an educational philosophy in which all things hold together. Sometimes we use words like “integrative”

or “holistic” to describe what we’re up to. It’s not a newfangled theory for us. We believe our integrative education is rooted in a strong theological foundation of biblical wholism:

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together... For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross” (Colossians 1:15-20).

An NNU education is deeply shaped by foundational theological assumptions that begin with the God who created the universe in which we live, move, dwell and have our being.

Because we are building an education shaped by the foundational ideas that we 1) try to love the things that God calls “good,” and 2) understand this good creation primarily through the “firstborn of all creation” who “holds together all things,” at NNU we are interested in both the goodness and the unity of this created order. We don’t ask students to engage a wide array of general education

This vision for holistic education not only shapes our liberal arts curriculum that asks students to come further in and further up, but it also helps students to fundamentally reimagine their college education as critical to their life calling. That is, NNU transforms the limited (and limiting) cultural notion that college is simply a necessary weigh station on the path to a well-paying job, and we ask students to reclaim the root notion of vocational education—a preparation for a calling. In an incongruous world in which most people claim work as singularly important but at the same time report high dissatisfaction with their jobs, NNU wants both to prepare students exceptionally well for entering their professional guild and also to help students hear God's calling to work as a chance for them to give meaning, purpose and wholeness to those they serve. Work is part of God's good creation, and our vocations, rightly understood, call us from the fallen world of painful toil to Christ's work of reconciling all things.

education, because we believe it will shape them into people who have habits of heart, mind, soul and body that will help the world around them to thrive. To add some Hebrew to our Anglo-Saxon, we believe a holistic education helps our students to contribute the shalom that God intended for this world—that state of thriving in which the world finds the peace, balance and harmony that reflects God’s holiness.

to Himself, sees God at play on our lacrosse field and our basketball court, feels God crying with us as we weep over an exceptional production of the play *Doubt*, hears God's voice in an oboe solo during a University Choir & Orchestra concert, and recognizes God's joy in the laughter of good friends around a meal in the Dex.

As limited and finite humans, most of our systems of higher education have moved toward increased specialization and fragmentation. Other universities keep getting better and

At NNU we're committed to a holistic education that helps students capture an integrated vision of God's beautiful spider-web of a world. While we know that it's important as human creatures to understand one cell of that spider-web of creation as chemistry and another cell as psychology and another as kinesiology, we embrace the connectedness of that world and recognize that when we shake one cell of God's spider-web it sends vibrations across all the other cells.

The next time you see an old train trestle spectacularly snaking its way across a deep mountain gorge, don't be surprised that it echoes the delicate beauty of a spider-web; and—because you are a person of deep integrity shaped by a holistic education that asked you to come further in and further up—smile. 🌸



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HIGHLIGHTING *the* “STUDENT” *in* STUDENT-ATHLETE

*NNU softball players exemplify excellence
on the field and in the classroom*

BY CRAIG CRAKER, SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR, CLASS OF 2002

As a high school senior, Abigail Otto was stubborn. She was being recruited by a myriad of schools in the Northwest and beyond for her softball skills, but she was adamant that she wanted to major in nursing. Playing a team sport while pursuing a nursing degree is basically unheard of, so school after school told her it wasn't possible.

She persevered, though, and eventually was sought out by NNU. While she had never heard of Northwest Nazarene University, the magic words from then-assistant coach Joel Oliver made it an easy decision to come to Nampa.

“They told me they had athletes do nursing all time,” Otto said. “When I came here, it wasn't guaranteed that I could play all four years

while doing nursing, but they said they would try.” And try they did.

Head coach Rich Wagner and the nursing department's athletic adviser Dr. Jan Crabill had countless meetings with Otto to figure out how she could navigate the difficult requirements of the degree and still be able to play her sport of choice.

“We're one of the few schools in the Northwest who will even allow athletes to be nursing students,” said Crabill, associate professor of nursing. “We work really hard with their schedules to make it fit, but it doesn't always work. We can almost guarantee we can get them through sophomore year. After that, it depends on the sport and the coach and the schedule.”

In recent years, Otto is just the second team sport athlete to



Abigail Otto (page 9) finding success in athletics and academics. Kylie Orr (#15, above) celebrates a safe-at-home victory play.

are determined by a points system that takes into account the GPAs of each sports team. The Nighthawks won the men's and women's titles as well, giving the men seven titles and the women 10.

"The biggest reason our student-athletes are so successful academically is because we are a small campus that highly values community and service," Lindley said. "As a result, our student-athletes are consistently surrounded by people who genuinely want them to succeed. Also, NNU has invested in the resources needed, like free tutors and Wi-Fi on bus trips, to help our student-athletes thrive academically."

All of that has been true for Otto and the other nursing majors before her. From taking tests online to missing practices because of clinicals, NNU's faculty and coaches have worked together to help student-athletes fulfill their majors of choice. And, of course, the students themselves have taken advantage of that by pouring in hours to finish their degrees.

"You have to have really incredible time management skills," Crabill said. "You have to have good communication skills, because

you have two bosses—coach and the faculty—and they have to manage that really well. Our major doesn't do any do overs or extra credit, so you have to do everything right the first time."

For Otto that has meant some serious struggles on and off the field, though she has never missed any games in her four-year career because of school.

"Sophomore year was the hardest year of my life," she said. "I just kind of learned to communicate early with my professors and show them I was really into nursing and that I was really into softball at the same time."

"I definitely made nursing my priority, so they respected me more and then gave me that leeway a little bit to work with my schedule. It's been a process—and a hard one—but I'm thankful for it."

Now, she gets to pursue her calling in life to serve others in a nursing role and to help them through difficult times.

"I like to help people out," she said. "I felt like I could do my best work in the world if I was helping people every day and making a difference in people's lives every day." 🌟

LIVING *AN* NNU LEGACY

A recent grad reflects on five generations of family history at NNU

BY CALI CARPENTER, CLASS OF 2017

NNU holds a special spot in many people's hearts, but for Leanne Bennett Kendall, it was so much more than that—this place is part of her family's history, dating all the way back to 1913. NNU was often talked about in Kendall's household while she was growing up, but there was never pressure for her to attend. She and her three siblings were always encouraged to explore all of their options for college and find the best fit for each of them individually.

Kendall comes from a long line of NNU and Nazarene traditions, on both sides of her family. In 1913, when the Idaho Holiness School first began, Kendall's great-great-grandfather, John Endsley, was at the forefront of it all, working directly under the founder of the school, Eugene Emerson.

Next down the line is Kendall's great-grandmother, Lucile Endsley Walton, along with her half-sister Ruby, who were two of the first 13 students to attend Idaho Holiness School.

Kendall's maternal grandfather attended Northwest Nazarene College in the 1930s and spent his days traveling with the college quartet. Merrill and Myrtlebell Bennett, Kendall's paternal grandparents, both graduated from Northwest Nazarene College in 1948 and then attended Nazarene Seminary afterward. They later served as Nazarene missionaries in Japan for 30 years.

Kendall's parents, Gary and Cheryl Bennett, are also alumni of

the university, graduating in the late 1970s. Cheryl spent her career as a school teacher and Gary has served as a pastor for the last 36 years in Canada.

"This phenomenon of an unbroken chain of five generations of our family with NNU, going back to the very beginning, wasn't planned or orchestrated," said Leanne's father, Gary Bennett.

