SPORTS: Norse men defeat #1 Southern Indiana 81-80

VIEWPOINTS: How NKU funding compares to other Ky. universities

Northern Kentucky University

THE NORTHERNER

Edition 34, Issue 1 www.thenortherner.com Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2004

Ky. cuts NKU budget

University to see nearly $4 million less in state funding

By C.J. Fryer
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A recent string of state budget cuts from Frankfort has Northern Kentucky University scheduled to take a loss of $4 million from its general fund, forcing administrators to make internal reductions to avoid a mid-semester tuition hike.

Gov. Ernie Fletcher ordered a 2.5 percent cut on nearly all state agencies in December due to Kentucky's current economic shortcomings. This reduction included a $24.8 million cut on postsecondary education, which resulted in a $2 million hit for NKU. Elementary and secondary education are two of the few state agencies that did not receive a reduction in funding.

"For the first time in the last couple of years, higher education is being assessed budget reductions in line with the other state agencies," said Gerald Hunter, vice president for enrollment and financial planning at NKU.

December's cut, however, was not the end of Fletcher's budget reductions. Based on a meeting held last week between state university presidents and the new state budget director, NKU is in position to lose an additional $2 million dollars. This second cut comes from Fletcher's new proposal to take another $45 million from higher education, bringing total postsecondary education cuts to nearly $70 million under Fletcher, who was inaugurated on Dec. 8.

For the fiscal year of 2003-2004, the state had originally planned on giving over $47 million to NKU, toward the university's annual budget of $125 million. These recent cuts would cause an 8.5 percent cut to that amount of state funding.

See CUTS, page 4

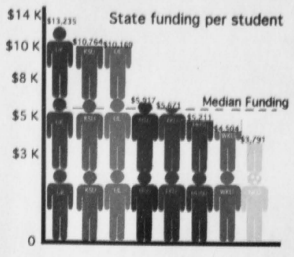
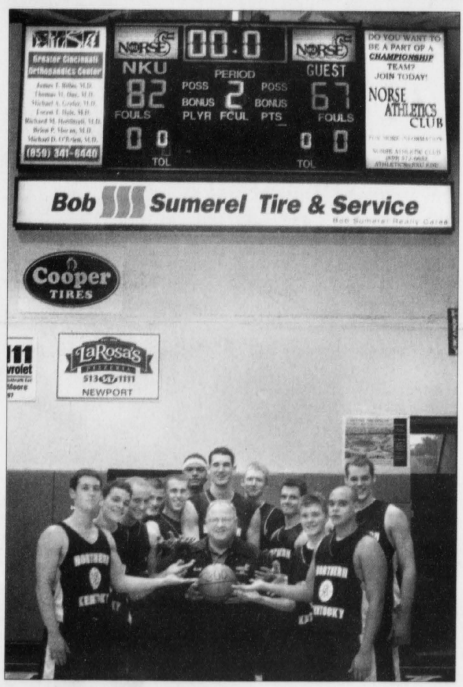


Photo illustration by Mike Brennan

Source: *The Cincinnati Enquirer*



Tim Downer/Assistant Photo Editor

Ken Shields and his 2003-2004 men's basketball team commemorate a winning season and Shields' 300th career win. **For more on this story, see page 10.**

Tech triangle to attract businesses

By Jonathan Divita
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Northern Kentucky University and the surrounding community have developed a joint initiative designed to attract successful high-tech businesses to Campbell County.

The university has partnered with the Tri-County Economic Development (Tri-ED) to initiate a project called the Northern Kentucky Emerging Technology Commercialization Triangle. This "technology triangle" is the area surrounding NKU bound by I-275, AA Highway and U.S. 27.

Unlike similar programs in the region, Tri-ED seeks to attract businesses that are already successful. This program is designed for companies that already have a tested, established product.

Tri-ED, which promotes economic developments in Boone, Kenton and Campbell counties, first began distributing 13-page brochures to companies across the country in June 2003. The brochure promote NKU and the region's benefits, such as close access to regional and international airports, proximity to major interstates, a livable communities. According to the brochure, the university's benefits include such features as interaction with faculty, staff and interns, as well as numerous research programs.

It's not just the businesses that will benefit – the university and its students also stand to profit from the project.

Joe Wind, assistant vice president of community and government relations, said one benefit that will be afforded to NKU students is "building partnerships with knowledgeable companies that relate directly with [their] field of study."

Students will have more job opportunities and work-study positions.

According to Wind, there are also several important long-term benefits.

"If a company's success is closely linked to the partnership with the university, they will be more likely to support the university with their donations," he said.

Wind also said that both state and federal governments invest more in universities that "understand this partnership philosophy."

In response to this project, NKU has created the Institute for New Economy Technologies (iNET) to provide vital technology training and support for employees of the new businesses.

Director Dr. Rebecca White said that iNET's mission is "bringing the intellectual resources and capital of the university to the service of new economy and knowledge-based companies in the region."

Certain non-traditional programs would also be initiated to permit workers to attend school and receive a formal degree simultaneously. There will be new classes offered on both the graduate and undergraduate level at NKU. Training and certification on systems like Cisco and Microsoft would also be offered.

The university will create new spaces for students to collaborate with these industries. There will be labs for students and high-tech professionals to interact, or for business to utilize advanced information technology features that will be available at NKU.

The program will seek private funding to avoid the budget cuts, according to White. "Our goal is to minimize our dependency on state funding," she said.

Only a handful of businesses are currently involved. General Cable Company is a nationally recognized fiber optics company, and is located just off the Three Mile Road entrance to the main campus. Other companies committed to this project are Medical Research Laboratories, Fifth Third Bank, and Fidelity Investments, which already employs over 200 NKU students at its on-campus call center.

The cities of Wilder and Cold Spring have already designated more than 100 acres near the AA Highway/U.S. 27 interchange to be zoned and developed for the project. In addition, Highland Heights has allocated 17 acres of land at the Nunn Drive entrance to NKU. There are also tentative plans to build hotels and a conference center.

Tuition forum will give voice to students

By Emily Chalfant
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The Student Government Association will hold an informational forum today at noon in Otto Budig Theater to discuss the possibility of a mid-semester tuition increase at Northern Kentucky University.

The forum is meant to inform students about the budget shortfalls leading to the possible tuition increase, and to increase student involvement in campus issues.

SGA began to plan the forum after Gov. Ernie Fletcher ordered higher education cuts, which raised concerns about a possible tuition hike. Fletcher cut Northern Kentucky University's budget by $4 million in the past two months, which could raise the tuition by as much as 20 percent.

"We want to give students the opportunity to tell us what's on their minds, especially since tuition has already increased by about 26 percent over the past two years," said Eric Fegan, SGA executive vice president and tuition committee chair.

The forum will be an open dialogue, and Fegan said SGA is hoping for a strong student turnout. The forum was originally scheduled for 4 p.m. today but was moved to noon to better accommodate students' schedules.

Since the tuition increases affect everyone, he said that SGA is relying on student attendance, and will offer free pizza as an incentive to come.

Students are encouraged to ask questions and give their opinions. Although consequences from the cuts cannot be avoided, student input does influence the decisions that will be made.

Discussion on the tuition increase was pushed back from the Jan. 21 Board of Regents meeting, but Fegan said the increase may be discussed at the March Board of Regents meeting, or at a special meeting that could be called on any date.

"We can't give all the answers, but we can find them and get back to the students," Fegan said.

He added that although this kind of forum has not been done before at NKU, it is part of SGA's role as the liaison between the students and administration.

SGA will take student feedback into consideration when making its final vote on tuition recommendations during the weekend retreat to Blue Lick Battlefield State Park in Carlisle, Ky. on Jan. 16, 17 and 18.

New Years' Resolutions:
To keep or not to keep?

We all do it: set goals at the beginning of each new year in order to improve ourselves, and then break them within the month of January. Read inside for ways to break that cycle.

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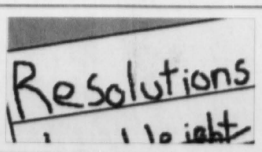

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newsbriefs

Section Editors
C.J. Fryer and Emily Chalfant
859.572.5260

dpsreports

JAN 10 2004
Saturday 7:14 p.m.
Classification: MEDICAL RESPONSE - Squad
Location: ALBRIGHT HEALTH CENTER - Pool Area
Disposition: Closed
Summary: Medical assistance was requested for a subject at the listed location. Officers and the Central Campbell County Squad responded. Subject was transported to St. Elizabeth Hospital - North for further evaluation and treatment.

