

NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

ARCHWAYS

BOUNCE BACK | SUMMER 2018 | VOLUME 18, ISSUE 2

Hit the boards with
a national champion.

Art of the *Rebound*

FROM THE PRESIDENT



*It's only upon
returning home
... that we truly
know ourselves.*

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Amid sunshine and raindrops at Nebraska Wesleyan's 129th commencement, the class of 2018 heard from humanitarian **Natalie Hahn**, whose work with the United Nations has taken her to 31 countries.

Hahn told our graduates about the importance of global study and challenged them to live generously. Then she made a striking observation: "I have found that it's only upon returning home and understanding one's own history that we truly know ourselves."

What a sensible point to "drive home" for the class of 2018. Some of them will stay close as teachers, accountants and nurses. Others will travel nationally for graduate or medical school. And others are setting off to teach English in Japan or volunteer in Tanzania.

What we mean when we say "home" changes throughout our lives. And I'm confident our new graduates are equipped to flourish as they make themselves at home, again and again, in their ever-evolving careers.

During her speech, Hahn shared her own story of returning home to Central City, Neb., after 29 years in Africa and Europe. That homecoming helped her realize how blessed she was for her family, heritage and Nebraska roots.

Homecomings help us count blessings. Consider Coach **Dale Wellman's** experience after Nebraska Wesleyan's 2018 NCAA Div. III National Championship in men's basketball. He admitted feeling a letdown after the buzzer sounded and the confetti dropped. The thrill of achievement can be shortlived. Or so Coach Wellman thought. But then the team returned home to a crowded Snyder Arena for a grand celebration they will never forget. The thrill doesn't leave so long as we bring it home.

Not every NWU homecoming happens on campus. In May, William Wyman, our legendary director of choral activities, invited alumni to join the University Choir for a homecoming of sorts in New York City. It was a special performance at Carnegie Hall. More than 200 alumni joined voices with the 2018 NWU choir on that magnificent stage.

This issue of *Archways* celebrates more special homecomings.

University Minister **Eduardo Boussón** returned home to Puerto Rico with a group of NWU students to assist with Hurricane Maria cleanup efforts.

Trey Bardsley ('16), former NWU basketball standout and current Washington Generals player, returned to Lincoln to play in front of family, friends and former teammates.

And the published works of late Nebraska state poet and beloved NWU Professor **William Kloefkorn** have found their way home to Cochrane-Woods Library.

As our new graduates move on to their next homes, we're preparing to welcome our largest-ever group of entering students. They will pack their possessions and begin settling into a new place—a new home.

I know that Nebraska Wesleyan friends reading these next words, meant for alumni especially, will appreciate their import. Whether you have stayed close or ventured far, I hope your own memories of NWU moments are among your very best and that they conjure up for you special feelings of home.

Yours truly,

—Fred Ohles
President



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Nebraska Wesleyan University is an academic community dedicated to intellectual and personal growth within the context of a liberal arts education and in an environment of Christian concern.

Archways is an examination—and, ideally, a conversation—of how Nebraska Wesleyan University and its people relate to the world around us. That examination is academically sound, socially conscious, and continuously curious.

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Martha Tanner, "The Poet's Papers" ▶24

Author Alex Haley (*The Autobiography of Malcolm X*) once called every death "the burning of a library." We lose in death the precious resource of that person's memories and wisdom. With the late Professor of English William Kloefkorn, the loss touched generations of NWU alumni.

In this light, Martha Tanner's work as head of research services and archives at Cochrane-Woods Library is very much like salvaging valuable things from the fire. Following the donation of Bill's personal library to NWU, Martha led the university's efforts to understand, catalogue and archive this resource.

The worth of that resource extends, not just to the alumni and colleagues who knew him, but to every student interested in the poetry of the Great Plains. There's a child growing right now—maybe a kindergartener at Lincoln's Kloefkorn Elementary—who will one day arrive at NWU and this archive. The discoveries she'll make as she explores this material will reveal the lasting value of Kloefkorn's—and Tanner's—good work.

Martha Tanner holds an MA and PhD in English from Tulane and an MS in library and information science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Photo by Lauren Andres ('21)



Alex Linden ('03), "The Wellman Effect" ▶28

In football, a "lockdown corner" is your best coverage player. Whether the defense is man or zone, this player is the one coaches trust to cover everything that comes his way.

Alex Linden is that person who "covers everything" for NWU Athletics. You see the coverage he writes for NWUsports.com as sports information director. You follow his tweets through @NWUSports. But you may not recognize many of his "other duties as assigned"—his time keeping stats at the scorers' table, or working the mic as public address announcer, or connecting reporters to coaches and student-athletes, or traveling with teams to away venues.

In ways large and small, Alex is the Prairie Wolves' best coverage guy—that person you trust to be in the right place, doing the right work. Alex played football for NWU and earned a bachelor's degree in sport management in 2003. He's been NWU's sports information director since 2007.

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Dr. Joni Tilford ('91)

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Prof. Dan Howell



Prof. Jay Chipman

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Religion Professor Wins Prouty Teaching Award

The Margaret J. Prouty Faculty Teaching Award was established in 1994 by **Margaret Prouty** ('32) "to recognize and reward faculty for the pursuit of excellence in teaching." This year's Prouty winner is Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion **Jonathan Redding**. This is the first time NWU's highest teaching honor has gone to someone in their first year here.

One student nominator described Redding as having "an energy that can't be matched. There has never once been a day when he wasn't excited to teach us."

Said another: "It was Prof. Redding's class that

helped me realize that NWU was the right place for me."

Assistant Professor of Biology **Cindy Marolf** was a finalist for this year's award.

Other professors were also honored with institutional awards. Professor of English **Scott Stanfield** received NWU's Faculty Scholar Award for his scholarship on English and American poetry. And Assistant Professor of Mathematics **Austin Mohr** was named the Faculty Advisor of the Year.

A former advisee of Mohr's wrote, "Without Austin to guide me, I would have struggled much more throughout my undergraduate career, and I don't think I would have the opportunity right now to earn my PhD in mathematics."



Photo by Lauren Andres ('21)

CAMPAIGN CONNECTION:

It's a Bold Designs priority to recruit, support and develop outstanding professors like the ones celebrated here.

Music Professor Is UMC's Exemplary Teacher

Assistant Professor of Music **Amy Spears** finds interesting ways to put her students on exciting stages.

She sets up contentious mock school board hearings to prepare her secondary music education students for the program funding battles they may face in their future schools. She's also staged "School of Rock"-inspired concerts where non-music majors could perform pieces they wrote in her class.

These are just two reasons why the United Methodist Church Division of Higher Education selected Spears as its 2018 Exemplary Teacher. The award goes to an NWU professor each year who exemplifies excellence in teaching, civility and concern for students as part of a value-centered education.

"Prof. Spears's teaching, service and scholarship intertwine to ... connect with diversity and social justice issues," said one colleague.

A student nominator added, "She has inspired me, changed my teaching philosophy and reminded me that learning is a lifelong endeavor."

THE FINAL

The United Methodist Church partners with NWU to support teaching excellence in an environment of Christian concern.



Photo by Red Feather Photography



Photo by Shane and Sunny Photography

NWU Director Chairs NACEP Committee

Nebraska Wesleyan University has long been a leader in concurrent enrollment partnerships (CEPs). CEPs allow high school students to earn college credit by taking college-level courses taught within their high schools by teachers with adjunct faculty status at the partnering college.

In April, the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) announced that **Marian Borgmann-Ingwersen**, director of NWU's Honors Academy, will serve on its board of directors as chair of its research committee.

Honors Academy is Nebraska Wesleyan's CEP that connects 160 teachers at 70 Nebraska high schools to NWU. Honors Academy credits transfer to most colleges and universities, and qualify students for special scholarship support at Nebraska Wesleyan University.

Borgmann-Ingwersen has been an NACEP member since the alliance's conception.

THE FINAL

Through NWU's Honors Academy, high school students can enter college with a head start in earned credits.

Commencement 2018





Photos by Dan Luedert



On May 5, the class of 2018 took its winding “final walk” through campus to attend baccalaureate services at First United Methodist Church. Just across Saint Paul Avenue stood the Duane W. Acklie Hall of Science, rapidly taking shape ahead of its January 2019 opening.

The building’s newness helped to frame Nebraska Wesleyan’s 129th commencement as especially forward-looking. Over four years, members of this class have worked diligently to construct their futures. And commencement serves as much as a ribbon-cutting as a finish line. From here, they step newly into the opportunities they’ve built for themselves.

U.N. diplomat, philanthropist and Nebraska native **Natalie Hahn** ① delivered the commencement address and received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. Much of her work has focused on the health of women and children in eastern and southern Africa. NWU also awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree to Lincoln Mayor **Chris Beutler**. ②

Commencement was also an opportunity to honor a pair of retiring faculty members.

Professor Emeritus of Theatre Arts **Michael Reese** ③ has served as NWU Theatre’s technical director and scenographer for 15 years.

Professor Emeritus of Business Administration **Loy Watley** ④ advised some 800 business students over 20 years and was named Nebraska Wesleyan’s Outstanding Advisor in 2010.

THE FINAL

NWU welcomed 500 students to the ranks of alumni on May 5.





Germany

A Sister is Born

It's unusual for anyone to gain a sibling at age 131. But Nebraska Wesleyan University isn't usual. And early last semester, NWU proudly announced the birth of a new sister-school relationship. (It's a girl!)

Nebraska Wesleyan's new sister school is Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (KU) in Eichstätt, Germany. Founded in 1980, it remains the only Catholic university in the German-speaking world.

"I'm really excited about this connection with KU as a school that stands so close to what we're doing in terms of attention to students and encouraging world travel," said Professor of Communication **Karla Jensen**. "This is exactly what we want in a sister school."

And what exactly is a "sister school," you ask? It's a bilateral student-exchange partnership between international schools where the exchanged students continue paying their normal tuition and receiving their normal financial aid to their home school while

attending the sister school.

This partnership streamlines and simplifies the task of studying abroad. NWU students remain free to study at other schools and in other nations. The sister-school arrangements are there to offer NWU students a set of established and streamlined paths to a variety of quality partnering schools in interesting places.

KU joins an already full house of NWU sister schools.

- > Plymouth University, Plymouth, England
- > University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia
- > Kwansei Gakuin University, Nishinomiya, Japan
- > Tecnológico de Monterrey, Querétaro, Mexico

THE FINAL

NWU students now have access to an exchange program at Germany's only Catholic university.



England



Estonia



Japan



Mexico

Giving Day Helps Put NWU on the Map

Nebraska Wesleyan University held its second annual giving day, “The Main Event,” on April 18 with a powerful call to “help put NWU on the map.” Alumni, students, faculty, staff, parents and friends came together to celebrate their NWU pride by giving back.

In just 24 hours, 597 donors raised \$220,274 to support the Archway Fund, which fuels scholarships, faculty development, athletics, academic programs and so much more.

Erika Paschold ('08), director of the Archway Fund, expressed her thanks to everyone who supported the Archway Fund on April 18 and

every day. She was especially proud of the commitment shown by the people who work at Nebraska Wesleyan University. “For faculty and staff giving, I’m thrilled that we surpassed last year’s results,” she said. “On that day alone, 130 faculty and staff members made gifts and pledges.”

