

**Quick Dwight Facts:****Daniel Dwight Koop****Born:** March 31, 1966**Hometown:** Flin Flon, Abbotsford, Japan, Cleefeld, Nipawin (we moved a lot)**Years at NBC:** 1984 - 1987**Hobbies:** Reading, cooking, golf, letting my wife talk and answer questions for me**Quick Michele Facts:****Michele \_\_ Koop (née: Ruten)****Born:** August 23, 1966**Hometown:** Spalding, SK**Years at NBC:** 1984 - 1987**Hobbies:** Walking, shopping, Sudoku, hot-tubbing, singing, talking and answering questions for Dwight**Together Facts:****Married:** August 12, 1988 at Park Ave Bible Church, Melfort**Kids:** Ashlyn (born Nov. 19, 1992), and Braden (born July 18, 1997)**Random Fact:** All of Michele's siblings went to NBI and married people that they went to NBI with. She says it was because her father was on the board, and he made sure they were all 'provided' for... ☺

**R:** Before I begin, Dwight, I must thank you for that amazing supper! Your new recipe for chicken was amazing, and those roasted baby potatoes were absolutely great! And Michele, your 'homemade' Bumbleberry pie was delicious, I don't know how you were able to find that perfect box and shrink-wrap for it! I think every NBC Rivers Newsletter will have to contain an interview with you, and I am more than willing to volunteer and conduct all the interviews!

**R:** First of all, could you give us a bit of background regarding what you do, and where you live?

**M:** We live in the Silverwood Heights area of Saskatoon. Dwight is a nurse at the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at the Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon. He also leads a worship team at the Diefenbaker Drive Community Church (DDCC), and sings 50's, 60's, and 70's songs in a group called the Tone Cruisers. I have been a store manager for Eddie Bauer in the Midtown Plaza shopping centre for the last 10 years. I also speed walk, sing on Dwight's worship team at DDCC, and periodically deliver newspapers for our delinquent son... ☺

**M:** Ashlyn is 19 years old, and works fulltime at Bootlegger in the Midtown Plaza. She enjoys shopping, shopping, and shopping. Braden is in Grade 9 and is in his first year of high school at Marion Graham Collegiate. He has delivered papers for the Star Phoenix for 2 ½ years, and drums on our worship team at DDCC.

**R:** I can see why Dwight's hobby of letting you talk and answer questions for him works in such harmony with your hobby of talking and answering questions for him! What were some of your most memorable moments from your years at NBI?

**M:** Being a weekend cook for one weekend. Garland Propp and I were supposed to be weekend cooks for our student work, but we didn't do so well. We made three batches of cream of wheat in an attempt to get it right, but every time we ended up with 'cream on concrete'! Then we set up the automatic toaster, but accidentally placed it backwards. As a

result, all the toast slid out backwards between the table and the wall, and fell on the floor! They didn't let us continue as weekend cooks after that!

**D:** My favorite memory was singing on the acappella men's group, "Willing Servant".

**M:** No, his favorite moment was meeting me!!! He had the 'Don Johnson' look from Miami Vice complete with narrow tie, and pastel suit!

**D:** One weekend, Mark Leppington (then a teacher), showed up with a pink tie, so we (all 8 men in the Willing Servant acappella group) bought matching ties, and wore them Monday morning. Mr. Leppington showed up with his tie that morning, realized what was done, and never wore it again!

**R:** How has God gifted you, and how has that shown through in your life thus far?

**D:** Musical gifting has helped us a lot to serve in our church.

**M:** We absolutely love doing that. We also love opening our house to people and building relationships.

**R:** When you serve the amazing food that you make, I imagine you get to know a lot of people! What has God been teaching you recently in your life?

**M:** I think God has been showing us that we just need to be a light wherever we are, whether we're serving at church, doing a floor set in a clothing store, or intubating a child, we just have to let God's love shine through us wherever we are.

**D:** That's good, I like that.

**R:** What's the most profound thing that you've taken from your time at NBI (besides marriage...)?

**M:** I learned how important it is for a person to have Christian friends. In Spalding, where I grew up, there weren't many Christians, yet at NBI there were so many Christian friends around all the time. They were always willing to pray for you and encourage you!

**D:** Um... (Michele breaks in): Dwight just wanted a wife!

**D:** I think NBI really helped me to develop my sense of leadership. I took some leadership roles in our tour team group, and was also class president.

**R:** Do you have some closing thoughts or words of wisdom for us?

**M:** Jeremiah 29:4 says "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future". It was our class verse, and it is so comforting to know that God has all situations in the palm of His hand. AND children should be seen and not heard (as Braden scans the internet for Monty Python references to add to her words of wisdom).

**M:** Lastly, we've also found lately how important it is to be part of a faith community. We've recently switched churches and started going to Diefenbaker Drive Community Church. We have found such a great closeness and community there after only a year. There's also a lot of fellow alumni there: Glenn and Deb Skeldon, Wayne and Carol Steppan (their daughter, Ashley, is currently at NBC), John and Daphne Sawatzky.

**D:** Ditto.

**R:** Thank you so much for inviting me into your home, and sharing your life with us. I've found it very encouraging and fun! You are welcome to invite me back any time to continue practicing your gift of hospitality! It's going to be awhile though, before I get the pictures of Dwight's Miami Vice attire and Michele's "Cream of Concrete" breakfast out of my mind!