JAN 10 2004
Saturday 12:58 p.m.
Classification: DECAL - Lost Decal
Location: OFF CAMPUS
Disposition: Closed
Summary: Subject reported that his 2004 NKU Parking Permit was lost after an auto accident at an off campus location. Subject was referred to the Parking Office for a replacement.

JAN 8 2004
Thursday 8:02 p.m.
Classification: TRAFFIC - Vehicle Stop
Location: PARKING LOT F
Disposition: Closed
Summary: Officer observed a vehicle being operated with an expired registration. Driver was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Expired Registration.

These are the latest reports as of our print deadline. For a full listing visit the DPS website at http://access.nku.edu/dps

campusbriefs

NKU loses Bio professor

Dr. Raymond Richmond, professor of biological sciences, died on Dec. 10. Richmond had taught at Northern Kentucky University for 23 years. He was a mentor and adviser to his fellow faculty and helped strengthen the department.

CRC installs lift in pool

The Campus Recreation Center installed a portable aquatic lift into the pool in the Albright Health Center in December. The lift allows disabled persons to access the pool more safely and easily than in the past. It was funded by a grant from the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation.

APB to hold annual talent show

The Activities Programming Board will hold its annual "Homegrown Talent Show" on Jan. 26 to begin Homecoming Week. Students may audition to perform in the talent show by auditioning on Jan. 15, 16 and 20. Visit the Office of Student Life in University Center 10 to register for auditions.

Speaker to celebrate MLK, Jr. Day

Juanita Nelson, noted peace and civil rights activist, will visit campus on Thursday, Jan. 15 in celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, Jan. 19. She will discuss the topic "A Way of Life: Non-Violence, Peace and Justice" at Northern Kentucky University's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Keynote Lecture. The lecture will be held at 12:15 p.m. in Otto Budig Theater and is open to the public.

Forum to discuss police conduct

The Chase Public Interest Group will hold a forum Jan. 20 at Northern Kentucky University to discuss the alleged misconduct of Cincinnati police and whether the situation has improved. Civil rights attorney Alphonse A. Gerhardstein will be the keynote speaker. "Police Misconduct in Cincinnati – Has the Collaborative Agreement Made a Difference?" will be held at 7 p.m. in Otto Budig Theater. It is free of charge and open to the public.

SGA offers free shuttle

The Student Government Association now offers a free shuttle for dorm students. SGA Express runs from the Residential Village on Monday and Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. for all 16 weeks of the semester.

It drives students to Kroger, Walgreens and Meijer so that students who live on campus but may not keep a car on campus can purchase school supplies and other necessities.

nationalbriefs

Supreme Court backs U.S. 9/11 policy

On Jan. 12, the Supreme Court denied a request to investigate the United States' policy of secrecy in detaining foreigners after the 9/11 attacks. The U.S held 762 illegal immigrants in custody after the attacks. Most of the detainees were Arab or Muslim. The government refused to disclose the names of the detainees and why they were being held, although none of the immigrants were charged with terrorism. A 2003 report by the Justice Department concluded that the government had violated a law stating that the immigrants could be held no longer than 90 days, and requested a Supreme Court investigation into the policy.

Marino will be Dolphins' new VP

Former Miami Dolphins quarterback Dan Marino will be senior vice president of football operations, a position created specifically for him. The organization announced the appointment Jan. 12, along with the appointment of Rick Spielman as new general manager. Marino retired from professional football four years ago after 17 seasons. He played for the Dolphins from 1983 to 1999, including an appearance in the 1985 Super Bowl, where they lost to San Francisco.

Current 'Frasier' season will be last

NBC announced on Jan. 12 that its sitcom 'Frasier,' starring Kelsey Grammer, will be finished at the end of this season. The sitcom has aired since 1993 and won five consecutive Emmy awards for best comedy. It debuted as a spin-off of the sitcom 'Cheers,' and has been one of the most successful spin-offs in television history.

While you were away....

Mad cow disease strikes U.S.

On Dec. 23, the United States government announced the first case of mad cow disease in America.

A cow in Washington state contracted the disease from contaminated feed in Alberta, Canada, where it was born in 1997, the government said Jan. 6.

The disease, also called bovine spongiform encephalopathy, eats holes in the brains of cattle.

The human form of mad cow disease, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, erodes the brain and can be contracted by eating beef from a cow contaminated with the disease.

No cases of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease from eating contaminated American beef have yet been reported.

A 24-year old Florida woman has been diagnosed with the disease, but doctors believe she contracted it while living in London.

U.S. to track foreign visitors

The United States government said Jan. 5 that all visitors into the country would now be fingerprinted and photographed in order to ensure that U.S. borders are secure against terrorists.

Visitors from all but 28 nations – mostly European countries – will be tracked at 115 international airports and 14 seaports as part of the new program, called US-VISIT (U.S. Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology).

The Associated Press reported on Jan. 8 that the screening process has already enabled the government to apprehend 30 criminals.

The program, initiated by Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, allows the government to take inkless fingerprints upon a visitor's entrance into and exit from the U.S.

The fingerprints will be run through a national database that tracks persons with criminal backgrounds and terrorist lists.

The photographs will be filed in a separate database to aid law enforcement.

Officials expect to implement the program at land borders by the end of 2005.

Bush proposes new immigration work law

President Bush asked Congress on Jan. 7 to consider approving a bill that would revamp the United States' immigration policy by allowing illegal Mexican immigrants to legally work in the country.

The bill would permit immigrants now living in the U.S. to obtain a renewable three-year work permit if they currently have a job.

It would legalize millions of illegal immigrants who currently work in the country. In addition, it would allow Mexicans living in Mexico to come to work in the U.S. if they can prove they have a job offer.

Local airport sees terrorist scare

Fighter jets escorted a Jan 6. flight from Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris, France to the Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati International Airport after a female passenger wearing a suspicious motorcycle jacket tried to board the plane in Paris.

The flight, which contained 181 passengers and 12 crew, flew uneventfully from Paris to Hebron, and landed safely at an unused DHL terminal near the airport, where passengers were scanned for security purposes.

It was later determined that the female passenger who had aroused suspicion did not pose a terrorist threat.

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Stop pasting and pinning tons of fliers! Use the Campus Events Calendar and then sit back and relax. We'll do the rest.

Section Editors
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campusreport

Wednesday
January 14, 2004
Edition 34, Issue 1

New SGA senators take office

Organization seeks increased student involvement in spring semester

By Amanda VanBenschoten
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Eighteen new senators took the oath of office at the Jan. 12 Student Government Association meeting, and the organization moved forward on a more student-oriented course of action than in previous semesters.

Fifteen students sworn in were elected senator in the November SGA election; three were nominated by appointment and elected at the meeting.

"Congratulations on being elected to the senate," Chief Justice Dave Caudill said. The senators then swore to "uphold the SGA constitution and bylaws and to faithfully serve the student body."

SGA President Chris Pace recommended the appointment of three other students to the senate: Breanna Gaddie, Brett Hardebeck and Gary Darna. Hardebeck and Darna were elected unanimously with one abstention each. A majority of senators elected Gaddie, with one vote against her election. The three students took the oath of office immediately following their election.

Two prominent topics of the first spring semester meeting were the Jan. 14 SGA tuition forum and increased student involvement in TeamNKU.

Andy Hixon, vice president of public relations, encouraged senators to spread the word about the tuition forum in order to increase student involvement in the event.

"If we have a packed house, we'll make that much more of an impact," he said.

Hixon said that SGA would like to get a better feel for both students' opinions regarding tuition, and the possibility of a mid-semester increase, in order to better serve the students' best interests.

"We want to get some dialogue going between students, for students," Eric Fegan, executive vice president, said.

Joe Myers, vice president of administrative affairs, announced several upcoming events intended to increase political involvement among NKU students. He announced that Congressman Ken Lucas will be on campus Friday, January 19 to meet with students, and Myers encouraged students to attend.