From the start in 1913, the university has been a space where Kendall's family members could explore education and discover who they were as people, and it also provided a space that made education accessible.

"I think this institution offered the generations of our family a place to struggle in our own individual ways, and each of us was given an opportunity to find our own unique and personal faith in Christ," Kendall said.

"I remember my grandmother Lucile Endsley Walton telling me

of some of the hardships endured at the Idaho Holiness School in 1913, of cold winters and lack of heat and all-night prayer meetings which would result in miraculous provisions of coal the very next day," Bennett added.

"We have all attended NNU at formative years in our lives, and this place has given all of us direction," Kendall said. "I know that every single one of my family members could say that they grew exponentially as a human during their time with the university."

One important piece of the family story that Kendall always



Gary Bennett at his graduation in 1977 with his grandparents, Maurice and Lucile (Endsley) Walton.



Leanne Kendall with her parents Gary and Cheryl Bennett at Commencement 2019.

comes back to is the women in her family who pursued secondary education during times when educated women were questioned.

“They were pioneers during that time, and that’s valuable. It has taught me to not take for granted the opportunities I have been given. It’s a huge part of our story,” she said.

This desire for education in Kendall’s family, especially the women, has instilled in her a yearning to become a better version of herself. Apart from her Master’s degree, she is also leaving NNU with a continued passion to be a lifelong learner.

Today, Leanne Bennett Kendall is a 2019 graduate with a Master’s degree in School Counseling. Although her undergraduate degree is from Ambrose University in Calgary, Alberta, she still found her way to NNU. She is proudly a fifth-generation NNU graduate and treads with honor the campus that has been so foundational for the family members who came before her.

When Kendall was considering where to get her Master’s degree, she looked at various schools, but, in the end, felt the most valued at NNU. She described it as being looked at as a person and not just another number to fill a quota, which made all the difference.

“The NNU education addresses the whole being,” Kendall said. “It’s about who you are and the growth that you’re making as a person.”

She chose school counseling with a focus on mental health because that is where she feels called. She wanted to learn about mental health in a more holistic way, with a focus on all aspects of a person: physical, mental and spiritual. NNU has been the perfect place for Kendall to learn and pursue her passions.

While working toward her degree, Kendall also worked in

counseling at an alternative high school in Boise.

“All of the NNU professors and advisors were so supportive of the work I was doing, which made me excited,” she said. “I also loved that NNU was available during weekends and evenings. That was huge for me, and I continue to be impressed with the professors and their process to make sure that the people they accepted into the program were a good fit for the program but also the university.”

Kendall is now leaving NNU prepared and ready to take on the world. She was recently hired at Eagle High School to be a school counselor and will start full-time in that role when the fall 2019 semester begins.

Reflecting on her growth at NNU, Kendall said, “In order to grow and develop, you need to have a period in your life to explore. And you need to do that in a safe space. I had that at NNU. They care about you as a person and are not trying to lead you astray.”

The Nazarene tradition, a love for learning, and passion for God have connected Kendall to her ancestors, and NNU has been at the center of it all for over 100 years.

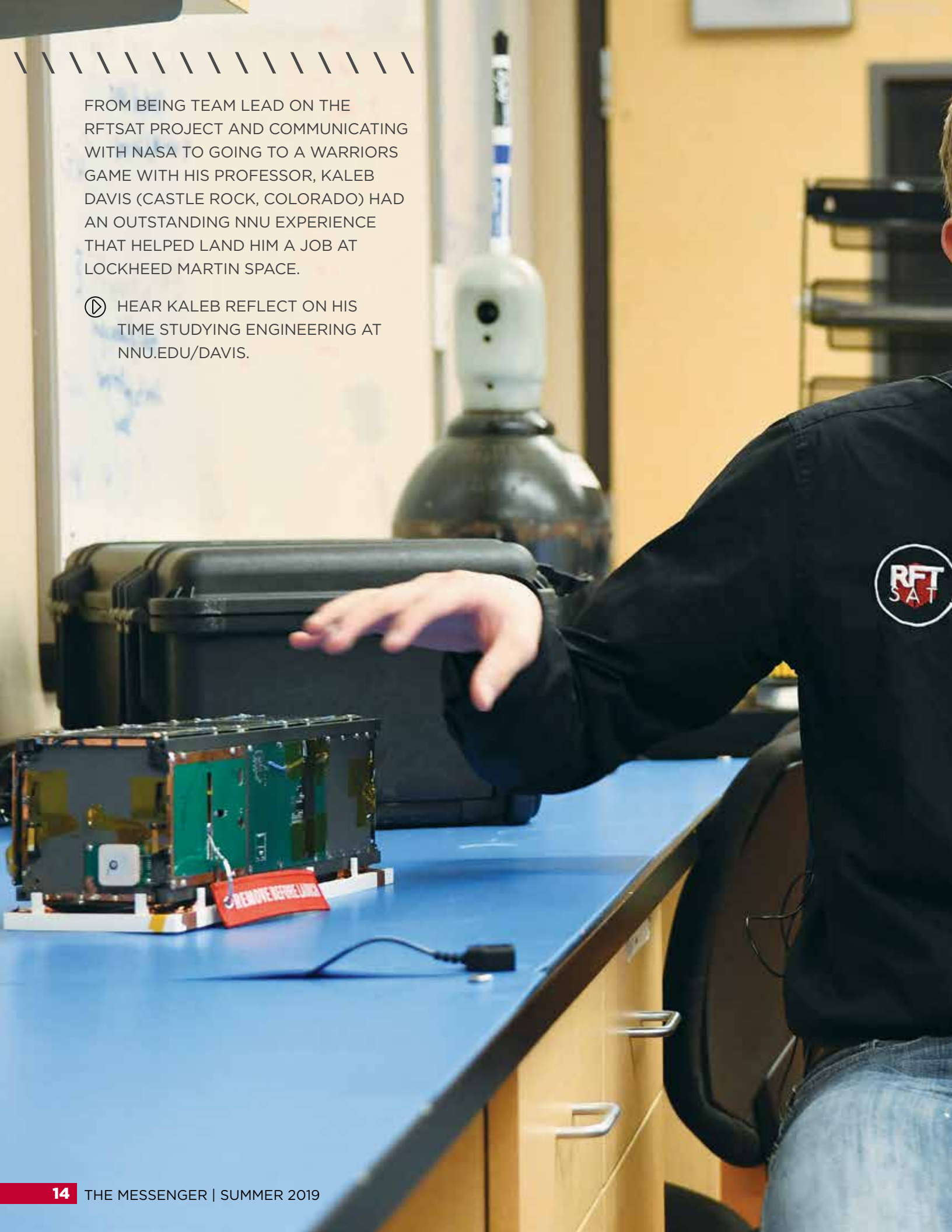
“I am not the same person as I was when I entered,” said Kendall as she reflected on her past three years. “I have found purpose and meaning in the world. I have found a higher calling where I’ve been able to impact people and also been able to explore in a healthy way.”

The legacy that this family continues to uphold is what makes NNU such a special place to be. The years our students spend here shape them to become the world’s redemptive agents. There is no better example of that than Kendall’s family line. 🌹

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**“THE NNU EDUCATION ADDRESSES THE WHOLE
BEING. IT’S ABOUT WHO YOU ARE AND THE
GROWTH THAT YOU’RE MAKING AS A PERSON.”**

FROM BEING TEAM LEAD ON THE RFTSAT PROJECT AND COMMUNICATING WITH NASA TO GOING TO A WARRIORS GAME WITH HIS PROFESSOR, KALEB DAVIS (CASTLE ROCK, COLORADO) HAD AN OUTSTANDING NNU EXPERIENCE THAT HELPED LAND HIM A JOB AT LOCKHEED MARTIN SPACE.