She also applauded generous matching funds provided by friends including **Greg Bergt** ('71), Nebraska Wesleyan’s Board of Governors, DuTeau Chevrolet and Subaru, **Mary Sue Harris**, **Phil Mullin** ('65) and Garner Industries, Union Bank & Trust and several others.

*In just 24 hours,
597 donors raised
\$220,274 to support
the Archway Fund.*

THE FINAL

NWU’s Main Event expired at midnight, April 18. But the Archway Fund never expires. See your gifts in action at facebook.com/NWUgiving.

NWU Increases Its Thread-count

Nebraska Wesleyan’s Archway Curriculum has received national acclaim in part for the way it threads related courses in different disciplines together to explore common themes. These “course threads” cover big and important topics that don’t fit neatly inside a single academic box.

Beginning in the fall, NWU students will have one more innovative course thread to choose from: the “Innovation Thread.”

The thread’s coordinators are professors of chemistry **Jodi (Nielsen) Ryter** ('90) and **Nathanael Fackler**. They said, “This thread calls on students to identify, investigate and solve problems through the intentional integration of diverse methods.” It includes courses in business administration, chemistry, history, theatre and more.

Our world needs bold, creative solutions to complex challenges. Those solutions most reliably come, as Ryter and Fackler put it, “through collaboration across multiple disciplines, bringing together transformational approaches for purposeful application.”

While the thread is new, our emphasis on collaboration and innovation is not. That’s what Nebraska Wesleyan has been doing since 1887.

*Our world
needs bold,
creative solutions
to complex
challenges.*

Choose your own adventure

The Archway Curriculum’s course threads explore big ideas through multiple disciplines. NWU students choose one or two adventurous threads from these options.

Chaos
Democracy
Gender and Sexuality
Globalism
Human Health and Disease
Humans in the Natural Environment
Identity
Innovation
Power
Science and Religion

THE FINAL

Innovation is the 10th thread in NWU’s evolving Archway Curriculum.

2018–2019 Season

- > **All Shook Up / MUSICAL**
August 16–19, 23–26
- > **A Lie of the Mind**
September 13–16, 20–23
- > **The Drowsy Chaperone / MUSICAL**
September 27–30, October 4–7
- > **Julius Caesar**
October 25–28, November 1–4
- > **Come Back to the 5 & Dime,
Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean**
November 8–11, 15–18
- > **Mamma Mia! / MUSICAL**
November 29–December 2, 6–9
- > **A Christmas Carol / 1-HOUR
CHILDREN'S ADAPTATION**
December 1–5
- > **Hamlet**
January 17–20, 24–27
- > **Xanadu / MUSICAL**
February 7–10, 14–17
- > **Applause! Applause! Reboot**
February 28–March 3
- > **One–Ham Manlet**
March 2, 3
- > **Nell Gwynn**
March 21–24, 28–31
- > **The Curious Incident of
the Dog in the Nighttime**
April 4–7, 11–14
- > **The Robber Bridegroom
MUSICAL**
April 25–28, May 2–5

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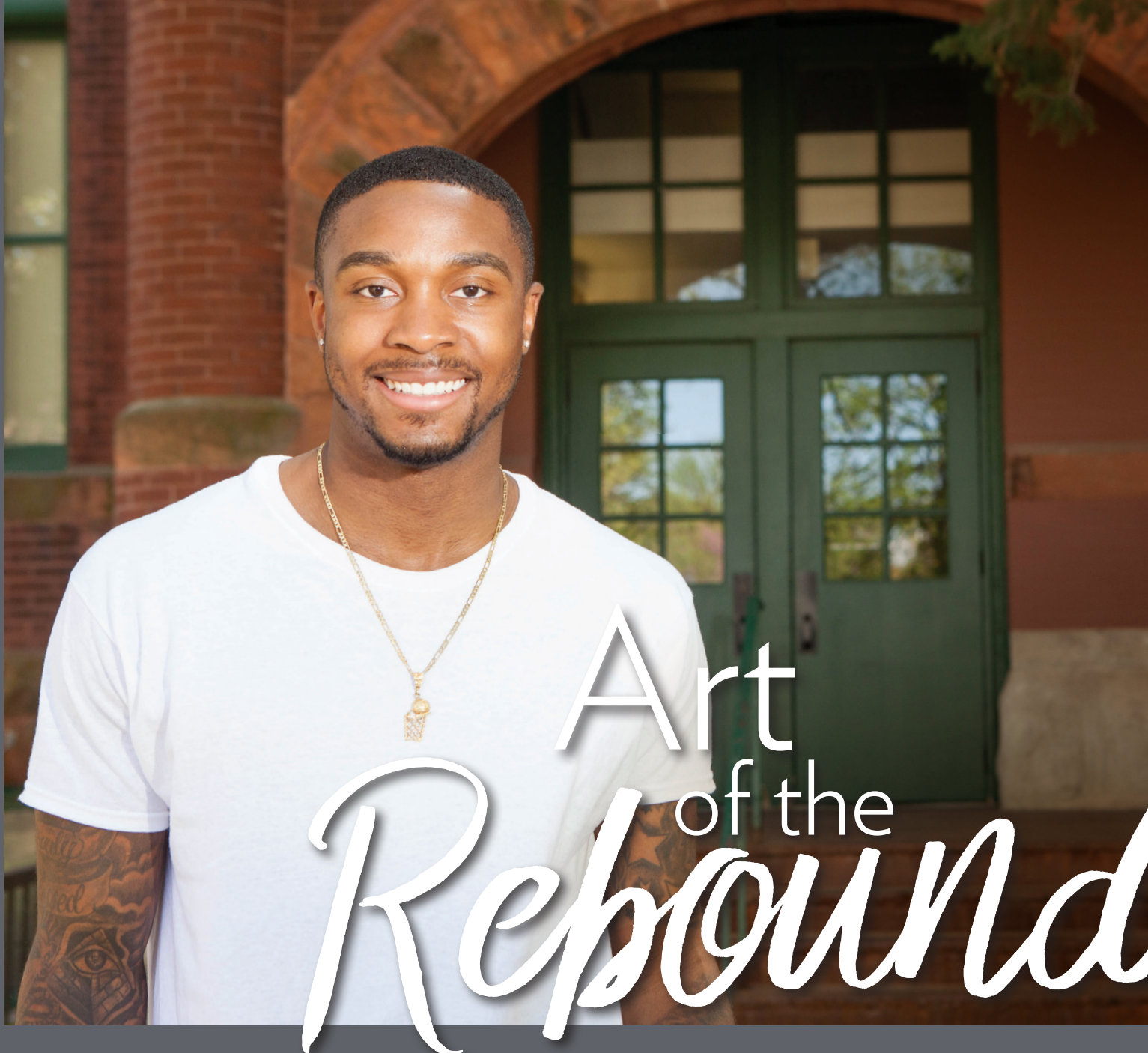


Photo by Dan Luedert

Life's full of missed shots. And each one is a rebound up for grabs.

Deion Wells-Ross ('18) has a secret. The 6' 4" power forward on Nebraska Wesleyan's national championship basketball team gave a sheepish smile and admitted: "I can't box out."

He shook his head. "Off free throws, it was terrible." He'd lift his elbow and wait for the shooter. And, too often for his liking, another forward would shoulder around him and yank the rebound away.

"Coach would just look at me." That would be national coach of the year, **Dale Wellman**. His mouth said nothing, but Wellman's eyes said: "Do you want to body up and get the basketball, or would you rather come sit by me?"

Wells-Ross most certainly did not want to sit. But the bodying-up part wasn't his strength.

"Now Cooper, that guy can box out," Wells-Ross said of his

teammate, national tournament MVP **Cooper Cook** ('19). "He gets his hip into you and takes out your whole base. You can't jump. You can't do anything. And the rebound's his."

If you listened only to Wells-Ross, you might leave convinced that Cook was the team's standard bearer in rebounds. But the stat book tells a different story. Wells-Ross's 293 rebounds led the team this season—topping Cook's second-place total—by 103. Amazingly, Wells-Ross and Cook didn't just top NWU's roster; they were also the top two rebounders for the entire Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (IIAC).

Wells-Ross now ranks 10th in NWU history for rebounds in a season. He was 13th in NCAA III (and second among players under 6' 6"). How does that happen for a kid who "can't box out"?

NWU is full of men and women who dedicate their work to helping others make rebounds of all kinds. Let's meet a few.

NWU Leading Rebounders



Dallas Fichtner
assistant athletic trainer

- > Head athletic trainer for men's and women's basketball, soccer and track & field
- > Helps Prairie Wolves rebound from injuries
- > Measures athletic tape in kilometers and ice bags in glaciers
- > "I brought him a dislocated shoulder and messed-up knees and ankles," said Wells-Ross. "Dallas kept the old man on the court."

Coming unboxed

Wells-Ross's rebounding success came by operating (literally) on a higher level. Your tried-and-true rebounding strategy focuses on the floor. You position your body to dominate floor space, using your backside to push opponents away from any shot that falls into your "box." The best rebounders improve their odds by commanding the widest boxes. But Wells-Ross didn't compete for rebounds this way. Rather than push for floor space, his goal was to get into the air quickly and meet the ball before it dropped into his opponents' boxes of control.

The center can have his misdrawn box. All you want is the basketball.

"He could rebound out of his zone, which most players don't even try to do," Wellman said. "As a coach, you teach blocking out, so it took us time to realize his style and appreciate that it worked. But it's not for everybody."

For one, it helps to be long and freakishly athletic. You also better be a speed reader. While other players jockey for floor position at the shot, your focus is upward. Once the ball leaves the shooter's hand, you must quickly plot its path and spin. You diagnose the shot as long and flat. It'll heel out and glance

toward the left block. So you slip the center in the high lane and jump hard to your left. The center can have his misdrawn box. All you want is the basketball. And you spotted its course before anyone else.

"You watch film, a lot of times, I jump too early," Wells-Ross said. "But I just want to get there first."

The veteran rookie

For Wells-Ross, pulling on an NWU jersey was a rebound in itself. His college career began on an outstanding Midland University squad that came 10 points short of an NAIA Div. II national championship in 2014. He described that Warrior roster as "loaded," and the freshman Wells-Ross did not play.

"I was a sponge," he said. "I wanted to soak up everything I could from the leaders on that team."

A knee injury led to a redshirt the following year. Then a coaching change brought a personal reckoning.

Wells-Ross was careful with his words about this different Midland staff. "We just weren't seeing eye-to-eye." Essentially, Wells-Ross saw himself as a college basketball player, and Midland's coaches weren't so sure. He recalled playing in just five games that season, two of which were for about 30 seconds of mop-up duty.

His frustration grew, and he let his coaches know he was considering leaving. "They kind of shrugged their shoulders and said, 'OK.'"

With that, Wells-Ross's first shot at college basketball clanked off the rim. It was time to rebound somewhere else.

He emailed scores of coaches across the NAIA and heard crickets. He was intrigued by Nebraska Wesleyan's move to compete exclusively in NCAA III. Here was a team bringing an exciting, up-tempo style to the IIAC—a basketball program at "a prestige school" where Wells-Ross knew he could get an amazing business education.



Photo by Chris Smithberg

He emailed Coach Wellman. “I had to send him my high school film because I didn’t really have any college video to give him.” He called himself at that point, “a veteran rookie.”