He also said TeamNKU is organizing a February trip to Frankfort to rally in the capital for state support of higher education. The Feb. 5 rally is open to all students, and transportation will be provided.

SGA will hold its spring retreat at Blue Lick State Park this weekend, Jan. 16, 17 and 18, where it will vote upon its goals for the semester.

Tuition may lead students to vote

By Krystle Kopacz
Daily Collegian (Pennsylvania State U.)

(U-WIRE) UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — With the 2004 presidential election less than a year away, candidates have begun to compete for the attention of student voters at Pennsylvania State University.

Some students feel that promises for tuition cuts will increase student participation at the polls.

"I would definitely support a candidate who would decrease tuition," Michael Chen (junior-finance) said.

Chen said college students are a significant group of voters for the candidates.

"I think they should recognize [college students] because many students would participate in voting," he said.

Leigh Murray (junior-journalism) agreed that tuition cut plans would attract attention.

"It's an issue that's definitely important to the current student population, especially with tuition being on the rise," Murray said.

Alice Hans (junior-music education) said it is smart for candidates to recognize students' financial burdens, because the college-age demographic is often overlooked.

"I get kind of annoyed because the majority of voters are older," she said. "A lot of times candidates gear it towards the majority of voters."

Some students are skeptical about the candidates' plans.

"Promises to college students aren't often kept because they aren't seen as important," Bron Irwin (senior-management science and information systems) said.

Irwin said most students don't worry about tuition costs because they don't finance their own education.

"Most of these kids here, their parents pay for their tuition, so they don't care," Irwin said. "I'm graduating; I don't care."

Tina Maria Simms (senior-English) also said most candidates' promises are unreliable.

"A lot of politicians make promises during the campaign and don't follow through with them," she said.

Some students, like Hans, said they wondered how tuition cuts would be funded with the present economy.

Whether or not candidates' promises will eventually be carried out, most students believe the attention toward reducing tuition costs will result in a higher voter turnout among students.

"A lot of the issues candidates campaign on don't directly affect the students, but this is one that does," Murray said. "It's definitely an issue that could get students to the polls."

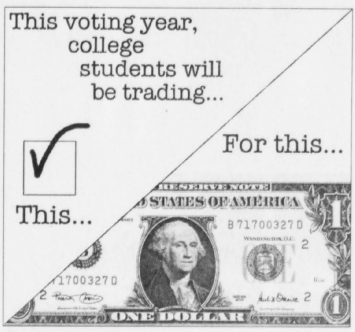


Photo illustration by Mike Brennan

Corrections

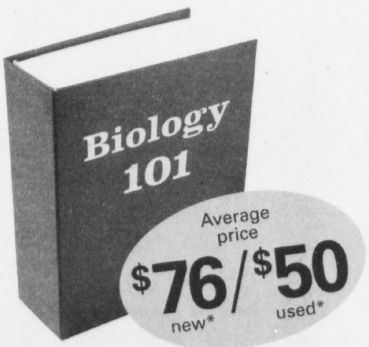
•The date of the Student Government Association tuition forum was listed incorrectly as Tuesday, January 14 in the Dec. 10 issue of The Northerner ("Tuition hike to be discussed," front page). The correct date of the forum is Wednesday, January 14. The time has also been changed from 4 p.m. to 12 p.m. The forum will still be held in Otto Budig Theatre.

•The salary of full-time professors at Northern Kentucky University was reported incorrectly as between $50,000 and $80,000 per semester in the Dec. 10 issue of The Northerner ("Former mayor added to faculty," front page). Full-time professors at NKU typically earn between $50,000 and $80,000 per year.

•The Graduate Student Orientation was incorrectly listed as open to all students interested in Northern Kentucky University graduate programs in the Dec. 10 issue of The Northerner ("Campus briefs," page 2). The orientation was open only to students already enrolled in NKU graduate programs.

The staff of *The Northerner* apologizes for any inconvenience or misunderstanding the misprints may have caused.

Retail



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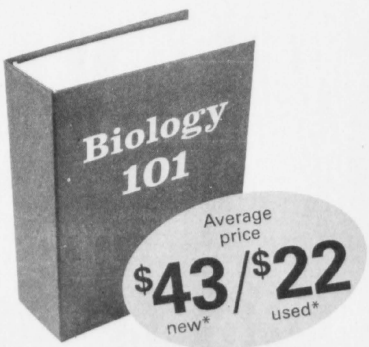

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Cuts

Continued from page one

Hunter pointed out that NKU is not alone in suffering from reductions to an already-underfunded budget. He said that Western Kentucky University is essentially in the same boat, due primarily to the fact that both universities receive special "benchmark funding" to compensate for low state funding per each full-time student. Although the two universities benefit from benchmark funds in economically good times, they take bigger cuts in economically bad times.

"Western and NKU are the fastest-growing institutions in the state," Hunter said, "and coincidentally, they are the least funded. It's easier to recognize [our growth] when times are good than when times are tough."

These $4 million combined cuts from Frankfort will top off NKU's three-year reduction at about $5.4 million, according to President James Votruba.

"Given our historic underfunding, our nearly 20 percent growth over the past four years, and the strong regional demand for greater student access and more involvement in addressing challenges confronting our region, these reductions will impact the campus in several ways," Votruba said.

Hunter said there are many ways in which NKU could be affected, including the possibility of increasing tuition by as much as 20 percent, curtailing enrollment growth, and substantially decreasing the amount of need-based student financial aid.

A mid-semester tuition increase has also been discussed. Before the second $2 million cut, Hunter was under the impression that this would be completely avoided. However, after recent developments, Votruba is now uncertain about what will happen.

"While we are doing everything in our power to avoid a mid-year tuition increase, at this point I cannot promise that an increase can be avoided," Votruba said.

Hunter strongly believes that "access is important," and a mid-semester tuition hike would make NKU less accessible.

"That's the easiest way out," Hunter said. "We're going to take the tough route."

Votruba stressed that university officials are making every attempt to avoid a mid-semester tuition hike.

"We are currently looking at every line of our budget to find funds that can be used to cover the reductions," he said. "We are also looking at ways that we can do the work of the university more efficiently without compromising quality.

"Several students have said to me that it is not fair that our students should be taxed in the form of tuition in order to send money to Frankfort to offset the deficit. This is particularly unfair when one considers that our students already pay 60 percent of the cost of their education, when the average at the other universities is around 37 percent."

Chris Pace, SGA president, is among the concerned students.

> *"We are doing everything in our power to avoid a mid-year tuition increase"*
> *-President James Votruba*

"If you look over the past couple of years, we've had sizeable tuition increases," he said, "so I would hope in some ways our administration has prepared itself for this reality, and we would not have to suffer further increases on the backs of the students alone."

NKU receives the lowest amount of funding per full-time student of any state university, at $3,791, compared to the median amount of $5,671. According to Hunter, NKU's funding level has always been low because NKU is a much younger institution than others in the state. Funding has also been historically low because the university evolved from a community college, which is typically funded much less than full-fledged universities.

"To do everything necessary to correct NKU's under-funding and insure that NKU students receive state funding that is at least equal to the median of the other comprehensive universities in the state...would cost approximately $15 million," Votruba said.

"Any cuts in postsecondary education are cuts on the future of Kentucky," Pace said.

According to Hunter, the cuts may indeed affect the future of NKU students, faculty and staff. Some faculty and staff positions may be eliminated, and hiring new faculty may also be temporarily halted. The frequency of course offerings may even be reduced, resulting in a delay in graduation for many students. NKU's learning environment may also suffer, as maintenance of campus facilities will be greatly reduced.

NKU may also very well see less community outreach initiative projects, which the university has lately been highly recognized for throughout the region.

"We need to continue to seek adequate funding for the institution," Hunter said. He believes this is the heart of the issue, and says that NKU has great leaders who are doing just that.

In anticipation of a budget cut, the university placed $1 million in reserves this year, but Hunter said that NKU now needs to come up with another $3 million. He said this would mostly be obtained from internal budget cuts.

"Our challenge will be to sustain the momentum of the past few years and continue to support both quality and access under what may be very severe financial constraints," Votruba said.