▶ HEAR KALEB REFLECT ON HIS TIME STUDYING ENGINEERING AT NNU.EDU/DAVIS.







Alumnus Ian Williams reaps the benefits of his NNU experience

Starting out as a computer science major, switching to business, then ending with theology, Ian Williams ('07) was no stranger to experiencing all that campus had to offer. As a student, he was involved in every activity that he could participate in—two summer travel groups, multiple music ensembles, student government association, student senate, you name it, Williams probably had a hand in it from 2002-2007.

“I WANT TO BE PART OF THE NETWORK AND SEE IT THRIVE AND NOT BE A TAKER BUT A GIVER.”

During his time in Oregon, he was involved in Young Life, a nationwide Christian organization that helps young people grow in their faith through friendship and influence from caring leaders. One day, the club leader approached Williams and told him that their organization had a screen printing press if he ever wanted to use it. A few months later, a parent in the church approached

new screen printing skill to supplement income for his family. Williams picked up a big account and suddenly had to figure out a way to produce a large number of shirts.

In 2010, Ian and Sarah headed from Oregon to the small mountain town of McCall, Idaho to attend his brother's wedding. While there, they noticed a commercial print shop for sale, which was one of only two in town. Although purchasing a print shop in



Williams with family (wife Sarah and son Oakley) in McCall, Idaho.

a different state seemed far-fetched, they decided to at least take a look.

“We were in this sort of middle zone where we could do whatever we want, which is a really rare moment in your life,” he said.

Right after the wedding, they went to look at the space and, against all preconceived notions, decided that it had potential to become a viable business. The building also had extra room for their screen printing press, which sealed the deal. Moving to a different state and purchasing a new business made it a big year for the couple.

Their newly acquired space became a hybrid of two businesses under one roof: a commercial print shop and a screen printing and design business. It wasn’t long before the print shop building became too small for their needs. Williams dreamed of a building that had never been built in McCall, so he decided that he would have to put in the work himself. It took four years to get everything planned and executed exactly how he wanted, but he made it happen. In 2017, his businesses moved into a brand new million dollar building: a space designed and made exactly for their needs.

The current space is home to three businesses, all owned and managed by Williams and his wife: United Graphic Design, LLC, which was started by Williams in 2004; The Printshop McCall, the commercial print shop that they took over in 2010 (and which originally landed them in McCall); and The Idaho Shirt Company, Williams’ most recent business venture and the brand that ties all of his other businesses together. It is a culmination of his years of hard work in one premium retail line.

“The Idaho Shirt Company takes everything we can do as a print shop as well as a screen printing and design company and puts it as a trophy and says here is our best stuff,” Williams said.

He is working tirelessly to ensure that Idaho Shirt Company is the absolute best it can be, from eco-friendly chemicals, processes and inks, to purchasing the most sustainable and advanced screen printing press in the world. All of these actions are resulting

in a better quality shirt that’s also better for the environment.

Williams has also made it a priority to give back. For every shirt that is sold, five meals are donated to the Idaho Foodbank. He also recently launched the Idaho Shirt Helpline which donates a significant amount of funds to different causes throughout the year. Right now, \$7 from every shirt purchased is donated to the American Cancer Society.

“Let’s give as much as we can, but let’s generate a really sustainable, profitable business and help a bunch of people at the same time,” Williams said, referring to his business model. “Trying to help others is at the core of everything we do, and why we donate. I’ve felt that the ministry aspect of my life has transitioned from my church to my business and I take care of people as much as I can through the company.”

Williams thrives on helping others succeed, and that’s all he really wants at the end of the day. “Money is secondary, people are first,” he said.

Despite all of the transitions he has gone through over the past two decades, one thing has remained constant—the lasting impact NNU and its people have had on his life. During college, he met genuine people who cared about him authentically and with love. He interacted with students and professors who lived out their faith instead of just talking about it, and he experienced a tight-knit community that was there to catch him when he fell. After all these years, that is what keeps him coming back with the desire to add value to the school.

“I want to be part of the network and see it thrive and not be a taker but a giver,” he said.

Williams has wanted to find a way to give back to NNU in a unique way, and that dream has finally become a reality. The Idaho Shirt Company recently became NNU’s first ever private retail brand partner.

“It’s a very proud moment for me to be able to say that my university is using me and our company that I built from my garage as an alum, and we’re now partnering as equals,” Williams said.

This partnership is important for Williams and his company, and it’s also important for his family line. He is a fifth-generation graduate and hopes that someday his son Oakley can experience the powerful NNU community that has been part of his family history since 1913.

Williams’ hope is that this new partnership will create something much bigger than both entities could do on their own, with the goal of leaving an impact that will last for generations to come.

“I want to see NNU succeed because the university has helped me so much in my career and has allowed me to thrive as a business owner and an entrepreneur,” Williams said. “I want to pass that torch forward and do as much as I can in that world.”



Watch Williams in action at nnu.edu/ian.

See more of Williams’ designs at idahoshirts.com.



NNU *by the NUMBERS*

11

OVER 11% OF NNU ALUMNI
DONATED TO THE
UNIVERSITY IN 2019

36

36% OF ENROLLED
STUDENTS COME FROM THE
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

99

99% OF NNU
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS
RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID

12

1,203 ALUMNI
DONATED TO THE
UNIVERSITY IN 2019

39

\$39,040, THE ESTIMATED TOTAL
COST OF TUITION, FEES, ROOM
AND BOARD FOR 2019-2020

100

APPROXIMATELY 100 STUDENTS
TRAVEL IN STUDY ABROAD
PROGRAMS EACH YEAR

13

1,300 UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENTS ENROLLED
2018-19

80

80% OF OUR PRE-MED
STUDENTS ADVANCE TO
MEDICAL SCHOOL

100

100% JOB PLACEMENT FOR
COMPUTER SCIENCE AND
EDUCATION GRADUATES

28

\$28,653, THE AVERAGE
DEBT OF AN NNU STUDENT
UPON GRADUATION

99

99% OF ENGINEERING GRADS
GO ON TO GRADUATE SCHOOL
OR ENGINEERING CAREERS

564

NUMBER OF NEW ALUMS
(TRAD, NON-TRAD AND GRAD)
FROM THE CLASS OF 2019





“NNU HAS SET ME UP FOR SUCCESS FOR MY FUTURE CAREER. THE PROFESSORS WANT YOU TO SUCCEED IN ANY POSSIBLE WAY SO THEY TRY THEIR BEST TO HELP YOU. YOU ESTABLISH RELATIONSHIPS WITH THOSE YOU WENT TO SCHOOL WITH AND THOSE CONNECTIONS LIVE ON FOREVER,” SAID DANIELLE JARDINE. DANIELLE GRADUATED WITH A DEGREE IN RECREATION SPORTS MANAGEMENT AND PLAYED BASKETBALL FOR FOUR YEARS.