Having heard nothing from the other coaches he’d contacted, Wells-Ross was all done “standing around hoping the ball comes to you.” Like any good rebounder, Wells-Ross’s attitude was: If you want it, go get it.

He marched to the Weary Center. “I walked into Coach Wellman’s office a complete stranger, and I told him, ‘I’m the guy who’s been emailing you.’”

“I walked into Coach Wellman’s office a complete stranger, and I told him, ‘I’m the guy who’s been emailing you.’”

Now grind

Wells-Ross’s gutsy visit “sold me,” Wellman said. “I could tell Deion was going to be good to coach. He wanted to work hard and finish his career on a high note.”

Given the youth of Wellman’s roster, Wells-Ross’s maturity was doubly attractive. “As a fifth-year senior, he had two years on everybody else,” Wellman said. “We needed a guy like that on this team.”

So Wellman gave him a shot. Wells-Ross officially transferred to NWU and looked forward to his first 6:15 a.m. conditioning session as a Prairie Wolf.

He sounded disappointed in himself when he admitted he was one of the last players to show up for drills that morning. But while most players rolled out of bed on campus and measured their Weary Center commute in yards, Wells-Ross didn’t have a place in Lincoln yet. He got up at 4 a.m. to drive in from Omaha.

He looked around at his new teammates. He saw a 6’ 6” shooting guard in **Jack Hiller** (’20), a deadly accurate 6’ 4” point guard in **Nate Schimonitz** (’20) and a fellow forward in Cook who looked calmly capable of doing just about anything on a basketball court.

“I saw pretty quick that everybody here can score,” he said. “If I was going to prove myself with these guys, it would have to be as a rebounder and a leader.” So that’s what he worked on. Hard.

NWU Leading Rebounders



Photo by Shane and Sunny Photography

Lisa Borchardt (’92)
professor of social work

- > Has taught at NWU for 18 years
- > Prepares future social work professionals to help others rebound from traumas like grief, natural disasters, child abuse and domestic violence
- > Conducting sabbatical research on programming for student-athletes rebounding from grief

NWU Leading *Rebounders*



Amanda (Grotenfend) Phillips ('18)

*history major from
Santa Clarita, Calif.*

- > Winner of the 2018 Kenneth R. Holder Memorial Award for overcoming significant challenges in graduating from NWU
- > Experienced a challenging childhood and faced academic setbacks
- > “A year ago, I was coming up with excuses to tell my family why I wouldn’t graduate. ‘I’m not smart enough. I’m not good enough,’” Phillips said. “A year ago, I didn’t think I’d ever get to be this happy, and I certainly didn’t think this school would introduce me to my greatest love: teaching. It took me longer than it should have, it was harder than I anticipated, but I did it.”



Photo by Steve Frommell

To get a sense of Wells-Ross's work ethic, it helps to follow him through a typical day. After 6:15 a.m. conditioning, it was off to work at the Hy-Vee meat department. Then back to campus for several hours of class. Then another quick shift at Hy-Vee. Then evening practice. He'd make it back home around 10 p.m., with six hours before his alarm would go off again. Make that less than six. He'd set his alarm a little earlier this time so as not to be the last one to arrive at conditioning.

"As a leader, you can't have down days," Wells-Ross said. He committed himself to bringing an attitude and energy worth emulating. "It made me very disciplined."

That discipline resonated. "Deion was the voice of our team—even though I'd say he likes to lead by example more than by talking," said **Ryan Garver** ('19), the IAC's defensive player of the year. "He kept his cool more than anyone and had the utmost confidence in us."

Ways to win

Basketball is full of players who strive to be leaders but lack any concept of where they'd lead. To them, "team leader" just means "leading scorer." And all they expect from their teammates is the basketball. That wasn't Wells-Ross (or anyone on NWU's notoriously unselfish roster). In fact, among NWU's starting five, Wells-Ross held the lowest scoring average at "just" 12.5 points per game.

What NWU's vocal leader expected most from his teammates was their resilience. He expected their versatility. He wanted a bunch of ways to win games.

"Deion really knew what made each of us tick," Garver said. "He knew how to help us right the ship, which was great because we were known for putting our heads down when things didn't go well early in the season."

If Plan A faltered, Wells-Ross wanted his teammates to be equally confident they could bounce back with Plans B, C and D. "We took a lot of pride in playing two-tempo, position-less basketball," he said.

The Prairie Wolves welcomed the opportunity to play fast, but they didn't rely on it. "We'll post up our point guard and ask our five to shoot threes," he said. "Anything to create a mismatch, we'll do it."

Wells-Ross smiled with pride when he talked about the adaptations it took to advance in the national tournament. "Those Wisconsin teams, man, they were tough," Wells-Ross said. NWU may have wanted to play wide open. "But they forced us to play nitty-gritty ball."

He was grateful to come away with ferociously hard-fought wins against the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Springfield College (Springfield, Mass.) and the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

Ironically, unranked NWU's smoothest win came when they were the largest underdog—against #1 Whitman College (Walla Walla, Wash.). Wells-Ross chalked that 130-97 victory up to Whitman's refusal to adapt. "They ran that full-court press that worked really well for them all year long," Wells-Ross said. "Well, we were just carving it up—loving how stretched out they were." Swift passing through that press created open looks for NWU's gifted shooters.

Wells-Ross was surprised the Blues never switched out of it. "After a while, it was like, 'Oh. This is the only way they play.' They didn't have any more answers."

We'll post up our point guard and ask our five to shoot threes. Anything to create a mismatch, we'll do it.

NWU Leading Rebounders



Photo by Shane and Sunny Photography

Nancy Newman

director of Student Health Services

- > Has been treating NWU students for ailments of all sorts since 1987
- > Helps students rebound from illnesses so they can get back to class ready to learn
- > Gives shots that magically don't hurt
- > Rebounding from her own bout with serious illness
- > "Nancy is so happy to be back at Student Health," said her colleague, Kim McLaughlin. "She reached her goal of returning to a job she's loved for 31 years."

NWU Leading *Rebounders*



Candice Howell

*assistant dean for student success
and persistence*

- > Helps students rebound from academic setbacks to succeed in school
- > Persistence isn't her middle name, but it is in her job title.
- > With a master's degree in sports science, Candice goes about her work with an athlete's relentlessness.
- > "Candice has a great ability to connect," said Dean Sarah Kelen. "She works hard to communicate to students that she's on their side on their academic path, but she also makes it clear the journey is theirs to make."

NWU lifted the championship trophy on March 17 because they had a couple more answers. In nitty-gritty fights or high-flying shootouts—Wells-Ross and the Prairie Wolves simply came armed with a few more ways to win.

Priorities, right?

The discipline that Wells-Ross built as a college basketball player carried on after the buzzer in Salem, Va.

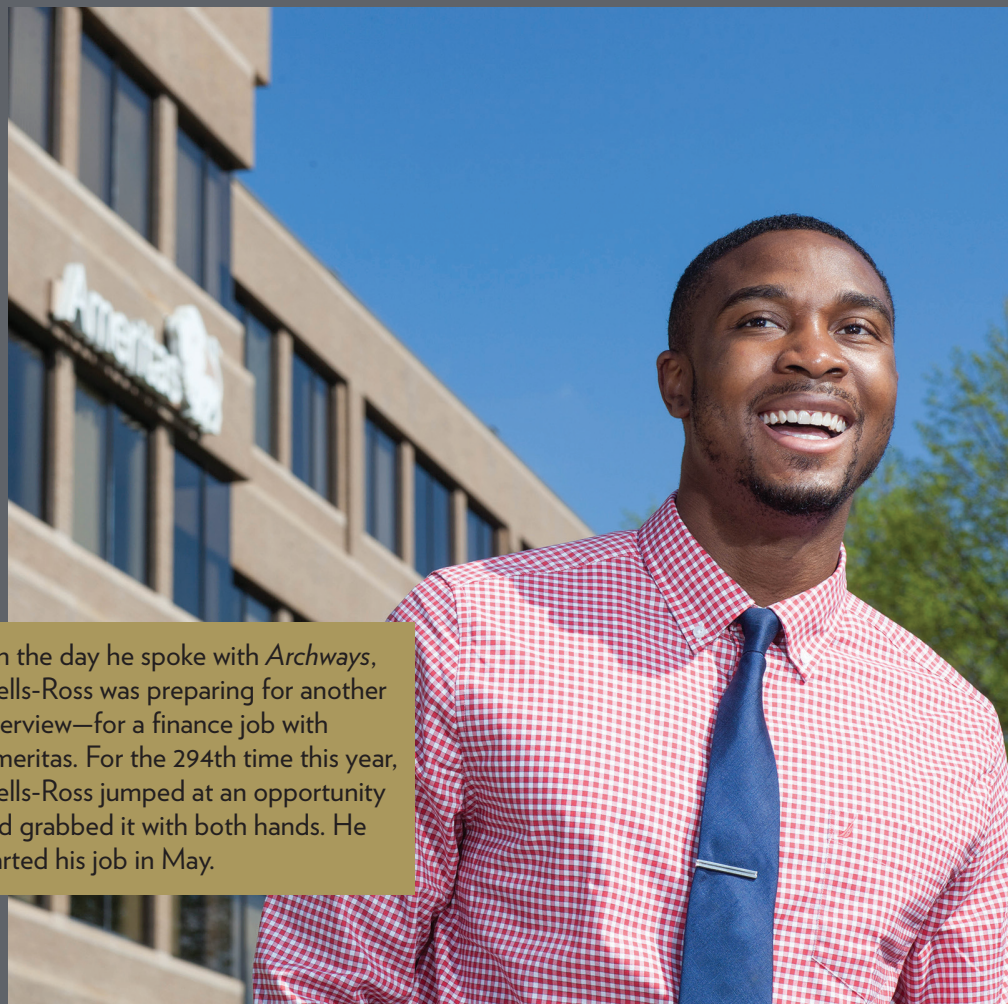
Coach Wellman's national champion Prairie Wolves received a rare invitation later that March. The team was given courtside seats at the NCAA men's basketball regional championship in Omaha. At halftime of the Elite Eight matchup between Division I basketball bluebloods Duke and Kansas, the entire Nebraska Wesleyan team was honored on the floor.

As the players gathered at mid-court, NWU's fans in the arena were all asking the same question: Where was Deion Wells-Ross?

He was back on campus, doing his homework. Wells-Ross was part of a small group of students long set to give a 45-minute presentation the next day. "I'd already committed to working with our group," he said without the slightest moan or groan about missing a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

If missing out hurt, the team leader had already rebounded and moved on.

All he said was, "Priorities, right?" 



On the day he spoke with *Archways*, Wells-Ross was preparing for another interview—for a finance job with Ameritas. For the 294th time this year, Wells-Ross jumped at an opportunity and grabbed it with both hands. He started his job in May.

People with master's
degrees add \$13,800
on average to their
annual salaries.

(College Board, 2016)

NW you

MBA

MEd in curriculum
and instruction

MSN

MSN/MBA joint degree

MSN to MBA Bridge

LPS teachers like Hannah Wid ('18) automatically move up the pay scale when they earn an MEd.

Start this summer and receive a \$40-per-credit-hour tuition discount.

A Homecoming for Trang Ho Morton NWU Rhodes Scholar returns to deliver Curtis Lecture.