"While the budget picture currently looks daunting, I would caution everyone that we are very early in this year's legislative process. The conditions in Frankfort are fluid with lots of ideas being floated for resolving the budget deficit," he said.

"[The cuts] mean belt-tightening," Hunter said.

"While we confront a major fiscal challenge, I remain confident in NKU's capacity to weather the storm and find ways to advance our mission on behalf of our students and our community," Votruba said.

1981 **Fall:** Norse Volleyball team goes to NCAA Division II Tournament

1979 **Spring:** Norse baseball team goes to NCAA Division II World Series

1976 **June:** NKSC becomes Northern Kentucky University
July: Dr. A. D. Albright accepts presidency
November: Dedication of Charles D. Landrum Academic Center

1975 **May:** First graduate degree awarded
September: Dr. Steely resigns as president
November: Dedication of W. Frank Steely Library

1974 **September:** Science Center dedicated

1973 **May:** First commencement, Regents Hall

1972 **June:** Salmon P. Chase College of Law merger with NKSC approved by court
August: First classes for 4100 students begin on Highland Heights campus; Chase moves to Covington campus

1971 **Spring:** First Northern baseball team, called Norsemen
Fall: First Norse basketball team

1970 **June:** First classes offered by NKSC on the Covington campus
June: NKSC purchases more than 300 acres for campus in Highland Heights
August: First semester of NKSC

1969 **March:** Highland Heights selected as site for newcampus
July: University of Kentucky Northern Community College deeded to Northern Kentucky State College
December: Dr. W. Frank Steely appointed first president of NKSC

1982
Spring: Dedication of first residence halls
Fall: Chase moves to Highland Heights
Fall: A.D. Albright retires

1983
April: Dr. Leon Boothe introduced as third president of NKU

HOMECOMING 2004
THE NORSE
the untold STORY

Spring: Norse baseball team appears in NAIA World Series 1985

March: Lady Norse basketball team goes to NCAA Division II Final Four 1987

Fall: Dedication of Applied Science and Technology Center 1990

September: Dedication of Greaves Concert Hall and new music wing of Fine Arts Center 1992
Fall: New residence halls occupied

March: Norse men's basketball team wins GLVC title, plays for regional title 1995

March: Norse men's basketball team wins GLVC title and regional title, then plays in NCAA Division II National Title Game, broadcast on national TV. 1996
June 30: Dr. Boothe retires after 13 years as President

March: Norse men's basketball team wins GLVC title, regional title, then plays in NCAA Division II National Title Game, broadcast on national TV 1997
April: Announcement made that Dr. James Votruba has accepted presidency of NKU
Fall: Opening of Ceramics and Sculpture Building

Fall: Volleyball team goes to NCAA Division II Elite Eight 1998

Spring: Women's basketball team goes to NCAA Division II Final Four 1999

April: Norse women's basketball becomes first NKU athletic team ever to win a national championship 2000

HOMECOMING 2004 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

REGISTRATION PACKETS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE, UC 10. ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE!

Date	Time	Event	Location
1/23 **Friday**	9 am	Banner, window, and department decorating begins	UC lobby, UC & NC windows,departments
1/25 **Sunday**	1 – 5 pm	Norse Day	Newport on the Levee
1/26 **Monday**	7 pm	Talent Show sponsored by APB	Otto Budig Theater
1/27 **Tuesday**	5-7 pm	Black and Gold Theme Dinner	Norse Commons
1/27 **Tuesday**	6 pm	NKU Trivia Show and Novelties sponsored by APB	Norse Commons
1/28 **Wednesday**	12 pm	Bets for Bucks and Novelty sponsored by APB	UC Cafeteria and Lobby
1/28 **Wednesday**	1 pm	Dr. Frank Stallings, Special Guest Speaker and Reception	Otto Budig Theater and UC Lobby
1/28 **Wednesday**	4 pm	Donations for Brighton Center due	UC 10 - Office of Student Life
1/28 **Wednesday**	7 pm	Hypnotist Frederick Winters sponsored by APB	Otto Budig Theater
1/28 **Wednesday**	9 pm	Yell Like Hell Competition and Court Announcement	Albright Health Center
1/28 **Wednesday**	10:00 pm	Homecoming Celebration	Skyline Tavern
1/29 **Thursday**	8 pm	Freestyle Battle sponsored by APB	UC Gameroom
1/30 **Friday**	All Day!	Black and Gold Spirit Day	(wear your school spirit!)
1/31 **Saturday**	10 am-3:30 pm	Norse Bowl	Intramural Fields (Albright Health Center in case of inclimate weather)
1/31 **Saturday**	4 pm	Alumni Chili Cook-off	Regents Hall
1/31 **Saturday**	5:30 pm	Norse Women vs. Bellarmine	Regents Hall
1/31 **Saturday**	7:45 pm	Norse Men vs. Bellarmine	Regents Hall
1/31 **Saturday**	Half time of men's game	Crowning of King & Queen Organization Spirit Awards	Regents Hall

Contact the Office of Student Life with questions at 572-6514 or studentlife@nku.edu

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furtherdetails

The Northerner, the newspaper of Northern Kentucky University, is published weekly, except during holidays and examination periods from August through May by students.
Views expressed do not represent the opinions of the administration, faculty or the student body.

Letters to the editor

Students:

This space is usually reserved for your feedback concerning campus events and issues and *The Northerner*'s coverage of them.

This week, I would like to turn the tables and provide you with my goals for the newspaper this semester, as well as the changes we have made in its format.

This newspaper is published by and for Northern Kentucky University students. It is my goal to bring more coverage of students and their concerns to the pages of *The Northerner* in the next five months. In an effort to achieve this goal, the staff has made some changes to the format and content of the newspaper.

We now accept editorial submissions from students. In the past, staff members have written editorials for this page, or we have used editorial submissions from a national college wire service. However, we believe that this page should be a forum for students' opinions and for university-related issues.

If you have an opinion on anything – from a local or world event or issue, to campus events and issues – you can now submit an editorial to be published on this page.

We decided to allow editorial submissions from students in an effort to better reflect the concerns, values and beliefs of all students.

Letters to the editor have traditionally been the only way students could provide feedback and opinions to *The Northerner*, and we will continue that practice. Letters to the editor can be written on a variety of topics, from your opinion on articles in *The Northerner*, to your opinion on campus events and issues.

Editorials can be written on college-related topics as well, but also on national, world and local events, issues and concerns.

Editorials are not news stories, but opinions backed up with facts. They are not letters to the editor because they should not address current campus issues, *Northerner* articles, or previously published letters to the editor. They should be 600 words or less.

We look forward to hearing your opinions and feedback this semester, and to achieving our goal of better representing NKU students.

Amanda VanBenschoten
Editor in Chief

How to write *The Northerner*

Editors and staff of *The Northerner* welcome input from the campus community. Submit letters in the following format:

- E-mail letters to the editor and editorial submissions to northerner@nku.edu, or submit letters by visiting the online edition at www.thenortherner.com.
- Letters must include writer's name, telephone number, class year and major.
- Letters must be 400 words or less.
- Letters must be recieved on Friday before publication in order to be included.
- Event or organization announcements will not be printed on the Viewpoints page. Submit to Amie Vogt at vogtmarie@yahoo.com
- *The Northerner* reserves the right to edit for content and space.

editorialnote

NKU funding less than most

STAFF EDITORIAL
northerner@nku.edu

With Gov. Fletcher's recent budget cuts, including a nearly $4 million cut in funding for Northern Kentucky University, one can't help but wonder where Kentucky postsecondary education is headed, especially at NKU, the most underfunded university in the state.

NKU receives the least amount of state funding of any Kentucky university, and Fletcher's December and January funding cuts further jeopardize the future of the university.

The governor, who took office Dec. 8, has already-ordered nearly $70 million in cuts for postsecondary education funding. Cuts to NKU eliminate nearly 8.5 percent of the $47 million that the university receives in state funding. As of June 2003, NKU's budget is $125 million budget for the 2003-2004 fiscal year, and $47 million of that comes from state funding. With the recent budget cuts, NKU state funding will be only $43 million.

Of course, when you're speaking in millions of dollars, the budget cuts seem like a drop in the bucket. But when you look at what the cuts can mean to students, $4 million is a dear price to pay.