▶ SEE MORE GRADUATION MEMORIES AT [NNU.EDU/COMMENCEMENT](https://nnu.edu/commencement)

ALUMNI NEWS

Catch up on classmate updates and recent additions



Rev. Hughlon R. Friberg -65- was honored at Commencement with a Doctor of Divinity, *honoris causa*, for his faithfulness to his calling, spouse, children and grandchildren, his perseverance in the face of imprisonment in a foreign land for his faith, and his passion for the preparation of the next generation of indigenous ministry leaders in several countries of Africa.

Even since his retirement in 2010 from 38 years as a career missionary, he continues to serve Nampa First Church of the Nazarene as missionary president. Along with his wife, **Evelyn (Young)** -66-, Hugh served in Mozambique, South Africa and Swaziland.

He holds a bachelor's degree in science from NNU, a Master of Divinity from Nazarene Theological Seminary and a Master of Arts from the University of South Africa.



Mike Zahare -81- has been elected as chair by the NNU Board of Trustees. He will be stepping into this role after the retirement of Randy Craker, who has served the board as chair since his election in 2006.

Zahare has already given 15 years of service to the Board of Trustees and three years on the NNU Alumni Board. Within the Board of Trustees, Zahare chairs the Audit and Compliance Committee, co-chaired the Shared Governance Task Force, served on the 2015 Presidential Action Review Team, and serves on the Executive Committee.

"I have been honored and privileged to serve under the chair leadership of Monte Chitwood and Randy Craker on the NNU Board of Trustees," said Zahare. "Although quite overwhelmed to follow in their footsteps, I know keeping fresh in my mind and heart the examples of servant leadership and Christ-like love they consistently demonstrated will help me succeed here."

1980s

Teresa Brackett Carroll -81- took a position at Christian Copyright Licensing International as their global customer service and sales manager.

1990s

Amy Hagemeyer Ackley -96- completed her Ph.D. in Educational Leadership at Northwest Nazarene University in May of 2019. Amy will continue her position as an assistant professor in NNU's Graduate Education Department.

Tamara (McCoy) Moore -99-, along with her husband Ben, is now part of the lead pastoral family for Pleasant View Church of the Nazarene in Ridgefield, Washington. She also has her own private practice, More & Moore Communicating, LLC, and is in the process of expanding it to include a nonprofit therapy center. Until the new company is up and running, she is providing online speech therapy services to schools in Idaho through Presence Learning.

2000s

Jubilee (Bales) Carr -00- and her husband Jason joined Wycliffe Bible Translators in 2016 and are now serving in support roles to Bible translation in Ukarumpa, Papua New Guinea. Jubilee is currently teaching grade one students of five different nationalities at the Ukarumpa International School. Jubilee and Jason have six children.

Jas Krdzalic -03- is the president of Vitalize, LLC and leader of its three subsidiary companies: Bodybuilding.com, Verity Brands and WeMotivate. During the last 20 years, Jas has worked in strategic planning, corporate development and operational execution.



Submit updates, announcements and photos at [NNU.EDU/ALUMNI](https://nnu.edu/alumni)

He has spent a better portion of his career in the technology sector leading teams in development and implementation of new business models. As an amateur bodybuilder, Jas has also been part of the health and fitness industry for many years. Jas holds a bachelor's degree in business from the University of Idaho and an MBA from NNU.

Melissa (Prather) Gentry -05- Melissa was recently named CEO of the Nampa Boys & Girls Club. Melissa has been serving at the BGC for more than thirteen years. In 2018 the BGC served 1323 youth.

2010s

Derek Sepe -12- is a sound designer and re-recording mixer of the Academy-nominated short film Lalo's House. He is an active union member of the Motion Picture Sound Editors, Audio Engineering Society and IATSE. He also was nominated for a Golden Reel (MPSE) for achievement in sound design.

Justin Reynolds -13- has recently been appointed as the CEO of Wilcox Fresh, after working in agriculture for 15 years. As the CEO, Justin will be working with the owners and executive team to find new opportunities for growth as the company pushes forward.

Onjoli Martelly -14- has started a new position as the associate producer rights and clearances for Desus & Mero, a Showtime talk show, in New York, New York.

John Eaton -16- plans to graduate in May 2020 from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center with his Doctor of Physical Therapy degree.



Karen Pearson -85- has been promoted to associate vice president for student engagement, a unique role created just for her. Pearson has worked on campus for 29 years, first as a resident director and most recently as the director for residential life.

"I love my work in Student Life, and this change allows me to be even more invested in the student as a whole person," Pearson shared. "The quality people that I work with and their commitment to providing a first-class experience for all of our students makes this change very appealing. I have a lot to learn and am ready to work with the administration, faculty, staff and students to make our community even better."

The position was created to enhance the student experience by bringing all the components of student life—community life, counseling services, the career center, and residential life—together under one department head. With these new responsibilities, Pearson will be able to devote more attention and resources to each department as individual needs arise.



Eddie Miles -93- has been elected as the Alumni Board president. Miles will be stepping into this role in place of Jan McIntire, who has served as Alumni Board president for six years. The Alumni Board of Directors governs the Alumni Association and meets twice yearly representing alumni across the NNU Northwest region and across the globe. The Office of Alumni Relations works to keep alumni connected to each other as well as the university.

"It's a great honor to be selected to represent the university and its alumni," Miles said. "I am looking forward to continuing to serve God, the university and my fellow alumni in this new role." Miles graduated with a degree in business administration and now lives in Yakima, Washington, with his wife **Christine (Talmadge)** -94- and their two children, Gabe and Ally. The Miles family attends West Valley Church of the Nazarene in Yakima.



10 Melia Marie on October 31, 2018 to **Christina (Smith)** -09- and Schadrac Merizema

11 Hazel Claire on November 17, 2018 to Courtney and **Anthony Gould** -05-, joining Jackson and Isaiah

Caroline (Landis) Neal (63) on May 31, 2005 in Tillamook, Oregon

Wesley Woolbright Sr. -64- on December 28, 2018 in Kennewick, Washington

Kathy (Mosteller) Loeber -65- on February 17, 2019 in Richland, Washington

Linda (Jacobson) Thompson -65- on March 11, 2019 in Tacoma, Washington

Marriages

- 1** Jenna (Whitney) -17- and Andrew Fillmore -17- on May 12, 2017 in Meridian, Idaho
- 2** Ashley (Egger) -11- and Jonathan Little on July 30, 2017 in Puyallup, Washington
- 3** Kristin (Gould) -09- and Andrew Constantinescu on June 29, 2018 in Portland, Oregon
- 4** Dorothy (Ackerman) -13- and Ed Butler on October 26, 2018 in Arlington, Virginia

Births and Adoptions

- 5** Connor Steven on December 11, 2016 to Meghan (Miller) -06- and Tristan Galloway -06-
- 6** Archie Brooks on May 25, 2018 to Britni (Davies) -08- and Philip Nelson -07-, joining Amelia and Ellie
- 7** Emily Irene on May 26, 2018 to Karen (Faucette) -07- and Jason Snell, joining Abigail
- 8** Hansen on July 17, 2018 to Reisa (Fessler) -12- and Nick Hardy -13-
- 9** Jeremiah James on September 12, 2018 to Lacey (Bruner) -11- and Jeren Wunder, joining Josiah