Trang Ho Morton ('06) returned to campus along with her husband, Matthew Morton, to deliver the Curtis Lecture on Public Leadership on March 26. Trang graduated from NWU with degrees in political science, Spanish and international affairs. While at NWU, she won both a Truman Scholarship and the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship. She is also a 2018 Legends and Legacies Award winner.

Those scholarships helped to propel her to a master's degree in Latin American studies from the University of Oxford. Today, she is a planning specialist at the Fund to End Violence Against Children for UNICEF. The U.N. agency works in 190 countries and territories "to save children's

lives, to defend their rights and to help them fulfill their potential."

Matthew Morton graduated from Stetson University with a degree in political science and a master's degree and doctorate in evidence-based social intervention from the University of Oxford. He is a research fellow at Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, where he is the principal investigator for Voices of Youth Count, a national policy and research initiative on unaccompanied youth homelessness.

Their lecture was titled "Changing the Narrative on Adolescents: U.S. and International Perspectives."

Mildred Curtis established the Senator Carl T. Curtis and



Photo by Lauren Andres (21)

Mildred M. Curtis Lecture on Public Leadership in 2005 to honor her late husband, a 1928 graduate of NWU. The lecture explores aspects of public and civic leadership.

The Curtis Lecture features public service leaders such as federal and state officeholders, diplomats and leaders in areas of political science, history, human relations and communication. 📖

UNICEF's Six Strategies to Stop Violence against Children

NWU helped set Trang Ho Morton on a path of service that led to the U.N. There, she seeks to protect vulnerable children around the world. Here are UNICEF's half-dozen strategies for doing exactly that.

1. Support parents, caregivers and families.

When caregivers understand childhood development, they adopt positive discipline strategies that reduce the risk of violence in the home.

2. Help children manage risks.

Giving children and adolescents the skills to manage challenges without violence makes our schools and communities safer.

3. Change attitudes and norms that foster violence.

We do a lot to prevent violence when we change the social norms that excuse or hide it.

4. Promote services for children.

It's not enough for childhood support services to simply exist. We must go further to encourage children to seek support and report violence.

5. Implement laws and policies that protect children.

Societies need strong messages that violence is unacceptable and will be punished.

6. Carry out data collection and research.

We measure what matters. Good research informs effective prevention.

From "Ending Violence Against Children: Six Strategies for Action," UNICEF, 2014



Illustration by Melanie Reimiller

If It Bleeds, It Misleads

See what media miss about the state of human progress.

The renowned experimental psychologist and Harvard professor Steven Pinker came to Nebraska Wesleyan University with some reassuring news to share as part of NWU's Clifford Fawl Psychology Lecture on March 22. The trajectory of our hell-in-a-handbasket world might not be as bad as we imagine.

In fact, by a great many measures, the state of the world is astonishingly good. We just wouldn't know it by turning on the news.

"Human progress is a real phenomenon," Pinker said. But it's one that is often ignored by media and the academy—two entities that put great stock in their own gravity.

"Pessimists sound serious," Pinker said, "and optimism can just sound silly."

Go ahead, then, and paint Pinker a silly optimist. But be warned: Pinker's rosy picture is colored by serious statistics.

Pinker pointed to centuries of growing lifespans and declining rates of infant and maternal mortality. He showed how progresses in agriculture—like crop rotation, fertilizers and hybrid seed—have increased global daily caloric intakes and limited famine to the most isolated, war-torn regions of the world.

Per capita gross domestic product is up; extreme poverty is down.

Child labor is shrinking. So is violent crime.

Democracies have grown; autocracies have thinned.

War is in tremendous decline. No two

major global powers have engaged in combat since the U.S. and China tussled in the Korean War.

Global literacy rates are up. So are IQs. So is leisure time. So is worker safety. Even your odds of being struck by lightning have dropped substantially.

As good as we have it, why aren't we rejoicing in the streets?

One reason Pinker points to: We simply don't see the progress we've made.

Pinker argued the nature of human progress hits a blind spot in the nature of modern media. We can think of human progress as an eraser, rubbing away at global ills. And it's always difficult to see an eraser's work. Journalism is particularly ill-equipped to do it.

Imagine this: "We're reporting live from the Baxter family's bathroom where, just this morning, a healthy squirt of this liquid soap into little Timmy Baxter's palm washed away what would otherwise have been a deadly case of bacterial meningitis. Timmy lives! Which is good, Susan, because, as you know, he has a big birthday party this weekend. The theme is cowboys. And there will be pizza. Back to you, Susan."

Media will overlook the non-happenings of human progress and focus instead on the newsworthy happenings of the violence and destruction that do remain. This violence is real. But its prevalence gets distorted. And we inaccurately conclude that the world is

We can think of human progress as an eraser, rubbing away at global ills. And it's always difficult to see an eraser's work.

forever becoming more dangerous.

When we fail to see an absence (of war, of disease, of poverty) as progress, we see only the absence of progress. People ask Pinker: What about healthy skepticism? Isn't it good to be pessimistic?

His answer is emphatic. "No! Don't be pessimistic. Be accurate."

When we deny the reality of our progress, Pinker argued that we leave ourselves open to an alluring radicalism that contends the way back to greatness is through autocratic means. When we succumb to pessimism, we grow fatalistic. Faced with a problem, we throw up our hands and ask: Why waste effort on a hopeless cause?

But our state of affairs isn't hopeless. Whether the problem involves health, poverty, security, education or the environment, Pinker contended that we're often winning. We just haven't always known how to measure the score. ▮

The Clifford Fawl Psychology Lecture honors the longtime Psychology Department chair by bringing renowned figures to speak at NWU.

Remember What Brought You Here

The desire to serve carried a minister home.

by Quinn Hullett ('18) and Eric Wendt ('99)

As a university minister, Rev. **Eduardo Boussón** has experience tending to homesick students. It helps that he can relate. He's taken his own winding path to Lincoln and often longs for home in Carolina, Puerto Rico.

Boussón reminds these homesick students—and his homesick self—to think about what brought them to Nebraska Wesleyan University in the first place.

"I am homesick every day," Boussón said. "But my vocation is stronger than that desire for home. [Ministry] is what I'm supposed to be doing. It's why I'm here on the U.S. mainland."

Boussón left Puerto Rico in 1996 to attend Kansas City's Saint Paul School of Theology. He feels a calling to work with college students, and serves on the United Methodist Church's General Board of Higher Education and Ministry board of directors.

He loves the overlap between young people's spiritual and academic journeys at Nebraska Wesleyan. So here he serves, even when the January wind blows and makes him long for the warmth of home.

The desire to serve brought Boussón to Nebraska Wesleyan in 2013. And after Hurricane Maria, the desire to serve is what sent him back to Puerto Rico. "I was so scared and anxious that day of the hurricane, with no way of knowing what was going on," he said.

Over spring break, Boussón led a group of Nebraska Wesleyan students on a University Ministries service trip to Puerto Rico.

"It's a great place to take students," said Boussón. "It's good for them to think about their faith, about poverty in other places, about Latin America and the role of the U.S., and, of course, to do good."

For **Rubi Vega** ('21) of Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, the decision to join the trip was straightforward. "The need in Puerto Rico and the potential learning opportunities are high, so we thought, 'Why not go there and help?'"

Boussón prepped students with an abundance of resources on the island's history, people and culture. He shared information on the damage the hurricane caused. The entire group also

underwent training in disaster relief and working with adults and children with disabilities.

When they arrived, they saw Maria's devastation—entire cities wiped out. They understood the lives lost, and witnessed the scarcity of resources. Much work had already been done to respond to this destruction, but there was still so much to do.

The Nebraska Wesleyan group was tasked with reconstructing and improving an old camp that would host future mission groups. Given the immediate need they saw all around them, the indirect nature of this objective took them a bit to absorb.

You mean we came all this way to help, and the people we're helping are ... future mission workers?

"I was apprehensive ... thinking we would be in the action," said **Marie Wolf** ('20) of Omaha. The reality didn't match her idea of "the action."

For Boussón, the leap from direct outreach to paving the way for other service workers was perhaps a little easier to make. After all, serving future servants is what he's dedicated his life to doing as a university minister.


"It was a joy, it was so life-giving," Boussón said. "Seeing the community everyone had with one another was a really powerful experience."

And Wolf came around. "Even though it was less extreme, everything we did was still very useful," she said. "Even the little stuff makes a difference in the grand scheme of things."

The point of the University Ministries trips isn't merely service for charity's sake. The work must also serve Nebraska Wesleyan students' learning. "I didn't know what to expect—I didn't know what we'd find," said Boussón. "But I tried to focus on the experiences of the students, what they would learn."

For **Madeline Warrick** ('19), the lesson was in the frank pragmatism of the Puerto Ricans she met. "They know that what's going on isn't great, but they see it as, 'It is what it is,' and they move forward." She saw Puerto Ricans who control what they can control, and who aren't paralyzed by what they cannot.

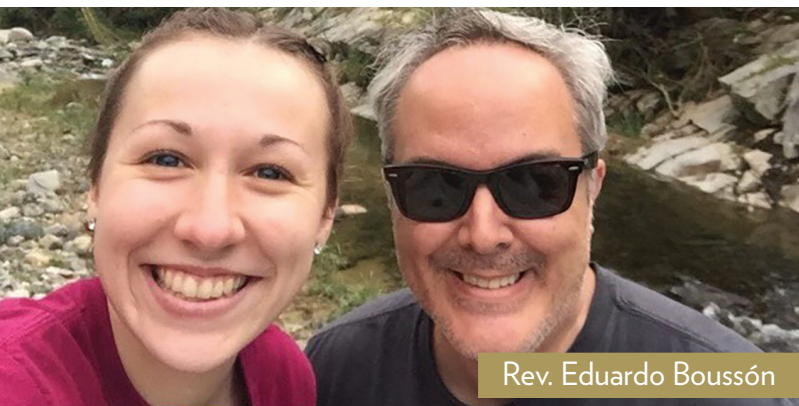
For Boussón, the lesson came from the hospitality he found in people, despite their own needs. He left determined to follow suit with his own caring, forgiving attitude.

"Returning to Puerto Rico brought back the desire to let people know they are not alone in what they go through—to be more passionate and be more communal and hospitable," Boussón said. "How can I teach others that what you're going through, you don't have to go through on your own?" 

Returning to Puerto Rico brought back the desire to let people know they are not alone in what they go through.

CAMPAIGN CONNECTION:

Want to serve the servants? Your gifts to Bold Designs support student experiences like service learning trips. Want to help directly with hurricane recovery in Puerto Rico? Visit rehace.org/donate.



Rev. Eduardo Boussón



Make plans today. *Leave a legacy for tomorrow.*

Thoughtful gift planning—through your will or trust, retirement plan, charitable gift annuity, life insurance and more—can pave the way for tomorrow's students, faculty, programs and projects. You can help NWU prepare for its future while planning for your own future today.



Contact: Brenda McCrady
Director of Planned Giving
402.465.2129
bmccrady@nebrwesleyan.edu



The Poet's Papers

Cochrane-Woods Library houses valuable Kloefkorn Collection.