At the very least, the budget cuts mean a tighter fiscal rein for campus departments and organizations. That comes down to less funding for student organizations and events.

At worst, the budget cuts could force the administration to make a mid-semester tuition increase, dipping directly into the pockets of students.

In the long term, budget cuts may mean a halt to university growth and development initiatives, such as plans for a new athletic center and student center. These budget cuts will almost certainly also mean a long-term increase in tuition.

From a governor who said during a September visit to NKU that "Equity in funding in universities needs to be implemented. I will absolutely work on that. This university is integrated into the economic development of the region," the recent funding cuts are a stunning about-face.

Granted, the Kentucky economy is in trouble, and drastic cuts need to be made in order to remedy the state's $302 million deficit. But it is puzzling that Fletcher is now reducing state funding for state colleges and universities. He ran, and was elected, on a platform that included a plan to improve Kentucky postsecondary education in order to retain graduates and improve the state economy. It seems campaign pledges are empty promises, which can be discarded as soon as the governor sets foot in Frankfort.

NKU, although "integrated into the economic development of the region," is the most under-funded university in the state of Kentucky, and will apparently continue to be so until the Kentucky budget is balanced.

The university receives $3,791 in state funding for each full-time student. The state median is $5,671 per full-time student. NKU ranks at the bottom of that list. There is a stunning discrepancy of nearly $10,000 between the amount NKU receives per student and the amount received by the University of Kentucky for each of its students.

Fletcher's budget cuts will further widen the gap between NKU and its more generously funded fellow state universities. They will certainly take the wind out of the astonishing growth the university saw under Gov. Patton. Let us hope that NKU, a fledgling university with comparison its fellow state universities, will not continue to suffer under the burden of Kentucky's budget deficit.

Iraq safer without Saddam

Saddam's future unclear; Iraq's future more promising

BY MATT DILLER
Daily Illini (U. Illinois)

(U-WIRE) CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Sunday morning, Jan. 14, the news broke worldwide that American forces captured former Iraqi dictator, Saddam Hussein.

He was found hiding in a hole in the ground near his hometown of Tikrit.

After receiving a tip from an unidentified Iraqi, 600 American soldiers moved in on the area and captured the fallen dictator.

I honestly thought that we would never capture him. I thought he would slip away from Iraq, escaping over the border to parts unknown.

His ghost, though, would remain behind for years.

We would have the occasional report of him or rumors that he was behind a new terror attack but would never actually capture him.

He would've become the Keyser Soze of the Middle East, a phantom arch-villain behind everything but never actually found.

But now Saddam has finally been captured, and the people of Iraq can breathe a bit easier. Hopefully, his capture will serve to reassure that nation that the dark days of his regime are over, never to return.

For the most apart, it appears that this sentiment is already spreading in Iraq.

On Jan. 14, The Associated Press was already reporting that Iraqis were taking to the streets and, in Kirkuk and Baghdad, people were shooting guns in the air in celebration.

While I will admit to not understanding why one fires a machine gun in the air to show how happy you are, I do understand the Iraqis' joy.

Throughout his regime, Saddam's brutality caused the deaths of countless Iraqis. Many of these were executed and thrown into mass graves, which are currently being uncovered.

One may also look at the suppression of the 1991 Kurdish rebellion and Saddam's use of weapons of mass destruction in the Iran-Iraq War and against the Kurds, as CNN reports in its profile on Saddam's career, for evidence of his crimes against humanity.

Someday, it is hoped soon, Saddam will go to trial. Whether it is before an Iraqi war crimes tribunal or before an international court of justice remains to be seen. It is certain, though, that Saddam Hussein will face justice for his crimes.

Given a choice, I would simply allow the Iraqi people to try Saddam and do whatever they wish to him. He deserves no better.

But then again, there is always the chance that Saddam will try to cut a deal. Perhaps he can give us information about the phantom weapons of mass destruction or point us in the right direction toward finding Osama bin Laden.

If that is the case, then I would not be surprised if he were given a prison sentence instead of being killed. Though the man deserves death for his crimes, he may also be more useful as a living source of information rather than as a dead tyrant.

What is important, though, is that he is granted the opportunity to make his case in court.

Though Saddam himself failed to give such a chance to the countless Iraqis whose bodies fill mass graves, he must be given it himself. Democracy demands no less.

Whether you agree with President Bush's decision to go to war in Iraq, the fact remains that Iraq has changed for the better because Saddam is gone.

President Bush himself probably said it best in his statement Jan. 14 when he said of Saddam's capture:

"This event brings further assurance that the torture chambers and secret police are gone forever."

That, I hope, will be the legacy of American involvement in Iraq.

Forget weapons of mass destruction. The thing we really accomplished was getting rid of Saddam.

Good riddance.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The views expressed on the Viewpoints page do not necessarily represent the views of The Northerner, its editors, or its writers. The individual articles express those of the authors. The Northerner and its staff respect the right to a free and open dialogues allowed under the First Amendment.

SUBMISSIONS

The Northerner welcomes letters. Letters should be legibly written or typed and should include the author's signature, year in school, major and telephone number. Faculty and staff should include title and department. Unsigned, anonymous letters will not be printed. Submit letters to The Northerner at northerner@nku.edu

npr

norse poll responses

Compiled by **Tony Redell**

Now that Saddam Hussein has been captured, do you feel that America is safer?

Andy Hixon
Junior, marketing

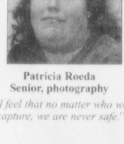
"It's kind of old news, but I would like to think so."

Dan Abercrombie
Junior, public relations

"Yes. Now we have to get that damn bin Laden."

Ben Mattingly
Senior, sculpture

"I think we're safer from his threats, but the door is still open for other evil-doers."



Patricia Roeda
Senior, photography

"I feel that no matter who we capture, we are never safe."

Christopher Miller
Senior, english

"Complete security is never going to happen."

Jhermel Holt
Junior, human services

"No. I feel that the U.S. will always have enemies, and capturing Saddam was just a plan to pacify us because they couldn't find bin Laden."

slimbone

by mike maydak

horoscopes

For the week of January 12-18, 2004

By Lasha Seniuk, Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service (KRT)

Aries
(March 21-April 20)
Friends and relatives may challenge family ideals, social announcements or group celebrations. After Tuesday, expect last-minute cancellations or delayed home agreements. Moodiness and introspection will be temporary. Remain patient and watch for subtle permissions from loved ones. Thursday through Sunday, outdoor events will be pleasing. Enjoy quiet activities with trusted friends and explore new levels of intimacy with romantic partners.

Taurus
(April 21-May 20)
Sudden intuitions or romantic insights are compelling over the next five days. Carefully study the recent comments of friends and lovers. Before next week, the social behavior of a friend or ongoing motives of a lover may need to be discussed. Set firm boundaries before taking action. Your actions and reactions are vital to the success of long-term relationships. Late Saturday, physical energy may be low. Take time for quiet relaxation and soothing home activities.

Gemini
(May 21-June 21)
Strained family relationships will improve. Late Tuesday, watch for previously distant relatives to ask for greater involvement in your social life and daily activities. Some Geminis will experience this wave of optimism as renewed faith between loved ones. Although motives are genuine, remain briefly cautious. Before next week, social reactions may still be unpredictable. After Saturday, new business ideas demand a response. Stay open to unique partnerships.

Cancer
(June 22-July 22)
Early this week, an older business official may make an unusually ridiculous error. Missed deadlines, written documents and fast financial reversals are highlighted. Be empathetic. At present, workplace attitudes may need to be forgiving. After Thursday, romantic partners and loved ones request subtle promises or private family information. Someone close may feel misunderstood or isolated. Provide encouragement. Your optimism and guidance are needed.

Leo
(July 23-Aug. 22)
Social planning will be difficult over the next few days. Late Tuesday, expect close friends to provide misinformation, vague promises or inaccurate dates. By late January, however, loved ones will rely heavily on your group awareness and attention to detail. Stay focused and ask trusted friends for definitive social commitments. Thursday through Sunday, romantic flirtation is delightful. A new and exciting relationship is possible. Remain open to unique encounters.