In Memory

- Eleanor M. (Ernest) Vance** -44- on January 14, 2019 in Cherokee, Iowa
- Jack Clayton Hawthorne** -49- on April 22, 2019 in Knoxville, Tennessee
- Esther (Cockerham) Muffet** -49- on March 12, 2019 in Parma, Idaho
- Robert Anderson** -50- on December 31, 2018 in Beaverton, Oregon
- Pauline (Rinehart) Kunkel** -51- on May 5, 2018 in Urbana, Illinois
- Donald Rosenbaum** (51) on March 9, 2019 in College Place, Washington
- Erlene Fivecoat** -52- on November 4, 2018 in Newberg, Oregon
- Dewey Johnston** -54- on August 29, 2016 in Marion, Indiana
- Donald Crawford** -58- on February 15, 2019 in Bonney Lake, Washington
- Dr. Jerry L. Caven** -59- on May 24, 2019 in Eagle, Idaho
- Dr. Martha Hopkins** -59- on June 26, 2019 in Nampa, Idaho
- Janette (Pease) Dean** -60- on February 3, 2018 in Chandler, Arizona
- W. Warren Patterson** (62) on September 16, 2018 in Salem, Oregon
- Lowell Welker** -62- on June 27, 2018 in Renton, Washington

- Ken Carter** -66- on May 30, 2016 in Tipton, Indiana
- Ralph Nichols II** -66- on April 28, 2019 in Seatac, Washington
- Denton Jakobitz** -68- on May 16, 2018 in Bellevue, Washington
- Cecil Wilson** -68- on December 5, 2018 in Caldwell, Idaho
- Dr. Walden Hughes** -77- on March 26, 2019 in Nampa, Idaho
- Larry Hawn** -83- on November 7, 2018 in Anchorage, Alaska

-year- indicates graduation year
(year) indicates matriculation year



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FAMILY WEEKEND
NOVEMBER 7-9, 2019**



CULTIVATING *a* COMMUNITY

It's in community that we experience the richness of God's love

BY PATRICK GRAY, CLASS OF 1997 AND 1999

Life is full of lessons big and small. Everywhere I turn, there are opportunities to learn something new about others, about myself, about God. These lessons can be found through time spent with my kids, quiet evenings with my wife or conversations with friends over coffee. Regardless of where I encounter them, they all have one thing in common: every single one is made possible

because of the relationships I maintain, the people whose journeys have collided with mine.

A few years ago, my best friend Justin Skeesuck and I took on an adventure that many said was impossible. We embarked on a 500-mile trek across northern Spain on the ancient pilgrim trail known as the Camino de Santiago. Because of a progressive neuromuscular

disease, Justin lives life in a wheelchair. I, with the help of many others, pushed Justin in his wheelchair from Saint Jean Pied de Port in southwestern France to Santiago de Compostela in northwestern Spain. For five weeks we navigated various terrain—mountains, rivers, valleys, and deserts—and met many beautiful people. Each day, men and women stepped in to help us climb mountains, trudge through mud, cross streams, and descend sections of trail treacherous for a wheelchair. Throughout those weeks, we were surrounded by people who made a choice to set aside their own pain and struggles to partner in ours.

And in the evenings, many of those same people sat with us around tables, ate good food, and told stories of life from every corner of the earth. Everyone longed to know each person more. Even though there was a strong likelihood that we would never see each other again beyond the Camino, we all sought to know one another in the deepest of ways. While the sense of community we experienced on and off the trail was stronger than anything I had known before, the men and women around those tables reminded me of my friends and mentors from college.

I attended Northwest Nazarene University (then NNC) from 1993 to 1997. My days there were the beginning of my understanding of what it means to be a part of a community. I had good friends in high school, and Justin and I had been close since we were young, but college was different. At NNU, I had a few professors who took the time to truly know me, so they grew to be men and women I trusted—people who weren't afraid of my hard questions about faith or my periods of doubt. It was at NNU that I fell in love with my future wife, and I met friends who I drew close to, men and women I could confide in. I had found people who loved me for and in spite of who I was. While I know there were people like this earlier in my life, like my parents, there was something different—these people were my tribe, my church.

College was a place where I experienced academic growth and self-discovery, a period of my life where I was able to spread my wings, explore new realms of thought. But the most important thing that came out of my four years at NNU was the shaping and

honing of my faith. It was the beginning of my understanding of what it was that I believed, rather than blindly adopting the beliefs of others. I owe much of that to the professors and friends from my days at NNU. Those relationships have helped shape me as a man, as a husband, as a father. God's love for me was made real through this community.



“GOD’S LOVE FOR ME WAS MADE REAL THROUGH THIS COMMUNITY.”

Before my departure for the Camino with Justin, I had, to some degree, lost sight of that love because of long hours at work, busy schedules, and the fact that I was no longer looking for it.

Traversing the Camino awakened a desire in my soul for the same sort of community I found at NNU, but at a new depth.

After Justin and I returned from our Camino, we often spoke of the sense of community we experienced in Spain and how we missed it. In an effort to fill some of that void, my wife and I began inviting Justin, his wife Kirstin, and some mutual friends over for drinks and conversation on a weekly basis. We shared stories, talked of life struggles, and soon, we were approaching those relationships with complete openness and honesty, holding nothing back.

The result was astounding. Slowly, our group of four couples grew to seven. People from different walks of life, different churches, different political affiliations, all coming together with one common goal—to love and be loved regardless of who or what we are.

Five years later, we are still together, and we meet every Monday on our back patio. It is here that I experience what I believe church was meant to be, a safe place to share our fears, a safe place to question, a safe place to doubt, a safe place to let down our guard and know that we are loved in spite of what we say or do. It is here that I experience God's love in the richest of ways because these people know all of me and still choose to love me, just as God knows all of me and yet He loves me.

My hope for the men and women that attend NNU is that it will be a place where they experience deep relationships as I have, an environment where others will know all of them and still choose to love them. I hope they will discover what it means to be part of an authentic community. 🌹



PATRICK GRAY—*Alumnus of the Year Award*

Patrick Gray graduated from NNU in 1997 and again in 1999. He holds degrees in biology-chemistry, biology education, and nursing. His varied career has included teaching high school and working in hospital administration. Patrick's life and career changed direction in 2014 when he pushed his best friend Justin Skeesuck in a wheelchair through the

entirety of the Camino de Santiago, a pilgrim's trail across northern

Spain. Their amazing journey resulted in a bestselling book and an award-winning documentary, both titled "I'll Push You." Gray and Skeesuck now share their lessons and insights as they speak internationally, helping individuals and businesses cultivate healthy, thriving communities. Gray and Skeesuck have created school and church focused educational materials and studies, written a children's book, and have a forthcoming book titled "Imprints." Learn more about Gray and Skeesuck and their work at pushinc.us. Gray is married to Donna (Kenoyer) ('97) and they have three children, Cambria, Joshua, and Olivia. For his selfless commitment to helping people realize their potential for radical relationship with God and one another, NNU is thrilled to confer the award of Alumnus of the Year on Patrick Gray. 🔥



BETTE MOORE—*Professional Achievement Award*

Bette Dale Moore ('74) is well known for her spunk and her joy when it comes to the stage. Currently teaching elementary music at Liberty Charter School, she has been writing, performing and directing music and drama in the Nampa community for more than 30 years. She is heavily involved at

Nampa First Church of the Nazarene, where she has written and directed their annual Easter pageant, No Greater Love, for the past

35 years as well as their beloved children's program on Sunday mornings. Moore has seen some of her original productions through decades of well-attended performances all over the Treasure Valley. She has also published two drama books and three children's musicals with Lillenas Publishing Company. Bringing joy to all ages through the performing arts, Moore has impacted her community in a long-lasting way, so NNU is delighted to present her with the 2019 Professional Achievement Award. 🔥