—By Martha Tanner

*When you spend a lot of time
in one place, one place
spends a lot of time in you.*

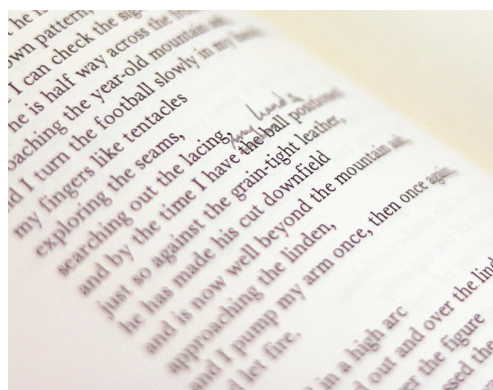
— William Kloefkorn, “Dirt,”
Welcome to Carlos

The late Nebraska state poet **William Kloefkorn** spent a lot of time at Nebraska Wesleyan—and, presumably, it spent a lot of time in him. As professor of English here for 40 years (1962-2002), Kloefkorn put down deep roots. Even after retiring, he stayed connected to this place where he spent so much of his career. His legacy lives on at NWU, as the books, papers and artifacts that document his writing, thinking and teaching in this place have come home.

Bill and **Eloise Kloefkorn** made a planned gift of his personal papers and library to Cochrane-Woods Library. This is by far the largest and most significant collection the library has ever received. This broad and deep trove offers unique opportunities for research, rivaling literary manuscript collections at many larger special collections libraries. The collection includes:

- > Copies of published books he wrote or contributed to (many with annotations and research material inserted);
- > His personal library of books by others, including teaching materials, reference books and works by regional poets;
- > His collection of periodicals (issues that he or others published in);
- > His manuscripts, correspondence and teaching materials;
- > Personal effects (diplomas, desk items, etc.); and
- > Audiovisual materials.

Having access to a significant writer's papers is a boon to literary research. Kloefkorn kept all drafts of his writing. In his drafts, we can trace how Kloefkorn developed and refined both his ideas and his wording.



Because Cochrane-Woods Library holds not only Kloefkorn's papers but also his own copies of his books, we also have the rare opportunity to see how a poet may continue to revise work after publication. Annotations and edits in the author's copies of his published books reveal new choices. For example, in the poem “Out-And-Down Pattern,” Kloefkorn has changed “the ball” to “my hands” in one line (appearing to correct a printer's error), as well as reversing the order of words in two later lines.

*Having access to his
library allows researchers
to observe his ongoing
creative process.*

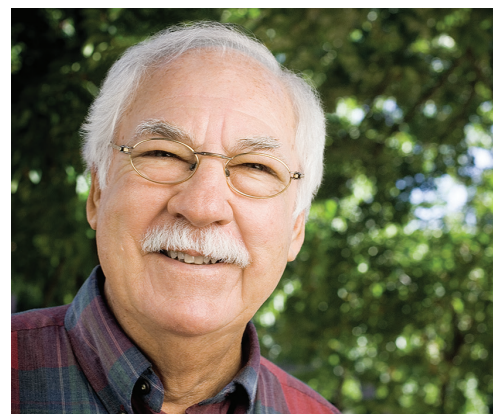


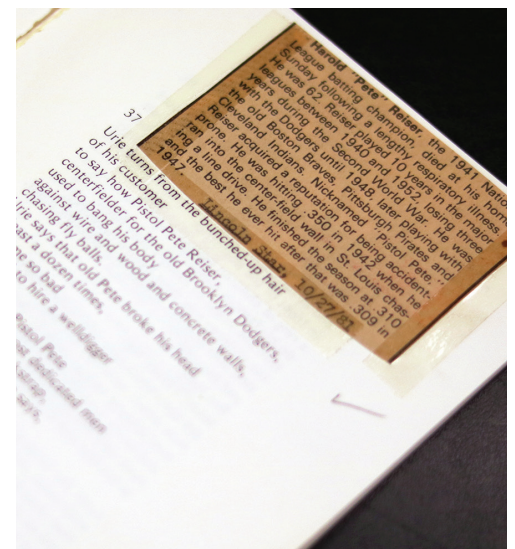
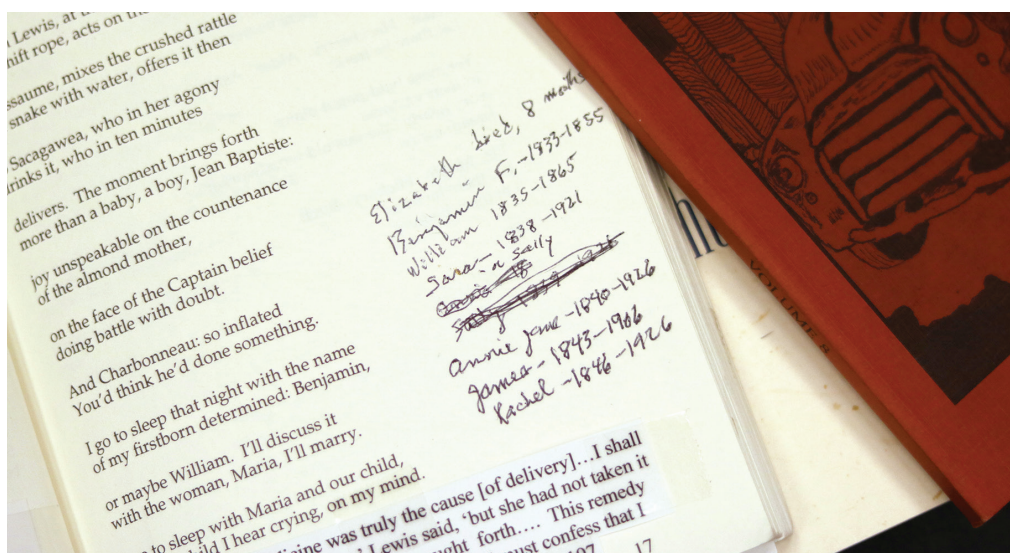
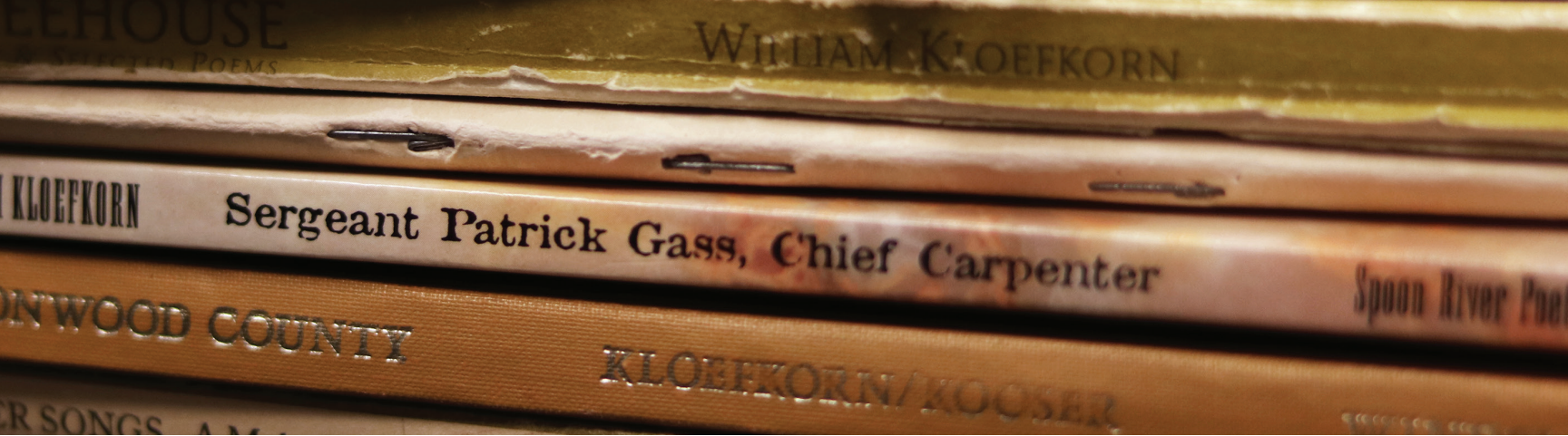
Photo by Andrew Markovich (99)

In “Jubilation,” part of his *Cottonwood County* collaboration with Ted Kooser, Kloefkorn adds an entirely new line that repeats part of the previous line for rhetorical effect. Having access to his library allows researchers to observe his ongoing creative process.

In his collected teaching materials, we can see how he developed his courses, even in subject areas we might not ordinarily associate with him (for example, Chaucer), and how he engaged students in their own writing by providing them poetic models to analyze.

Another piece of the Kloefkorn Collection ripe for research is his personal library of books by other authors. Literary scholars often want to investigate what inspired a work of literature: What ideas influenced it? What texts is it in conversation with? Often, without direct access to the books an author consulted, scholars must speculate.

With the Kloefkorn Collection, scholars can know exactly what Kloefkorn was reading and how it influenced his writing.



For example, it's easy to see what inspired one of Kloefkorn's later works, *Sergeant Patrick Gass, Chief Carpenter*, a collection of poems in the voice of one member of the Lewis and Clark expedition. Not only can we identify more than two dozen works in Kloefkorn's library on this topic—everything from Lewis and Clark's journals to the *National Geographic Guide to the Lewis and Clark Trail*—we can see how he used these texts to inform his own. In his own copy of *Sergeant Patrick Gass, Chief Carpenter*, Kloefkorn pasted in references to and excerpts from these other works, offering a fascinating view into his research and writing process.

In his library, we have a map of his mind.

Another significant subset of Kloefkorn's library is his collection of works by other regional poets that he supported, mentored and collaborated with, including **Twyla Hansen**, Dave Etter, David Lee, Don Welch, Greg Kuzma, Susan Strayer Deal, and others. Many of these are chapbooks or small press printings not widely available

In his library, we have a map of his mind.

elsewhere. This collection provides a great research opportunity for anyone wanting to study Great Plains or Midwest regional poetry. Through his collection, one could also study the exchange of ideas between Kloefkorn and frequent collaborators such as Ted Kooser.

All of the library's Kloefkorn Collection materials are open for research. Contact Martha Tanner, head of research services and archives, if you are interested in using these materials (mtanner@nebrwesleyan.edu, 402.465.2407). The papers and periodicals have been processed and cataloged. Books have been inventoried and will be added to the library's catalog starting this summer. Many of Kloefkorn's personal effects are on display in the Larry and Ruth Vaughan Archives Center on the second floor of the library. 



Photos by Lauren Andres (21) unless otherwise noted.

Cochrane-Woods Library holds copies of all published works by William Kloefkorn. For a full bibliography, see <http://libguides.nebrwesleyan.edu/archives/Kloefkorn>.



Photo courtesy Star Tribune

Say Something Funny

Award-winning humorist contends, “But I’m not a comedian.”

You could make a case that the novelist Julie Schumacher is the funniest woman in America. But she’d rather you didn’t.

The University of Minnesota professor of English is the first (and still only) woman to win the James Thurber Award for American Humor. The Thurber Award puts her alongside humorists like Trevor Noah, Jon Stewart and David Sedaris. Big company. Funny company.

I read it and laughed until my stomach hurt.

Schumacher took that prize in 2015 with her book, *Dear Committee Members*. Her novel is told entirely in letters of recommendation written for students by one Jason Fitger, a prickly, over-worked English professor at a fictional university. Fitger’s weary struggles in and out of the academy sent *Dear Committee Members* crisscrossing college campuses and beaming up best-seller lists.