Virgo
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Long-term relationships may experience a brief but intense moment of decision. Competing values, sudden decisions or revised home expectations may require delicate diplomacy. Trust the inner voice and ask for added time. Careful consideration and slow progress are best. Some Virgos may also encounter a disruption in business plans. Key officials may reverse recent assignments, goals or promises. Request detailed instructions and wait for improvement.

Libra
(Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Over the next few days, unique business partnerships may be proposed. Areas affected are shared funding, land investments or property management. Some Librans may develop a secondary career interest. If so, expect complex decisions and steady gains over the next three months. Thursday through Sunday, pay close attention to the moods of loved ones. Friends or relatives may feel unusually restless. Job change and travel plans are highlighted; stay alert.

Scorpio
(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)
Financial promises may be briefly delayed by home repairs or late payments. Check facts and obligations thoroughly for hidden costs. After midweek, watch also for a long-term friend to offer controversial social or romantic advice. Remain quietly detached and watch for subtle group changes. In the coming weeks, unexpected triangles or sudden changes to close friendships may be unavoidable. Passions will be high. Let others resolve their own differences.

Sagittarius
(Nov. 23-Dec. 21)
Home discussions may reveal vital emotional information. Restless loved ones may outline revised family goals, financial strategies and long-term expectations. Recent career disappointments or home loyalties may be underlying influences. Ask subtle but probing questions and expect complex responses. Over the next 12 days, friends and relatives will need extra time to finalize their thoughts, plans or needs. Remain optimistic.

Capricorn
(Dec. 22-Jan. 20)
Sensuality is a powerful theme in key relationships. After Tuesday, expect romantic partners to offer delightful flirtations and sultry invitations. Over the next few days, allow deeper emotions and tender sentiments to rise to the surface. At present, creativity and renewed intimacy are strongly favored. Wednesday through Sunday accent unexpected business reversals and rare financial announcements. Study legal documents and long-term contracts for valuable clues.

Aquarius
(Jan. 21-Feb. 19)
Intuitions and sudden social realizations will prove accurate. Before midweek, pay special attention to the comments of a friend or lover. Important business proposals or employment announcements will trigger complex career decisions. Provide encouragement and constructive ideas. Loved ones will expect ongoing emotional support. Late Sunday, watch for unique news from a distant friend or relative. Travel plans, relocation or job changes are accented.

Pisces
(Feb. 20-March 20)
Last-minute invitations may cause confusion over the next few days. After Tuesday, expect friends and relatives to quickly change their plans and offer unusual social explanations. Maintain a cheerful attitude. Complex emotional demands and rare romantic opportunities may be at issue. Wednesday through Sunday, financial and property restrictions will be lifted. Someone close may agree to timed contracts or revised roles; remain attentive.

classifieds

To place a classified ad: contact Ryan Wilham at 859-572-5232.

Jobs

Part-time Help.
Local furniture store needs part-time worker to help in warehouse and with deliveries. Must be organized and able to move furniture. Call (859)282-8019. Ask for John.

Help wanted.
Bartending Trainees needed. $250 a day potential.
Local positions.
1-800-293-3985 ext. 151

Make money taking Online Surveys.
Earn $10-$125 for surveys.
Earn $25-$250 for focus groups.
Visit www.cash4students.com

Need an extra $36,000 a year? Vending route for sale. 50 high-traffic locations.
Cost: $5,000
1-800-568-1392 or www.vendingthatworks.com

For Sale

Condo for Sale! Invest your RENT $$.
One mile from campus. 2 Bed, 2 Bath, patio, lots of storage, community pool.
859-760-7703.

A Bed-$150 Queen Dbl Pillowtop Set, New in plastic, Warranty, Can deliver.
859-991-1073.

Mattress Set-$120-Full Pillowtop, new in plastic, with warranty, can deliver
859-991-1073

Leather Sofa-$400 matching loveseat $350 – Brand New, in plastic, can deliver.
859-743-6182.

Vacation

World famous Tiki Bar!
Sandpiper-Beacon Beach Resort. 888-4888-8828.
www.sandpiperbeacon.com

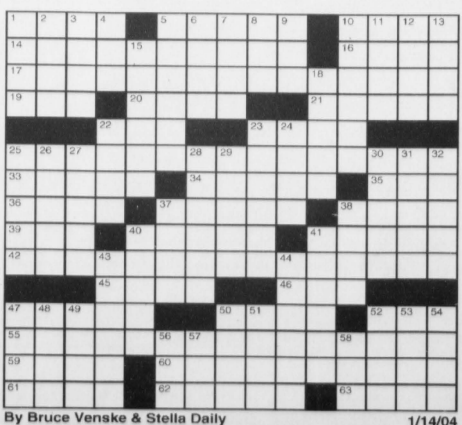
crossword

"The Daily Crossword" *Edited by Wayne Robert Williams – Courtesy of KRT Campus*

ACROSS
1 Goatee site
5 Mrs. Flintstone
10 Escritoire
14 Kitchen tools
16 1997 Peter Fonda role
17 "Star Wars" star to anglers?
19 Tire gauge abbr.
20 Brief boxing decisions
21 Denny's rivals
22 Popular ISP
23 Links grp.
25 Catcher to standard
33 Component parts
34 "Middlemarch" author
35 Adversary
36 Lion's locks
37 Sailor's shout
38 Fossil fuel
39 Tiny portion
40 Nixon's Agnew
41 Drink noisily
42 Panelist to vegetable stems?
45 Big cheese
46 Actor McKellen
47 Sour tasting, formerly
50 California valley
52 Age proofs, for short
55 Actress to orthography contest
59 Comic strip pup
60 Crawling progress
61 "Death in Venice" author
62 Plains dwelling
63 SS Alex Rodriguez

DOWN
1 Cyrillic USSR
2 Golfer Jay
3 Calvary letters
4 Neither partner
5 At seven-day intervals
6 Scuttlebutt
7 Oahu garlands
8 "__ Dalloway"
9 Last of a cigar
10 Duke's location
11 Ticklish Muppet
12 Ooze
13 Griffey and Kesey
15 Climber's spikes
18 "__ Days a Week"
22 Pot sweetener
23 Concord
24 Stirling citizen
25 Extra-large
26 During a broadcast
27 Pointers
28 Flocks of females
29 Satellite of Jupiter
30 Run __ of the law
31 Author of "John Henry"
32 Seaweeds
37 Police alerts: abbr.
38 Social unit
40 Uppity ones
41 Blemishes
43 Conan or Pat
44 Figure of speech
47 Tiny particle
48 Musical ending
49 "__ Brockovich"
50 Smacking blow
51 Mr. Nastase
52 Support piece
53 Art __
54 Parakeet staple
56 L.A. hrs.
57 WSW opp.
58 Coll. student's letters

Answers to this week's crossword will be published in next week's issue.



By Bruce Venske & Stella Daily
Madison, WI

1/14/04

Happy New Year

With the opportunity for a fresh start, many people make resolutions to better their lives. However, many promises are broken. Is it possible to succeed in keeping a goal for the year?

By Jonathan Divita
Assistant Features Editor
And Susan Neltner
Features Editor
northerner@nku.edu

It's been almost two weeks and some people may have already forgotten their New Year's resolutions. Still more haven't even started, and some just don't even bother to try anymore.

But there are still some who believe the new year is a chance for a new beginning.

Andrew Bacigalupo, a freshman theatre major, has not only one resolution, which is often difficult enough, but has 10.

"I needed to get things changed with me," Bacigalupo said. "So I made a list and put it on a file on my computer."

Among his resolutions are to lose weight, manage his money, cut back on soft drinks and fast food, he said.

In an article by Dr. Pauline Wallin, she said that it is normal for many Americans feel the urge to rid themselves of the typical excesses of the holidays such as overeating, overspending, and overindulgences in general.

"It's no problem to plan to quit smoking when we've just had a cigarette and replenished our nicotine level," Wallin said. "At this point we feel confident about our New Year's resolutions because we have not yet confronted any prolonged physical deprivation or discomfort."

Americans are not the first people in history to make goals for the new year. According to the History Television website, the holiday and the resolutions began 4,000 years ago with the Babylonians.

They believed what they did on New Year's Day would affect the rest of the year," the web site said. "They also made New Year's resolutions, most commonly to return borrowed farm equipment."