ERIN CONLEE, M.D.—*Leon Doane Young Alumnus*

After four years of medical school at UC San Diego and six years at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, Dr. Erin Conlee ('08) returned to Idaho to serve as a pediatric rehabilitation physician at St. Luke's Children's Rehab in Boise. She explains that pediatric rehabilitation is a field of medicine

that combines her loves of coaching, medicine and building relationships with children and families. From serving as chief

resident at Mayo Clinic and presenting research at national conventions to founding an adaptive rock-climbing program for children with disabilities with her husband, Conlee is the embodiment of a humble servant of Christ. "We are here on this world for good, for bringing more of the Lord to the people of this world," says Conlee. For her compassionate service across the nation, NNU is honored to present Dr. Erin Conlee with the Leon Doane Young Alumnus Award. 🔥



DENNIS STRAIT—*Distinguished Service Award*

After 30 years of teaching elementary school in the Anchorage School District, Dennis Strait is enjoying his retirement. Strait graduated from NNC in 1969 with a degree in Biological Science. After serving two years in the Army, he returned to the college to earn his degree in Elementary Education.

Since that time, Strait has had an active role in both his local community and the NNU community. He served on the NNU Alumni Board for 12 years, and, for the past 32 years, he has assisted with the annual Alaska District NYI Resurrection Trail Hike for

youth. He currently serves on the Alaska Nazarene District Advisory Board. Despite being retired, Strait keeps busy by volunteering at New Hope on the Last Frontier, an Anchorage faith-based food distribution center. He also helps with the Wednesday night teen group at Anchorage Hillcrest Church of the Nazarene. Strait credits NNU for providing opportunities to strengthen his relationship with Jesus Christ in a setting that was miles away from home. For his faithful service to his communities near and far including NNU and the Church of the Nazarene, Dennis Strait is the honored recipient of the Distinguished Service Award. 🔥



MARIO CHRISTIE AT HIS SENIOR SHOW IN APRIL. MARIO IS AN ARTIST FROM BARBADOS WHO SPECIALIZES IN ILLUSTRATION. HE BELIEVES WE ARE ALL CONNECTED AND WERE PUT ON THIS PLANET FOR A REASON, WHICH PUSHES HIM TO INVEST DEEPLY IN HIS RELATIONSHIPS. THE PORTRAITS HE CREATES ARE OF THOSE HE MOST VALUES AND ADMIRES.



READ MORE ABOUT THE THE CLASS OF 2019 ARTISTS AT NNU.EDU/SENIORSHOW2019





ADDING CYBERSECURITY AND AI

The Department of Computer Science (CS) is excited to announce two new areas of concentration: Cybersecurity and Data Science.

Students studying Cybersecurity will be equipped with the skills needed to protect operating systems, networks and data from cyber attacks. Data Science, often correlated with Artificial Intelligence (AI), is an interdisciplinary field that uses scientific methods, processes, algorithms and systems to extract knowledge from voluminous data sets.

“Students with bachelor’s degrees in computer science are in such high demand that we cannot adequately fill all the available internships and employment opportunities. Projected growth in cybersecurity and data science/AI jobs is huge, so adding these emphases to our existing solid computer science curriculum makes sense,” said Dr. Barry Myers, professor of Computer Science and department chair.

The two new CS concentrations will be offered beginning Fall 2019. 🍷



RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING FACULTY

The Lilly Faculty Fellowship program has awarded Dr. Jennifer Chase and Dr. Donna Allen a grant, which will span two years, to develop a Lilly program at NNU. During this time, Dr. Chase and Dr. Allen will attend conferences and will be given resources to help them develop a program on campus that encourages the integration of faith and teaching in fields designated as professional, natural and social science.

NNU will receive \$10,000 to be used to establish this program for faculty to explore ways to combine matters of faith and academic disciplines, especially when teaching controversial and ambiguous content.

Dr. Chase, professor of biology, hopes to make a space for STEM colleagues who have the challenge of presenting a scientific perspective alongside Christian thought. Dr. Allen, associate professor of communication, has expressed a desire to more formally develop ways for her and her colleagues to incorporate faith into curricula, allowing challenging and controversial content to be discussed both in the classroom and among faculty. She hopes to accomplish intellectual and respectful dialogue within the framework of Christian faith. 🍷



EARNING A GRANT FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

NNU is one of 11 educational institutions included in the Idaho Institutional Development Award (IDeA) Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE). INBRE is dispersing \$17 million throughout Idaho with the goal of building the state’s growing biomedical workforce and strengthening its research infrastructure.

NNU will be given a total \$872,005 which will be used to fund undergraduate students working on faculty-directed research projects that will last for up to 10 weeks in the summer.

“The funding provided by the National Institutes of Health through the INBRE program has transformed faculty research with undergraduate students. Students will present their research results at regional and national conferences and many will be published in scientific journals,” said Dr. Dan Nogales, professor of chemistry.

With this new five year grant, NNU will have the funding to continue advanced research on projects such as teaching computers to identify prostate cancer, testing the antibacterial properties of nanoparticles, identifying species with gene sequencing, and modeling urine biochemistry and physiology to better understand fertility, among others. 🍷



INTRODUCING NEW LACROSSE COACHES

Coaching staff for both Men's and Women's Club Lacrosse programs have been secured.

Tom Blanchard will be joining as the men's head coach, and he comes with over a decade of experience in the Idaho lacrosse community. He spent the majority of his lacrosse career as the head coach at Rocky Mountain and Timberline High School, but most recently has served as the vice-commissioner for the Idaho High School Lacrosse League. Blanchard was the recipient of the 2019 Idaho U.S. Lacrosse Person of the Year for his contributions during the 2019 season.

Jeff Einfalt (pictured above) will be filling the role as the women's head coach. He has been active in Idaho and Colorado lacrosse communities since 2008, during which time he achieved success at the youth, high school and collegiate levels. He has served as head coach of the Durango, Colorado women's high school team. Prior to his job relocation that sent him to Colorado, Einfalt was immersed in the Boise women's lacrosse community as the head coach of the Boise State University women's lacrosse team and Rocky Mountain High School's varsity team. He was also the girl's program director for the local youth league. 🍷



REPURPOSING THE FORMER STUDENT CENTER

With construction on NNU's new student commons well underway, plans to repurpose the current student center are in the works. Multiple departments on campus will utilize the new repurposed space including the College of Nursing, Undergraduate Admissions, and all offices that currently serve student needs.

Three of NNU's nursing programs are doubling in size, which will be made possible with the expansion. There will be state of the art simulation experiences, increased classroom size and a dedicated laboratory space for Family Nurse Practitioner students.

Another important piece of the repurposing project will be a centralized space dedicated to serving the student body. It will include the registrar, financial aid, account services offices, post office and campus bookstore. The goal is to create a one stop shop where students can complete all of their transactions.

Students have always been the focus on the campus, and with all the new changes, that focus will be exemplified even further. 🍷



STARTING NEW DIGITAL MEDIA MAJOR

We are excited to introduce Digital Media as a new major beginning Fall 2019. The core requirements will build a strong foundation of visual communication with areas of emphasis in Audio Engineering, Graphic Design, Marketing, Storytelling, Video and Film, and Web Development.

"This degree is focused on digital storytelling," said Professor and Chair of the Department of Art & Design Mike Bartlett. "We built a strong foundation for students to be proficient with digital communication, and we designed it to fit all of the digital communication jobs at so many companies today."