This is faculty humor, yes. But it’s humor that lands with anyone who’s ever struggled to stay warm inside a cold bureaucracy (which is to say, virtually everyone).

A dog-eared copy of *Dear Committee Members* made the rounds between faculty offices in Old Main, inspiring Associate Professor of English **Brad Tice** to invite Schumacher to campus as part of NWU’s Visiting Writers Series. She came in April.

Schumacher admitted she felt the pressure that came with the Thurber Award almost immediately.

“I got to the airport to fly home after the award ceremony,” she said, “and I had the plaque inside a box in my carry-on.” The box looked suspicious in the x-ray, and a security officer pulled her bag aside and unzipped it.

“He asked me, ‘What’s in this box?’ and I reached to open it and show him, which was a mistake.” The officer asked her firmly to step back and tell him what was in the box.


It’s a plaque, she said, for a humor prize she’d just won. “For real?” the officer asked. “You’re like, a comedian?”

Schumacher explained that, no, she wasn’t a comedian. She was an English professor. Who wrote a book. That happened to be ... funny. “There’s a difference.”

But the officer called to his colleagues. “Guys, guys! Come here! Check this out. This woman here’s an award-winning comedian.” A bit of an audience gathered. They looked at her with bright eyes. “Go ahead. Say something funny!”

Visiting Assistant Professor of English **Mary Hickman** came to Schumacher’s campus reading with similar expectations, and wasn’t disappointed. “I think we had a record turnout for faculty at one of these,” she said. That dog-eared copy in Old Main won Schumacher several fans.

“I read it and laughed until my stomach hurt,” said Professor of History **Meghan Winchell**. “I wrote her a fan letter. I’m not kidding.”

Winchell and others will be happy to learn that Schumacher has written a Fitger sequel. Her novel, *The Shakespeare Requirement*, comes out in August. 



Allison Woods ('20)



Photo by Zach Tuttle ('16)

NWU Unveils New Sandin Opera Series

Liana Sandin ('81) lights up when she talks about the arts in higher education. She gets more than bright. The music alumna gets fiery.

"Nobody ever questions whether you need to update science labs or facilities," she said. "But for the arts, it's more like, 'You can make do.'"

She saw how Nebraska Wesleyan's performing arts students were making do with an outdated lighting system in O'Donnell Auditorium. That system, rigged with a patchwork of obsolete and salvaged parts, was limiting the university's performance options.

"O'Donnell Auditorium is a major venue for the entire student body, community groups and performing groups," she said. "It needs to be up to date."


The decision to step up and help Nebraska Wesleyan upgrade its system was a personal one for the alumna of NWU choirs and operas. Sandin said, "O'Donnell means performance to me."

Sandin is president of the Pearle Francis Finigan Foundation, which supports the arts in Nebraska. A gift from the foundation enabled NWU to install a new LED lighting system this spring, providing greater flexibility for performances, energy savings and educational opportunities for students.

"This takes us to another level," said Dawn Pawlewski Krogh, director of NWU Opera. "To be able to use lights to enhance the emotion or drama behind something I think is pretty exciting," she said.

The upgrade is part of Bold Designs: The Campaign for Nebraska Wesleyan University. One of the \$62 million campaign's priorities is to enhance Nebraska Wesleyan's learning spaces for all students. And Sandin is excited about the learning opportunities the lighting system will help facilitate.

"We need to make it to the top ourselves, and then leave the ladder out behind us," said Sandin. "We need to make sure others are coming, and it's not that we will have less because they have more. It's that we will all have a better life because there are more people who are educated in the arts."

In honor of her contributions to the performing arts at NWU, the university announced the naming of the Liana K. Sandin Opera Series at the conclusion of Johann Stauss's *Die Fledermaus* on April 6. 



Liana Sandin

Photo by Zach Tuttle ('16)

CAMPAIGN CONNECTION:

Bold Designs supports facility upgrades in O'Donnell Auditorium and across the university.

The Wellman Effect

A quiet coach makes a powerful noise.

—By Alex Linden ('03)

“Embrace the challenge.”

Those words started a 2017-18 men's basketball season that would finish with an NCAA Division III national championship. What the Prairie Wolves did by going from unranked and overlooked to a unanimous champion was one for the ages.

Leading NWU to this championship was the confident, calm and competitive Kentucky-born coach, **Dale Wellman**.

Watch enough college basketball and you'll see coaches pacing like caffeinated lions. They live in officials' ears and down players' throats. Not Wellman.

He often just sits on his folding chair, quietly watching. He'll stand up for his players when he needs to. But if Wellman wants his team to play with poise, he believes he must coach with it.

No situation showcased that poise more than NWU's final home game. Despite a 22-3 record, NWU remained unranked. They needed a conference championship to secure an automatic berth to the NCAA III

national tournament.

Prospects looked bleak in the IIAC final. NWU trailed by 18 to Central College with 10 minutes left.

Most teams in this spot fold like Wellman's chair. But NWU's squad mirrored their coach's confidence, trusted good defense and made good on their opportunities, slugging out an 82-78 win.

That victory sparked NWU's first NCAA tournament appearance since 2001. It also sparked a realization.

“I realized we could do something special,” Wellman said.

Welcome to March. Embrace the challenge.

Wellman's signature is an up-tempo offense coupled with full-court pressure defense. It works. But Wellman saw the IIAC acclimating to his pace. He

sensed NWU needed a curveball. Enter the Prairie Wolves' 3-2 zone defense.

The revamp suited Wellman's rangy roster with tall guards and fast forwards. The Prairie Wolves challenged perimeter movement and kept teams off-balance—

especially in the postseason, when opponents often had just one day to prepare.

It sent even the nation's #1 team reeling, as NWU cruised to a 130-97 win over top-ranked Whitman College.

“That team—wow,” said a floored Whitman coach, Eric Bridgeland.

“We've never seen a team like that,” he said. “They just went by us. They didn't seem to tire. They didn't miss. Best team I've seen in our time at Whitman.”

The nation was slow to see what Wellman was rebuilding at NWU. But they see it now. The National Association of Basketball Coaches, NCAA III and IIAC all gave the quiet Wellman their 2018 Coach of the Year Awards for bringing championship basketball back to NWU.


A championship banner now hangs in Snyder Arena. That banner, like the coach who helped put it there, doesn't need to yell to be noticed. 



Photo by Danny Reise



SPRING SPORT SUMMARY

Baseball

“Coin-flip games” were not friendly to the Prairie Wolves in 2018. NWU was 1-8 in games decided by one run. They finished the season outside the IIAC tournament at 9-26. If the Prairie Wolves can change that dynamic in close games, their 2019 record will look very different.

Golf

In his first season coaching the men's golf team, Derrick Ceder was named the IIAC Coach of the Year. NWU was tied with Central College with 18 holes remaining in the IIAC championship, and rode a strong final round to win by six strokes. The victory earned NWU an automatic berth in the NCAA III tournament in Greensboro, N.C., where they finished 30th out of 42.

Softball

NWU went on a 9-3 tear over spring break winning four straight games by a combined 32-0. NWU took that momentum into IIAC play. A squad that mustered three IIAC wins in 2017 took a big step forward, qualifying for the IIAC tournament and advancing to the semifinals, where they finished the season 22-18.



Photo by D3Photography.com

Go Shock Them All

NWU senior swims past expectations at nationals.

Garrett Cadotte ('18) wasn't "supposed" to be this fast. Based on his qualifying times, Cadotte was "supposed" to swim the NCAA championships in "happy-to-be-here" mode.

He wasn't expected to reach the finals in two of his three events. But Coach **Greg Fleming** saw the potential for fireworks in Cadotte's training ahead of nationals. As NWU's only qualifier, Cadotte trained at season's end without teammates.

"For four weeks, it was him, me, some water and a watch," Fleming said.

Cadotte's intensity told Fleming to watch for something special in Indianapolis. "Garrett is physically and mentally talented. He likes a challenge," Fleming said. "So I'd tell him, 'Go shock them all.'"

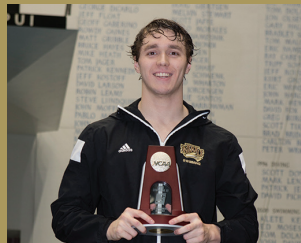
In the 200 individual medley, Cadotte broke his school record and finished 11th with his first sub-1:50 swim (1:49.96).

In the 200 fly, where he qualified outside the top 20, Cadotte shaved more than two seconds off his best and finished an All-American fifth. (He now holds the school record by nearly seven seconds.)

In the 100 fly, Cadotte's school-record 48:04 finished 0.01 seconds from a national championship.

"All of them were lifetime bests and school records," Fleming said.

Cadotte's record performance combined with women's track & field's fourth-place team finish and fourth of five straight 4x400 championships and the men's basketball's championship to make March 2018 the top month in NWU sports history. 🏆



Cadotte will help coach NWU next season.

Come to Homecoming to honor these

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME 2018 *Inductees*

Gina (Murphy) Bellar ('90)
volleyball

Matt Byington ('00)
track & field

Kelly Karmazin ('97)
men's golf

Jennifer (Jeffrey) Kirkland ('00)
women's golf

Chris McCallum ('00)
men's soccer

Dusten Olds ('98)
football

Spirit of the Plainsman Award
NWU President Fred Ohles

Tennis

NWU's longtime head women's tennis coach, Dr. **Rick Harley**, retired at season's end. While the men's (4-16) and women's (3-19) programs both struggled in 2018, Harley's 15-year career coaching NWU women's tennis is marked by tremendous success. Under his coaching, NWU earned an overall record of 90-9 in the GPAC.

Track & field

NWU took conference titles in seven events as the women finished first and the men fifth in the IIAC championships. The women's crown snapped Wartburg's 18-year streak. Twelve Prairie Wolves qualified for the national meet. The women's 4x400 relay (Anna Frazier, Elizabeth Jones, Aspen Rolfes, Kaylee Jones) again led the way, winning a remarkable fifth-straight NCAA III championship.



Photo by D3Photography.com

Student Pride

Prestige scholars and awards

Cook Earns Top Honors and a Championship

If you're offering extra credit, **Cooper Cook** ('19), a junior accounting major from Overland Park, Kan., is happy to go get it. He's ridden his academic work ethic to a perfect 4.0 GPA.

In basketball, it's the same. Give Cook just a little room outside, and he'll eat up the extra credit awarded for shots beyond the arc. With his senior year remaining, Cook already ranks eighth in NWU history for career three-point field goals (140). He needs just five more to jump to sixth.

Cook's academic and athletic successes have recently led to extra credit of a different sort. He took the NCAA Elite 90 Award for posting the highest GPA of any student-athlete competing at one of the NCAA's 90 national championships. He is the fourth NWU student to receive the honor.

Earlier, Cook was also named a first-team Academic All-American and the CoSIDA Academic All-American of the Year.

Add to those titles one more: MVP. For his efforts in helping the Prairie Wolves win their first national championship in men's basketball, Cook was named the national tournament's most valuable player.



Photo by Allison Woods ('20)

Math and Physics Major Takes Goldwater Scholarship

Carter Lyons ('19) has won the prestigious Barry Goldwater Scholarship, which rewards academic merit in the natural sciences, mathematics and engineering. Lyons is a mathematics and physics double major from Lincoln.

"I first developed an enjoyment of mathematics my junior year of high school, but it flourished once I came to NWU," he said.