The site added that the symbol of New Year's, the baby, signifies rebirth. Bacigalupo said his New Year's resolutions were all about change and that he plans to stick to them, even though many people give up by mid-February.

He said he plans on focusing not on the here and now, but on the future. "It'll be a year-long thing, and making sure I keep things throughout the year," he said.

He began focusing on his new year's resolution last semester.

"I started making a list to see the different things I wanted to work on," Bacigalupo said. "Every time I thought of different things (I) would add it to the list so that I would have it ready."

That list now includes things like reading more books, finding a job, focusing on school, not stressing the small stuff, working on getting things done, and learning to play the piano.

Joe Jones, a non-degree seeking student, agreed with Bacigalupo, saying that he would also be taking up new activities.

"I'm not necessarily giving up or quitting something, that never works," says Jones.

Jones says his main goal is to get accepted at Chase Law School this semester.

"My resolutions would be to do something that gets me accepted," he said. "And my fiancée and I are looking for a house, so that's another goal too."

Jones understands that it is often hard to keep resolutions requiring someone to give up something. There is often too much pressure that forces someone into old habits, he said.

"Some people set unreasonable goals that they never attempt," Jones said, "or just give up from the start."

Knowing that old habits die hard, experts offer several suggestions to help keep resolutions.

According ABC News' web site, support from others is a key to success. Other people provide encouragement for one's actions, and it is this help that keeps people from falling back into old patterns.

"This is good for me," Bacigalupo said. "If I don't keep focus then people will yell at me and tell me what to do."

How to keep your resolutions

• **Evaluate your reasons for changing:** If the only reason is temporary discomfort, then you're better off not setting any goals. Be realistic and accept the responsibility that your change requires.

• **Keep your goals realistic:** Gradual, small changes increase the chances of success.

• **Focus on behavior modification instead of the end result:** Instead of focusing on not having a cigarette, try to focus on not wanting a cigarette.

• **Make time:** If your goal is to lose weight and exercise, you have to make the time to do exactly that. Otherwise, the resolution will be useless and unattainable.

• **Create a routine that will not force you to compromise your resolutions:** If your goal is two hours of studying each night, don't plan your study time during your favorite shows.

• **Evaluate your goal week by week:** Each week look to see how you did in maintaining your resolution. By looking at what you did wrong, and what you did right you will be able to set a plan for the following week.

• **Find support:** Family and friends are the best people to keep you on your toes, so when they correct your for going against your resolution don't get angry. Be happy to know you have people around to encourage you goal.

• **Look to the positives for further inspiration:** When one thing in your life is going well, such as getting better grades, you will see improvement in other areas as well. For example, because you are now studying more, your concentration level will improve.

• **Allow room for imperfection:** No one is perfect; so put yourself down if one day you slip up on your goal. There's always tomorrow. Besides if you don't give into temptation every now and then, you are less likely to hold on to your goal.

• **Now is the time:** Don't keep putting your resolution off until tomorrow, by then it will be 2005, and the neverending cycle of trying to keep a resolution will just begin all over again.

*Source: Mental Health Resources and ABC News.

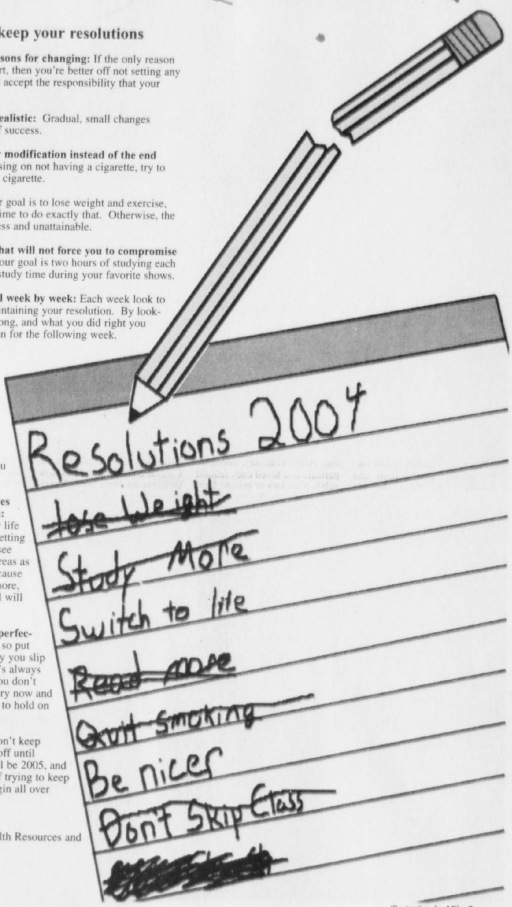


Illustration by Mike Brennan

Back to school with memories to sustain us

Tea Time

with Susan

Do you have an interesting story to tell? You can email them to Susan Neltner the Features Editor for The Northerner. Susan's email is nku_features@yahoo.com

I am sorry to inform everyone, but school has officially started. I know, it's hard to admit and to come to terms with the fact that the break we had, short as it was, is now over.

Where did the time go? For me, it was spent with family for the first few days, then the holidays, which in itself is an exhausting event. Then, the day after Christmas, it was a whirlwind trip to Paris.

Have no fear; I didn't meet any terrorists or hijackers on the flight to Paris or on the way home. I went with my mom and my sister and for the most part it was an uneventful trip.

I've spoken French for about eight years, and this time to Paris would make it my fourth trip.

I bet you're wondering why I like to go over there so much, especially at a time when many Americans and French don't like each other.

We have a friend who lives in Paris who just had baby, and it's cheaper to fly in the winter.

But those aren't the only reasons. I must confess that I actually like the French. I'm sure some of you are thinking I should burn in hell, but honestly, the people are always pleasant to me when I visit. I have none of those horror stories about people being rude. I always have fun, and I can't wait to go back.

The only thing about the trip that I never like is the flight. It always feels like it takes forever. Sitting in a chair without any room to maneuver is not exactly what I would call a fun time, but my word of advice if you ever decide to travel is just to take something to help you sleep. I've never done it but this time I did, and I was grateful.

Trust me, you don't want to end up like my sister.

She couldn't sleep the whole flight over, and sitting in a plane with everyone else is sleeping and your mom is gently snoring is not a pleasurable experience. She made a point to inform us of how insanely jealous she was that we actually got sleep and she didn't.

What did we do once we got off the plane? After I lit up a cigarette, we got our luggage and chilled with my friend for the whole week.

After that, I have to say the most unfortunate thing is that we missed out on all the bars. I'm sure my mom would love to see me in my element. We spent the rest of the time eating, drinking wine, smoking cigarettes and visiting a museum here and there.

I did see the Eiffel Tower in its splendor, lit up with festive lights to celebrate the holiday season. That was nice.

So as I buy my notebooks, books, and pens, and try to keep my New Year's resolution (knocking off all those pounds), the one thing that will get me through this semester is thinking about my trip.

I hope your break went just as well, and if things start to get rough this semester think about the good times you have when you're not in school.

I have a feeling that you'll be fine and you'll persevere throughout the year.

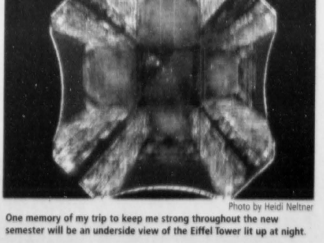


Photo by Heidi Neltner

One memory of my trip to keep me strong throughout the new semester will be an underside view of the Eiffel Tower lit up at night.

campuscalendar

To place an event : contact Amie Vogt at 859-572-5859

wednesday

• Student Weight Watchers begins at 5 p.m. in UC 116 and is held every Wednesday.

thursday

• Norse Visitation Day, a recruitment event for high school students, begins in the Steely Library Welcome Center at 12:45-3 p.m. Reservations are required and can be made with Maribeth Carskadon at 572-1400

• The Grace Lee Boggs Lecture is cancelled today.

• The Opening Reception for the FS04 faculty exhibit will be in the Fine Arts Building 324 from 5-8 p.m. The exhibition runs through Feb. 6 from 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

• The Martin Luther King, Jr. Speaker Juanita Nelson is speaking from 12:15-1:30 p.m. in the Budig Theater.