In today's ever-changing technological world there is a huge demand for skilled individuals able to create and edit information through a variety of media platforms. This interdisciplinary degree will prepare students to respond to that demand. 🍷

MISSING WALDEN

The campus mourns the loss of beloved professor Dr. Walden Hughes

BY VERONICA CRAKER

Northwest Nazarene University mourns the loss of longtime Music Professor Walden Hughes, who passed away on March 26 at the age of 64 years. Dr. Hughes served the university and students for more than 40 years.

"It has been my privilege to count this truly unique individual as a friend and colleague for over 40 years," said Barry Swanson, Ph.D. "He was a rare combination of intellect, curiosity, talent, perseverance and humor. A great teacher, he built warm and lasting relationships with his students, and they responded both to his high expectations and his warmth. As a colleague, he brought those same high expectations to the music department and made it a better place. He will be greatly missed."

Dr. Hughes graduated from NNU with a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Piano and Music Theory in 1977. He earned a Master of Music in Piano Performance from the University of Idaho in 1979 and a Doctor of Arts in Music History and Literature and Piano Pedagogy from the University of Northern Colorado in 1992, all while teaching at NNU.

Longtime friend and colleague Associate Music Professor George Turner remembered Dr. Hughes as a lifelong learner. "Walden was single-minded about piano and piano performance all 45 years that I knew him," Turner said. "He always wanted to know more about piano, literature, piano performance and piano construction."

This passion for strengthening his art led to a number of awards and honors over the years. In 1995, Dr. Hughes was awarded the coveted Master Teacher Certificate by the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), presented each year to only three music teachers in the United States. The Walden Hughes Music Scholarship was started in his name in 2006.

Student and family friend sophomore Shay Christianson credits Dr. Hughes for encouraging her to pursue the piano when she arrived on campus, despite it being an instrument she hadn't consistently practiced in seven years.

"I was unsure why Dr. Hughes wanted me as a student, let

alone a piano performance major, because my skills were nowhere close to a collegiate level," Christianson admitted. "However, he was consistently patient, encouraging, and welcoming to me when I needed help. He taught me to not settle for mediocrity in my piano playing. As a result, I never left his office feeling as if I hadn't had the opportunity to show him my best work."

Dr. Hughes had the unconventional distinction of working in the same office he was born in when the NNU Fine Arts building once served as Samaritan Hospital in the 1950's. The Fine Arts building was truly a family institution as Walden's father was also born in it.

Turner says Walden even enjoyed bringing his granddaughter Quincy to class, showing her off to everyone in the music building.

Hughes' publications include 30 articles in professional journals in the U.S. and Europe, spanning *Clavier*, *Piano Quarterly*, *American Music Teacher*, *Piano and Keyboard*, *Piano Guild Notes*, and *Music Review*; 18 CD reviews for *American Record Guide*; 14 book reviews of new piano pedagogy and repertoire books;

and 12 CD reviews for *Clavier*. He composed 100 piano ensemble scores and was commissioned to write works specifically for performance by Hvaler School of the Arts, Norway; Katholische Universitaet Eichstaett, Germany; Kipnis/Kushner Duo, New York; Santa Fe Guitar Quartet, Argentina; and the Louisiana Music Teacher's Association 2004 state convention.

His piano ensemble works have been performed in 65 countries and 48 states; he has recorded Bach and the Romantics and Bach and the Romantics 2 on CDs for MP3.com 2000, and is an MP3 Artist with 40 internet recordings.

"I am saddened that I only studied with Dr. Hughes for a short time, but I am more than grateful that I had an opportunity to know him," Christianson said. "He taught me so much in so little time and that will stay with me for a lifetime. There is no one like Dr. Walden Hughes. He is greatly missed by me and my family." 🍷



Dr. Hughes' place at commencement was filled with a token of remembrance.





SENIOR JAKE KNIGHT SHATTERS SCHOOL DISCUS RECORDS.



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AT NNU AT NNUSPORTS.COM/FOOTSTEPS

NIGHTHAWKS SEASON HIGHLIGHTS



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Nighthawks had one of the best seasons in school history, finishing 23-4 overall, advancing to the second round of the national tournament, winning their first GNAC tournament title, being ranked No. 1 in the country, going undefeated at home, and winning 18 games in a row. Senior Ellie Logan was named honorable mention All-American, and Logan and junior Avery Albrecht were named all-GNAC first team.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Junior Adonis Arms was named the GNAC Player of the Year and Newcomer of the Year, while senior Obi Megwa was named to the first team. The Nighthawks advanced to the semifinals of the GNAC tournament and had their first 20-win season since moving up to NCAA Division II.

INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

Seniors Lexi Tubbs and Jake Knight qualified for the national championship meet. Tubbs finished ninth in the 60-meter hurdles after setting the school record in the event at the GNAC meet, while Knight finished 11th in the shot put after setting the school record in the event earlier in the season.

BASEBALL

With seven players earning all-GNAC honors, including Parker Price for a second consecutive season, the Nighthawks



stunned the conference by finishing third and advancing to the GNAC tournament under new head coach Joe Schaefer.

SOFTBALL

Seniors Kylie Orr and Anna Williams earned All-West Region honors, junior Jordan Adams was named the GNAC pitcher of the year and threw the second no-hitter in program history, and the Nighthawks earned their second consecutive berth into the GNAC tournament.

GOLF

Junior Henry Bernard and senior Stephanie Miller earned all-GNAC honors. Bernard tied for 14th at the GNAC tournament as the men's team finished sixth. Miller finished in a tie for eighth at the conference tournament as the women's team finished fourth.

TRACK AND FIELD

Senior Jake Knight shattered the school records in the shot put and discus, won GNAC titles in both, and advanced to the national meet. At nationals, Knight finished 5th in discus and earned All-American honors. Junior Logan Blake won a GNAC title in the 400, while senior Ellie Logan defended her title in the javelin, set the school record and qualified for her second national meet. At nationals, Logan placed 2nd in javelin and earned All-American honors.



REMEMBERING *an* NNU CHAMPION

Dr. Martha Hopkins' advocacy for women's athletics will continue to bless the university for years to come

BY CRAIG CRAKER, SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR, CLASS OF 2002

Where would Northwest Nazarene University women's athletics be without Dr. Martha Hopkins? Would there be three trips to the NAIA volleyball final four? Or two national titles in track and field for Ashley Puga? Or two trips to the women's basketball national title game, culminating in the 1997 win?

The longtime champion of women's athletics at NNU passed away June 26 at the age of 81 after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. Hopkins came to Nampa when she was in seventh grade after her family sold their lumber business in Cloverdale, Oregon. She graduated from NNC in 1959 and returned in 1966 as a faculty member.

"There have been some really incredible, trailblazing women at NNU since its inception, and I would venture to say that Martha is at the top of that list," said Athletic Director Kelli Lindley. "Martha had an unwavering passion and love for the mission of transformation at NNU. With what seemed like laser focus, she poured herself into making NNU Athletics accessible for women and was always pushing for gender equality."

While varsity women's athletics would eventually have started at NNU, Hopkins jumpstarted the process in 1969 and was a tireless advocate for women's sports. She then coached every sport the school has offered including men's tennis and men's track and field, women's tennis, women's basketball, volleyball and field hockey; was the athletic director; and served in a variety of roles around campus during her 34-year career.