Lyons has collaborated on research with Assistant Professor of Mathematics **Austin Mohr**, conducted summer research in Pennsylvania through the Research Experiences for Undergraduates and presented findings at mathematics conferences in California, Ohio and Missouri.

Lyons swims for NWU and is active in Theta Chi Fraternity. He is Nebraska Wesleyan's eighth Goldwater Scholarship winner.



Photo by Lauren Andres ('21)



Soccer Player Scores NCAA Scholarship, Sets Goals for Law School

Senior forward and political science major **Natalie Graves** ('18) of Fort Collins, Colo., is Nebraska Wesleyan University's 56th student-athlete to win an NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship. NWU ranks second in NCAA III with 36 winners since 2001. Graves is the women's soccer program's second NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship winner, joining **Megan Littrell** ('00).

Graves was a 2017 Academic All-American. She is currently a recruiter at Hudl. Her future plans are to study law and work in criminal defense and criminal justice reform.

Photo by Chris Smithberg

Gregerson Is NWU's Latest JET

Luke Gregerson ('18) linked his interest in Japan to good old-fashioned screen time.

"From music to television to food, I spent a lot of time in awe watching the Travel Channel and getting as much Asian media as I could," said the English and music major from Omaha. "In school, I learned more about Japanese history, music and poetry, and my interest grew from there."

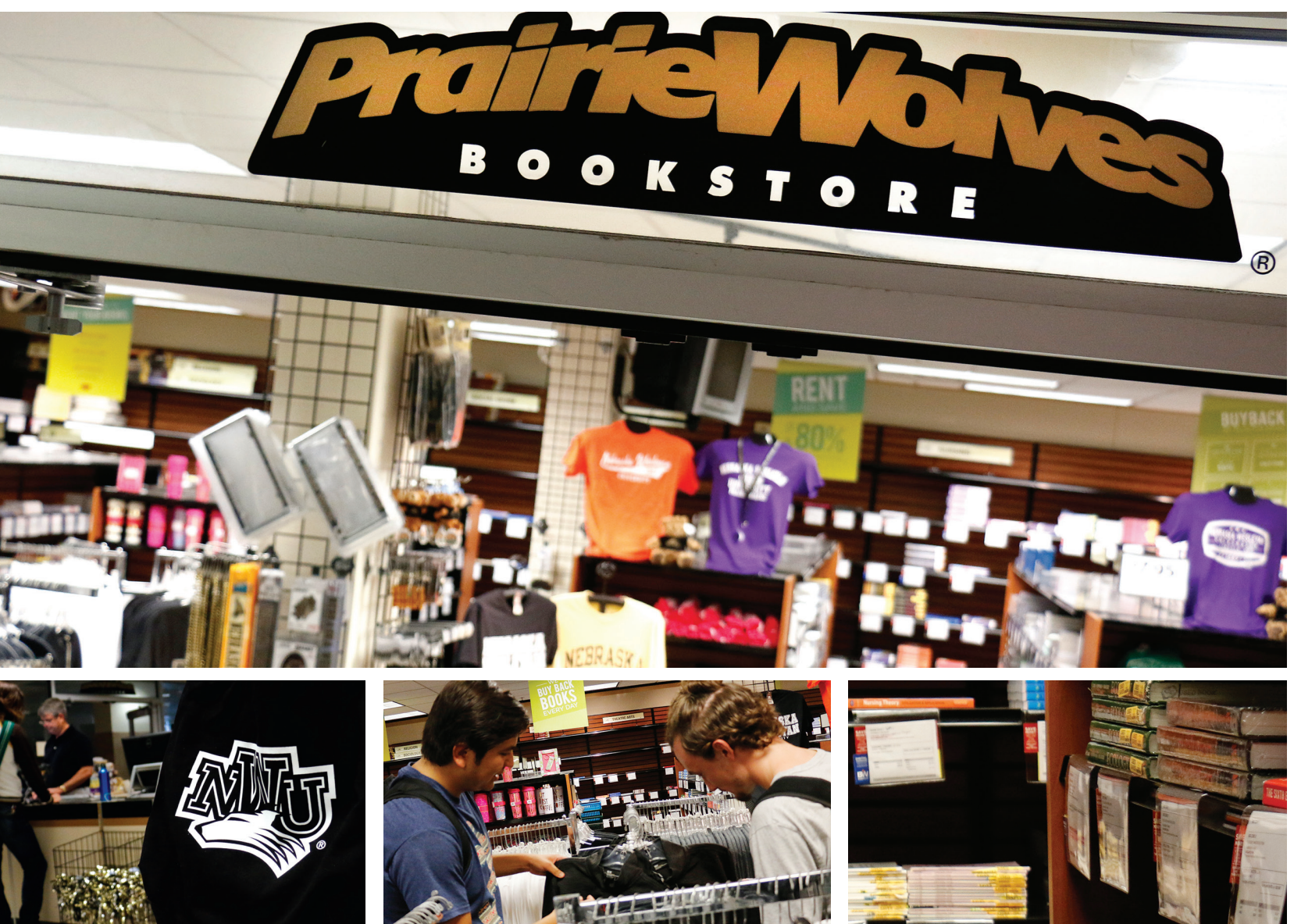
After graduation, Gregerson moved to Japan to help teach English in primary schools. In April, he was accepted to the Japanese Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program.

The JET Program promotes a grassroots exchange between Japan and other nations. Those accepted teach English in Japanese schools or work in Japanese communities.

"Being able to branch out from Midwest American culture is easily one of the biggest draws," said Gregerson. "Seeing parts of the world that I never have previously, and trading global traditions and experiences with others is incredibly exciting."



Photo by Lauren Andres ('21)



Textbook case of Prairie Wolf fever

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prairiewolves.com.

MYSTERY PHOTOS

ALUMNI PAGES

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Shelley McHugh ('91)

Director of alumni relations
5000 Saint Paul Avenue
Lincoln, NE 68504-2794
smchugh@nebrwesleyan.edu
402.465.2123



Update your contact information, professional
details and more in our alumni directory at
alumni.nebrwesleyan.edu.



Mystery Photo Face-off

Old-school faculty and new-age students stare each other down
inside the 1989 yearbook. Name them before they rumble!

Send your responses to:

Eric Wendt
Nebraska Wesleyan University
5000 Saint Paul Avenue
Lincoln, NE 68504-2794
ewendt@nebrwesleyan.edu

Finding Happiness

We followed the signs to ID these 1967 students.

I was thrilled to see a few of my fraternity brothers in the spring 2018 copy of *Archways*. They are Doug McNiel ('71), Jerry Rajewich ('71), John Charles ('69), Ken Ocker ('71), Terry Petersen ('69) and Gerry Bunting ('70). We Alpha Kappa Lambdas lived in three different houses, two of which are now parking lots.

—Chuck Leypoldt ('69)

From left to right are fellow Alpha Kappa Lambda members Jerry Rajewich, Doug McNeil, unknown, Ken Ocker, Terry Petersen and Gerry Bunting. The sign was made in anticipation of a victory over Hastings College by the AKLs.

—Jack McVay ('71)

After all these years of looking at the Mystery Photos, I finally know someone. From left: The second face is Steve Haggard ('70), then John Charles, then two I recognize but can't remember their names. And on the far right is Gary Bunting. They're all fellow AKLs (Alpha Kappa Lambda, no longer in existence).

—Doug Bartley ('68)

I know the three center gentlemen in the Mystery Photo. John Charles is situating the black object. (I'm not sure what that is...) In the center is Ken Ocker and next to him is Terry Petersen. I just can't recall the names of the other members of Alpha Kappa Lambda in the photo. John became the fraternity president in 1968.

—Heather Craig-Oldsen ('70)

I am a retired family physician and psychiatrist. That's me on the far right in the Mystery Photo. I joined a local fraternity, Phi Sigma Rho, in the fall of 1966. It joined a national fraternity, Alpha Kappa Lambda, the next year. The man putting something on the board is John Charles. He was our first charter member and president.

—Gerald F. Bunting-Blake, M.D. ('70)

Fifty years. Where has the time gone? These are men of Alpha Kappa Lambda, left to right: Jerry Rajewich, Doug McNeil, John Charles, Ken Ocker, Terry Petersen, Gerry Bunting.

—Martin Rystrom ('71)



Memories of NWU's AKLs are alive and well. We unearthed these photos of Alpha Kappa Lambda brotherhood from NWU yearbooks.



I was still in high school when the picture was taken, but I immediately recognized two of those shown. Ken was from my hometown of Hastings and Terry is the older brother of a Wesleyan classmate of mine. Calls to fraternity brothers and looking at period yearbooks produced the remaining guesses. If I'm correct, from left to right they are Jerry Rajewich, Doug McNiel, John Charles (chapter president in 1968-69), Ken Ocker, Terry Petersen and Gary Bunting. The picture was taken at the chapter's house at 50th and Baldwin—now part of the construction site for the new Acklie Hall of Science. The date is obvious, correlating with the 1967 homecoming game against the Hastings College Broncos. This was a Friday night game, which the Plainsmen won 39-14. NWU went 5-4 that year under

Coach Ray Westover. The brothers had a "Peanuts" theme for their homecoming display; the picture shows Snoopy on top of his doghouse, thinking about a big win.

But the question remains as to the fraternity's name. Phi Sigma Rho was formed as a local fraternity in the mid-'60s. It first shows up in the 1965-66 yearbook as a "newly organized fraternity." Yearbooks during that period tell of the fraternity looking for a permanent residence. The 1966-67 year had them at a house near 51st and Madison. In 1967-68, they were at the 50th and Baldwin location, and in 1968-69, they moved permanently into the house at 50th and Huntington (now a parking lot) while maintaining the "annex" at 50th and Baldwin until 1971.

What's interesting about this picture is that during the 1967-68 school year, Phi Sig became a colony of the Alpha Kappa Lambda national fraternal organization. On April 21, 1968, members were officially recognized by AKL as the Alpha Upsilon chapter, adhering to the motto, Alethia Kai Logos (the truth and the word). So, Phi Sigma Rho or AKL colony would both be correct in identifying the organization. Unfortunately, our chapter only lasted a little over a decade at Nebraska Wesleyan, last appearing in the 1979 yearbook. Thank you for publishing the photo without which a small slice of NWU history would probably be forgotten.

—Tom Jensen ('72)

NWU Legend Works NCAA Final Four

When Kipp Kissinger ('98) is on the floor and the threes start dropping, longtime NWU basketball fans are used to hearing his name—a lot. Kissinger set a Nebraska Wesleyan record for career three-point field goals (294) in 1998. That mark stood for nearly 20 years, until a Beatrice kid named **Trey Bardsley** ('16) put up 321.

So when Kissinger returned to the NCAA Division I Final Four in San Antonio, Texas, for a record-setting day from beyond the arc, it was unusual not hearing his name. But that's exactly the way Kissinger wanted it.

Kissinger is one of college basketball's most respected referees. He's quietly worked nine of the last 10 NCAA tournaments. And the March 31 matchup between Villanova and Kansas was his first Final Four appearance.

Villanova's shooters appeared determined to do their best Kissinger impersonations, firing 18 three-point shots before Kansas attempted its first. By the buzzer, Nova had tied a Final Four record with 13 three-point field goals. But that buzzer only marked the end of the first half.

"It was pretty surreal," Kissinger told his hometown *Omaha World-Herald*. "They were on fire."

