

Northwest Christian: It's more than religion



Photo by Brian Bubak

Nestled between the University campus and the expanding Sacred Heart Hospital lies the relatively small and rarely noticed Northwest Christian College.

Yet it's been there since 1895 when the private Christian school opened. Eugene Sanderson, NCC's founder and an early Oregon evangelist, intended to use the school to train future clergy and laypeople to be effective church leaders.

The college still operates under the Disciples of Christ Christian Church, and the Christian Churches: Churches of Christ.

Sanderson located NCC next to the University for practical reasons. He hoped that his trainees would learn how to operate in a secular community. Sanderson also intended to use the ample resources of the University to supplement NCC's religious studies with both professional and occupational pursuits.

NCC students, who pay about \$990 in tuition each term, can enter a double major program, according to Monza Naff, assistant to NCC's president. Students who major in one ministerial major from NCC may partake in various programs at the University or Lane Community College for an extra fee. Nearly half of NCC's 252 students take advantage of this option.

NCC is not funded by state tax revenues but operates solely on donations and student tuition, Naff says.

However, the public donations have declined along

with the state's economy, thus putting the college in similar financial straits as other state universities.

"As Oregon goes, so go all of us," Naff says.

Despite such difficulties, the students still remain positive.

For Bonnie Ross, a 53-year-old sophomore, studying at NCC is "one of the most rewarding experiences of my life."

Ross came to NCC after raising a family and working as an administrative assistant at the University of California at Santa Cruz.

Ross finds her age is of no significance in regard to her education or relationship with the other, and notably younger, students. She credits the students and faculty at NCC for giving her the support and encouragement to succeed at a new education.

John Dalby, a senior and NCC's student body president, credits the staff at NCC for giving the school a "real specialness."

Originally coming to NCC to play basketball, Dalby soon found there were other reasons for staying. He found NCC's quality superior to other schools he had considered.

"The smallness allows a close interaction with the students. That's what I particularly like," says Song Rhee, a NCC archeology professor.

Rhee graduated from NCC in 1958. In 1963, he went

on to receive a doctorate at Dropsie University for Hebrew and Cognate Learning.

He returned NCC to teach.

"I felt I owed something to the college," Rhee says. He soon found the academic freedom at NCC a great benefit in his archeological research.

The Tel Lachish Archaeological Expedition in Israel is Rhee's, and NCC's, major claim to international recognition. This project, which Rhee coordinated attempts to reclaim the remnants of Tel Lachish, one of ancient Israel's largest cities.

The school's relaxed atmosphere helped him with his research and current studies toward a Ph.D in anthropology from the University, Rhee says.

However, the relaxed attitude stops at administrative rules concerning alcohol, drugs and "breaches of sexual purity." These regulations differ considerably from the University. Students may dance and go to movies, Naff says.

Violators of NCC's canons usually face stiff reprimands, Naff says. But she adds that habitual offenders are expelled.

"The rule really is compassion," when dealing with violators, Naff stresses.

"The emphasis is not on what people can't do — the emphasis is on what we can do."

By Brian Bubak

Declare your passion publicly or say you care anonymously with a Heart Throb, an ODE Classified tradition

15 words for \$1.50 if placed by 1 pm
Feb. 11 at ODE, 300 EMU, UO Bookstore,
EMU Main Desk. Coming Feb. 12.



Great Throbs from the past:

JANET: Your hair, your lips, your dreamy eyes
Such beauty fashion can't disguise
And on your thighs I'd love to dine
Won't you be my Valentine?

LIL UPTURN
Like the wind through the trees
Your love makes me shake
But everytime I tell you so
Your head begins to ache

JERRY: Friends can love each other,
In a special sort of way.
I need more than "milkshakes"
And so do you, I say.
Love, LORI

LISA: Roses are blue,
violets are red,
my back is cramped,
fix your bed
Love, JOHN

PHILBERT: Why don't we get together this
Valentine's Day and aim your arrow for my
target. Hopelessly in love with you.
PEANUT

BADMINTON BONNIE: If I could clear your
net I'd drive my shuttlecock into your court.
GREYBEARD

Photo Specials



One day
film
developing
service
C-41 only

Offer expires 2/13/82



UO BOOKSTORE
13th & Kincaid
Mon-Fri 8:15-5:30
Sat 10:00-3:00

Textbooks 686-3520 • General Books 686-3510 • Supplies 686-4331

Friday, February 5, 1982