"She was a quintessential NNU supporter," said Roger Schmidt, a longtime colleague of Hopkins and the coach of the national title basketball team. "That was her life. She never got married, but her life was helping kids and helping the school and the administration and faculty to develop into the best people and programs. She was very good at supporting and helping people and kind of knowing how to get things done."

Hopkins herself had been a stellar athlete in college. She played any games that were offered through intramurals and extramurals, but with no varsity women's sports in the late 1950s and early 1960s, she never got to shine on a big stage. When she came back

to NNU after earning a master's degree from Indiana University, she began a lifelong crusade to create an equal playing field for women in sports.

"I think the reason Martha was so intent on providing athletics for women was so they could experience something she was not able to do," said Minnie Richards, a 15-year member of the Board of Trustees and a lifelong friend of Hopkins. "She wanted to help girls be able to reach their maximum abilities in things she wasn't able to do."

"She was a strong woman and she helped so many of us women to be outgoing and responsible," said Darlene Brasch, who graduated from NNC in 1972 and was elected into the athletic hall of fame after a stellar career coaching volleyball. "She was Christ-like in all she did. I am blessed to be a small part of a huge crowd of women who have been touched by this amazing Christian female role model in their lives."

Women's basketball coach Steve Steele just wrapped up his third season at NNU, but he got to know Hopkins so well they would go out to lunch once a month and sometimes go to garage sales together. "She was a funny, clever lady to be around," Steele said. "She cared about our team a lot. In my mind, she is a celebrity as far as NNU goes, but you never felt that way with her because she always made you laugh and be comfortable."

Hopkins, who lived with Ron and Joann Williams the last four and a half years of her life, often had the women's basketball team over for meals and to play games. It was a highlight for the ladies, and it helped establish deep relationships with a younger generation.

Ellie Logan, who was a star on the women's basketball team the last five years, said she always tried to be on Hopkins' team for cards. It was just more fun to beat everyone else.

"Martha meant the world to me," said Kate Cryderman, who graduated from NNU in 2017 after playing women's basketball for three years. "She took me in as her own and was a great mentor and friend. She has left a lasting legacy at NNU and all student-athletes are benefiting from her dedication to our university."

Doc Hop in her element coaching women's basketball in the 1980s. Bottom right: Martha Hopkins with Marilyn Thompson at the President's Pancake Breakfast during Homecoming 2018.



Hopkins helped a legion of women who came through NNU to be better teachers, coaches, role models, friends and followers of Christ.

For Joann Williams ('68), who played extramural sports for her in the late 1960s and later became her caregiver, Hopkins will be a friend who cannot be replaced. "There won't be anyone who will replace Martha. There will not be anyone who can ever be that kind of inspiration that she was."

Hopkins spent her career at the university filling every role that was needed in athletics but also in academics. She was a professor of kinesiology for 34 years, an academic dean for three years, the head of the HPER department for four years, chair of the division of professional studies for 15 years and was the athletic director for four years.

She was elected into the athletic hall of fame in 1992. Even after retiring in 2000, she remained active in her support both with her time and her money. She gave money to upgrade the women's basketball locker room, upgrade the basketball bleachers, to start the Martha Hopkins Women's Athletic Scholarship and the W.L. "Bill" & Della Hopkins Scholarship. She gave financially to every sports program.

"Martha Hopkins was the epitome of a Christian coach and faculty member," President Joel Pearsall said. "Her impact across 34 years at NNU was enormous, and she touched hundreds if not thousands of lives—and I am one of those who was deeply impacted by her.

"Even after her retirement in 2000, 'Doc Hop' (as she was known to many) was present, encouraging and inspiring. I am grateful that in God's providence, Dr. Martha Hopkins invested her life at NNU."


Trying to sum up Martha Hopkins' legacy is nearly impossible. Considering everything she accomplished and how many lives she impacted it is hard to nail down what she means to this community.

"Beyond Martha's extraordinary generosity, she set the example for other campus leaders in regard to how to coach, teach, invest and lead with grace, intelligence, integrity and always humor," Lindley said. "None of that ever faded, and I am so grateful that so many women, including myself, were able to be mentored by Martha and call her friend." 🌹





FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SCHOOL HISTORY, THE NNU WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM TOOK HOME THE TITLE OF GNAC CHAMPIONS. THE NIGHTHAWKS DEFEATED ALASKA ANCHORAGE 70-64 FOR A WIN THAT LED THEM TO THE NCAA DIVISION II WEST REGIONAL TOURNAMENT. THEY ENDED THEIR IMPRESSIVE SEASON WITH A 29-3 RECORD.

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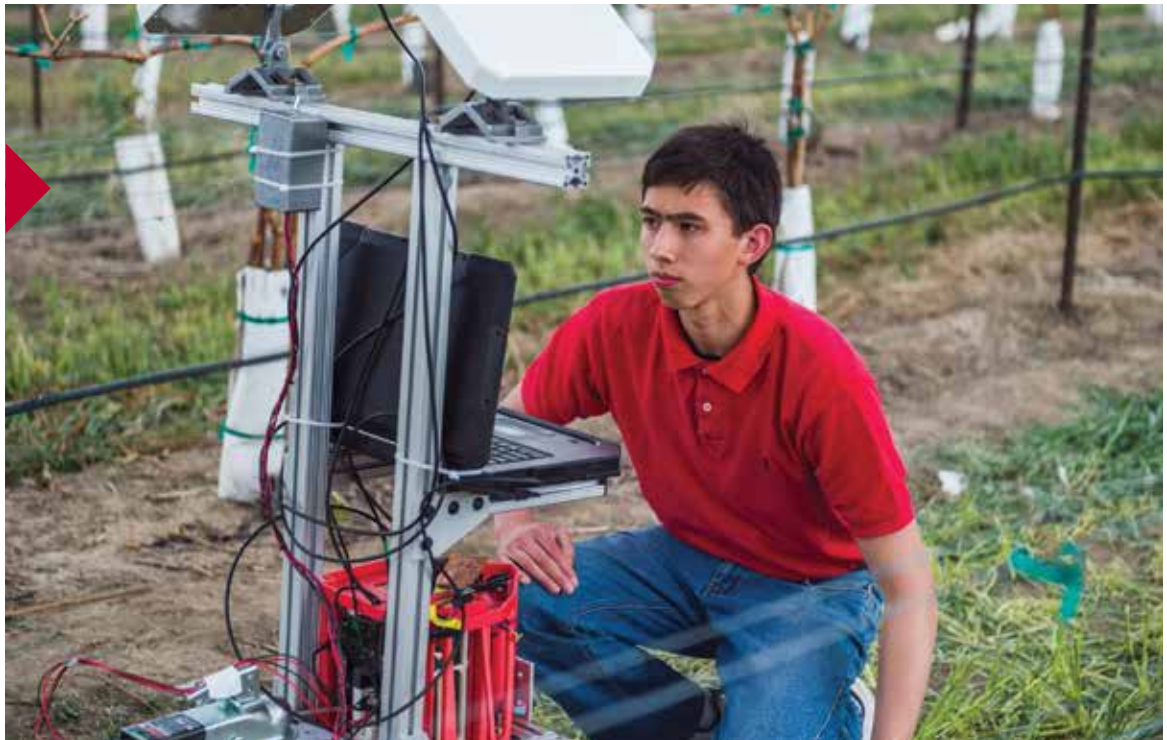
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