Villanova would add five more three-point field goals in the second half to end with 18 and a 95-79 victory. The Wildcats would go on to take the championship in similar dominating fashion over Michigan.

Having competed for a national championship in 1997, Kissinger is one of the few working referees who knows the Final Four from a player's perspective. "Ultimately, when the ball goes up and we get rolling, it's like any other game," Kissinger said. "But there's no doubt the magnitude and the atmosphere and electricity when you walk out on the floor are completely different."



Photo by Alan Look Photography

He was ecstatic that Nebraska Wesleyan's men's basketball team got to feel that same electricity with their NCAA III championship in Salem, Va. As that action unfolded, Kissinger was working the opening rounds of the Division I tournament in Charlotte, N.C. He watched NWU win from his phone. "I was so happy to see them get that first championship for NWU," he said. 🏀

CEO Joins President's Board of Advisors

President **Fred Ohles** welcomed **Liz Koop** ('86), president and CEO of EducationQuest Foundation in Lincoln, to Nebraska Wesleyan University's President's Board of Advisors (PBA) in March. EducationQuest Foundation is a nonprofit organization with a mission to improve access to higher education in Nebraska.

In welcoming Koop, Ohles also expressed appreciation to outgoing PBA co-chair **Bob Bartle** ('72), Lincoln; and members **Greg Bergt** ('71), Omaha; and **Patty (Johnson) Hoffman**

('71), Ankeny, Iowa.

The President's Board of Advisors provides advice to President Ohles in fulfilling Nebraska Wesleyan's mission, vision and strategic plan. Its members include alumni, parents or children of alumni, and other devoted friends of the university. Each is an ambassador for Nebraska Wesleyan University. The PBA meets on campus twice annually. The spring meeting focused on the university's strategic planning. 🏡





Photos courtesy of the Lincoln Journal Star

NWU's Four-point General Shines in Loss to Globetrotters

—By Eric Wendt ('99)

We at *Archways* magazine are loath to criticize the refs. Some of our favorite alumni have worn the stripes at Super Bowls (**Kent Payne** ('85)) and the NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four (**Kipp Kissing** ('98)).

But somebody has to say something...

Trey Bardsley's ('16) return to Lincoln with the Washington Generals was defined by atrocious officiating. Forehead-slapping non-calls thwarted the Generals in their attempt to halt a 47-year losing streak to the Harlem Globetrotters.

Bardsley fans gathered at Pinnacle Bank Arena to see the Globetrotters get their comeuppance on February 2. Instead, they saw bizarre play and boneheaded calls align to extend Harlem's streak.

But, goodness me, was it fun to watch.

It was an opportunity that NWU Coach **Dale Wellman** couldn't pass up. "As excited as I was to watch him, I knew it wasn't going to compare to how much it meant to Trey to play in front of his friends, family and former teammates," Wellman said.

To NWU fans familiar with Bardsley's play, his green uniform and more muscled frame were new. But that unorthodox jump shot was the same. NWU's all-time leading scorer ping ponged around the floor like old

times, dropping long-distance shots nearly at will.

The game featured a 30-foot four-point line. (That's six feet three inches beyond the NBA's three-point line.) And Bardsley made these shots look routine. By my enthralled son's count, Bardsley hit six of them alone. The Globetrotters mustered just three.

Given Bardsley's precision, it's no wonder Harlem took extreme measures to stop him. As he stepped to the free throw line, the Harlem Rulebenders surreptitiously swapped basketballs. And Bardsley's helium-doctored free throw floated harmlessly to the arena's rafters.


Maddeningly, Bardsley wasn't allowed to reshoot with a regulation ball. Nor was he granted his second shot. The crowd received no explanation for this gross negligence. I seethed in my soft drink, and the game just rolled on, on a court tilted severely in Harlem's favor.

Bardsley's NWU career acclimated him to a breakneck pace. So the Globetrotters responded with odd interruptions. They'd stop to chase one another with buckets of confetti, give fans impromptu dance lessons, or climb on top of the hoop and boogie to Kool and the Gang when told to "get down"—anything to keep the Generals generally out of rhythm.

If all this frustrated Bardsley, it didn't show. While my jaw ached from the gnashing, he remained unflappable. I watched the clock tick down through red eyes.

Cool as Bardsley seemed, frustration may have fueled one play late in the game. He moved to get open for another four-point attempt, then stabbed viciously inside. He planted his feet at the block and hurled his 5' 9" body upward. He received a pass above the rim and slammed it home with an emotion I took for rage.

But the kid who landed just a few feet from his college coach and that coach's wide-eyed son was anything but angry. Bardsley was a professional basketball player mixing it up inside one of the most unusual and prized rivalries in all of sport—this time, in front of his family, his old coach and his friends.

Bardsley wasn't losing at all. He was flying at a level no official's whistle could touch. He was a pro finally at home and having the time of his life. 

NWU to Honor Six Legends

—By Amanda Broulik

Nebraska Wesleyan University will honor outstanding alumni as part of its Legends & Legacies banquet to be held on October 4 at Hillcrest Country Club during homecoming weekend. Here are this year's award winners.



William E. Fry ('66)

ALUMNI MEDAL OF HONOR

Given his background in plant pathology, you might guess Bill Fry would name an NWU scientist as his largest influence. But Fry's pick: the late Professor of English Harold Hall.

"I realized I wanted to interact with students in much the same way as Dr. Hall did—to share with them the excitement of discovery," Fry said.

Fry went on to teach plant pathology at

Cornell University for 40 years, serving as department chair, faculty trustee, senior associate dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and dean of the faculty.

Fry made his lab a place of discovery, shedding important light on the pathogens involved in late blight diseases of potatoes and tomatoes. Discoveries made in his lab carry implications for global potato production.



Lori Terryberry-Spohr ('89)

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Lori Terryberry-Spohr is a board-certified neuropsychologist and director of rehabilitation programs at Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals in Lincoln and Omaha. Her many conference presentations and research publications have focused on brain injury and concussion management.

For her legislative advocacy and research, she won the 2017 Advocate of the Year

Award from the Nebraska Brain Injury Alliance.

"I entered NWU, like so many do, intending to pursue a career in medicine," she said, "and through the Psychology Department, I found my perfect fit. That's where I developed my desire to serve others and help them achieve the highest quality of life possible."



Brett Thome ('09)

YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

CEO Brett Thome has led Spreetail, an e-commerce company, through eight years of tremendous growth. Revenue and employment have grown tenfold from \$23 million and a staff of 20 to more than \$250 million and 200 employees.

The Lincoln-based company invests in its employees' personal and professional development. It's part of a working culture that Thome says is linked to his Nebraska

Wesleyan experience.

"The education I received felt very personal," he said. "The openness of my professors gave me the confidence to talk with people who had more experience than me and know I could handle my own in those conversations."

Last fall, the *Lincoln Journal Star* named Thome one of the top 32 most influential young professionals in Lincoln.

Photo by Dan Luedert

Photo by Geoff Johnson



Kevin Boatright ('74)

ALUMNI LOYALTY AWARD

Kevin Boatright values the relationships he built at NWU with administrators and staff. "These non-classroom connections are what guided me toward a 35-year career in higher education external affairs," he said.

The emeritus director of external affairs at the University of Kansas has also served as assistant vice president for university relations for the University of Wisconsin

System and director of communications at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

Boatright returns often to NWU to reconnect, enjoy theatre, support the Kloefkorn Writers Series and visit Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity. He has sponsored the *Flintlock* Boatright Awards for poetry, prose and visual arts for more than 25 years.



Jeff Butterfield ('98)

YOUNG ALUMNI LOYALTY AWARD

In the 20 years since he graduated, Jeff Butterfield has remained connected to NWU. He's served on the Board of Governors as president of the Alumni Executive Council. He's also helped secure grant funding for NWU's partnership with Dawes Middle School.

Butterfield credits NWU with leading him to his current position as assistant vice president at RBC Capital Markets. "My advisor,

Stu Spero, guided me on my four-year journey and encouraged me to challenge myself," he said. "Nebraska Wesleyan also afforded me the ability to gain meaningful internships at Lincoln businesses through our alumni network and contacts."

Working with the Career Assistance Network, he now pays it forward by helping to connect today's students to the Lincoln business community.



Trang Ho Morton ('06)

YOUNG ALUMNI HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Trang Ho Morton is driven to serve children, adolescents and women around the world. She cultivated this passion in NWU's Global Service Learning (GSL) group.

"GSL taught me that there was a big world outside Lincoln, and that I had a role to play."

Trang earned a master's degree from the University of Oxford. The Rhodes and

Truman scholar has worked with UNICEF in five countries. She is a planning specialist at the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, a multi-donor partnership and trust fund hosted by UNICEF. She manages the fund's calls for proposals, grantee selection, and implementation of national, regional and global programs to protect children from abuse.

FALL'S JUST AROUND THE CORNER

**Catch these fall
home openers.**

August 25: women's soccer

September 2: men's soccer

September 13: volleyball

September 22: football



NWUsports.com / @NWUsports / #pwolfnation



Calendar

Mark your calendar for these alumni upcoming university events. All alumni are welcome. Contact Shelley McHugh ('91) for details at smchugh@nebrwesleyan.edu or 402.465.2123.

October 4-7 Homecoming

Be part of NWU's boldest homecoming yet.



Photo by Allison Woods ('20)

AUGUST



16 NWU theatre: All Shook Up

This hip-swiveling, jukebox musical fantasy opens at 7:30 p.m. in McDonald Theatre with enough Elvis numbers to wear out a dozen blue suede shoes. Check nebrwesleyan.edu/theatre-tickets for additional dates, show times and tickets.

31 NWU women's soccer

The Prairie Wolves take on historic rival Doane at Abel Stadium. Check NWUsports.com for the start time.

SEPTEMBER

13 Bold Designs event: Washington, D.C.

Alumni and friends gather at the National Press Club for this 6 p.m. campaign event.

25, 26 Visions and Ventures: Stories of Grit and Exploration

Speakers at this year's symposium include journalist John Quinones (ABC News), actress Trace Lysette (Transparent) and oceanographer Ashanti Johnson (Cirrus Academy). Lectures are at 7 p.m. on Tuesday and 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Wednesday in O'Donnell Auditorium.



Photo by Double6Photography

29 NWU volleyball

NWU takes on Wartburg at home at 1 p.m.

OCTOBER

5 Homecoming All-Class Reunion

The Country Club of Lincoln hosts an all-alumni celebration at 6:30 p.m. We'll recognize milestone classes. Different groups, including football players from the Chaffee, Christensen, Svoboda era and Mu Phi Epsilon alumni, are hosting reunions at the party. Would you like to host an alumni group at the party? Let us know so we can help you plan. *(To learn more about the football group, contact James Kernan ('88) at james@kernanconsulting.com.)*

6 NWU football

Central College visits Abel Stadium for this 1 p.m. kickoff.

25 NWU theatre: Julius Caesar

Forget the togas. McDonald Theatre at 7:30 p.m. is your gateway to "New Rome," an authoritarian republic risen from the ashes of an unidentified apocalypse. This unique Shakespeare adaptation promises creative casting with fearsome women and men prepared to "cry havoc" and "let slip the dogs of war." See more dates and show times and buy tickets at theatre.nebrwesleyan.edu.



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