• APB's Homegrown Talent Auditions are in the Budig Theater from 2-4 p.m. Sign ups are required in the Office of Student Life.

friday

• The Kentucky Symphony Orchestra Concert will be held in Greaves Hall at 8 p.m.

• Community and Government Speaker Series by U.S Congressman Ken Lucas from 12-1 p.m. in UC 11.

• APB's Homegrown Talent Auditions will be in the Budig Theater from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Sign ups for the audition days are required before the audition days in the Office of Student Life.

saturday

• Norse Visitation Day is a recruitment event for high school students and will begin in the Steely Library Welcome Center at 9:45 a.m.-12 p.m. Reservations are required and can be made with Maribeth Carskadon at 572-1400.

• Last day to register or enter a course and to withdraw with a 100% tuition adjustment.

• Alpha Phi Alpha's Ms. Black and Gold Pageant will be from 6-10 p.m. in Greaves Hall. The Alpha Phi Alpha Dance will follow the pageant and be in the UC Ballroom.

monday

• Martin Luther King, Jr. Day! No Classes!

• Zeta Phi Beta's Blue and White Week will run until Friday.

tuesday

• Norse Visitation Day is a recruitment event for high school students and will begin in the Steely Library Welcome Center at 12:45-3 p.m. Reservations are required and can be made with Maribeth Carskadon at 572-1400.

• APB's Homegrown Talent Auditions will be in the Budig Theater from 11a.m.-1 p.m. Sign ups for the audition days are required before the audition days in the Office of Student Life.

• A lecture entitled "Police Misconduct in Cincinnati-Has the Collaborative Agreement Made a Difference?" will be held in the Budig Theater at 7 p.m. All are invited.

Speaker to talk civil rights

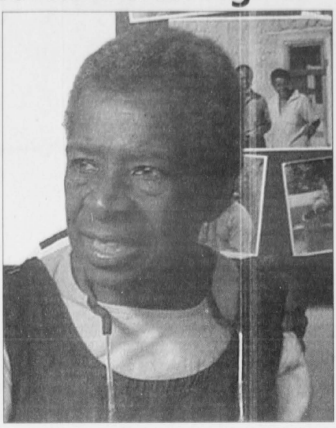


Photo Contributed

Juanita Nelson will bring her message of non-violence to NKU students.

With the semester just beginning, we have yet another holiday to honor before we commit to hitting the books. Northern Kentucky University, in conjunction with many other businesses, will recognize Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Jan. 19.

In accordance with this holiday, the 2004 Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration will be held on Thursday, Jan. 15 with a lecture by keynote speaker Juanita Nelson. The lecture, "A Way of Life: Non-Violence, Peace and Justice," will be held from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. in the University Center's Budig Theater.

Nelson has been active in civil rights and peace struggles for most of her life. She is a member of a coalition of activists that challenged and finally dismantled segregation at Cincinnati's Coney Island Amusement Park in the 1950s.

Nelson was chosen to speak because "she offers an alternative interpretation of the concept of non-violence," said Cheryl Nunez, director of affirmative action and multicultural affairs at NKU.

Dr. King applied this ideal to mean "complete dedication to the eradication of physical violence as well as the structural violence of economic injustice and oppression of all kinds, a radical restructuring of society as we know," Nunez said.

Nelson's stance is that we cannot wait for such non-violent transformation to take place. We must be willing to live a non-violent life, Nunez said.

"Multiculturalism is a core value of the university and it is my job to ensure that our educational environment is enriched by scholars, activist and practitioners and ideas that advance that value," Nunez said regarding her involvement with the lecture.

Nunez is working to conduct this annual lecture with the support of the African-American Studies Program, the Women's Studies Program, Feminists At Northern (F.A.N.), and Students Together Against Racism (S.T.A.R.). This event is free and open to the public, and there will be a 15-minute question and answer session at the end of the lecture.

GRAMMY PREVIEW

Nominations reflect music trends

By Jonathan Divita
Assistant Features Editor
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The 46th annual Grammy awards ceremony will take place on February 8 in Los Angeles.

This year's nominees reflect many new trends in the music industry, specifically the domination of mainstream music by rap and hip-hop, and rock's great rebirth this year.

Leading the pack of Grammy hopefuls are Beyonce, Jay-Z, Outkast, and rapper/producer Pharrell Williams, with six nominations each.

In the **Album of the Year** category, the nominees are "Elephant" by The White Stripes, "Justified" by Justin Timberlake, "Speakerboxxx/The Love Below" by Outkast, "Fallen" by Evanescence, and "Under Construction" by Missy Elliot. In my opinion, the top two nominees in this category are The White Stripes and Outkast.

Both albums are groundbreaking in terms of both creativity and popularity. Though Jack and Meg's gritty, raw opus is a testament to rock and roll's power, Outkast's artistic audacity should be enough to secure their win. Couple the slick production values with the duo's unique creativity and you've got a winning combination.

For **Record of the Year**, the nominees are "Crazy In Love" (Beyonce, featuring Jay-Z), "Where Is the Love" (Black Eyed Peas and Justin Timberlake), "Clocks" (Coldplay), "Lose Yourself" (Eminem), and "Hey Ya" (Outkast).

If they awarded this category to the song that has been played most this year, it would probably go to Eminem. But, it doesn't work that way. The hauntingly melodic Coldplay will probably win this category, even though they do sound a lot like Radiohead.

Switching over to the rap field, the nominees in the brand new **Best Rap Song** category are "Calvin Broadus" (Snoop Dogg), Chad Hugo and Pharrell Williams for "Beautiful," Shawn Carter (Jay-Z), Chad Hugo and Pharrell Williams for "Excuse Me Miss," Mike Elizondo, Curtis Jackson (50 Cent) and Andre Young (Dr. Dre) for "In Da Club," Jeff Bass, Marshall Mathers (Eminem) and Luis Resto for "Lose Yourself," and Missy Elliott and Tim Mosley for "Work It." Missy Elliott's "Work It" should, however, win an award for most backwards lyrics.

Image courtesy of grammy.com

The 46th Annual Grammy Awards will be broadcast on CBS Feb. 8

The **Best Rap Album** nominees include albums by Missy Elliott, 50 Cent, Jay-Z, Outkast, and the Roots. Again, in my opinion, it will be toss up between Outkast and the Roots.

In the rock category, the **Best Rock Album** nominees are Audioslave's self-titled debut, Evanescence's "Fallen," the Foo Fighters' "One by One," Matchbox Twenty's "More Than You Think You Are," and Nickelback's "The Long Road."

Notably missing from this category are The White Stripes. How does an album get nominated for Album of the Year and not even get a nod in its own category, especially when Matchbox Twenty does?

In the pop field, Christina Aguilera was nominated for three awards (**Best Female Pop Vocal Performance, Best Pop Collaboration With Vocals, Best Pop Vocal Album** for "Stripped"). She's part of an eclectic mix in the pop category with other artists such as Sting, Mary J. Blige, Tony Bennett, the late George Harrison, and, of course, Justin Timberlake. His album "Justified" is nominated for **Best Pop Vocal Album** and "Cry Me A River" is up for **Best Pop Male Vocal Performance**.

Among some more interesting nominees are Bill and Hillary Clinton.

Former president Clinton is nominated in the **Best Spoken Word Album For Children** category for his work on Prokofiev: "Peter And The Wolf/Beintus: Wolf Tracks", a symphonic fairy tale featuring Mikhail Gorbachev and Sophia Loren.

And Hillary's "Living History" is nominated for **Best Spoken Word Album**.

The awards ceremony will be broadcast live from the Staples Center on CBS at 8 p.m.

MOVIE REVIEW

Drama, visuals aid in the telling of 'King'

Photo courtesy of movies.com

Aragorn (Viggo Mortensen) rides to battle in the Ring's final chapter.

By Jonathan Divita
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Fantasy and action fans rejoice – the final chapter of the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, set in the fabled land of Middle-earth, has been brought to life on the big screen once again for a dramatic conclusion.

Director Peter Jackson and his amazing crew have created a formula for fantasy not seen in 20 years, since the last great trilogy of the silver screen, "Star Wars" (the original three being the great ones – not so much the new films).

After the opening segment demonstrating the ring's frightening power over Smeagol and his transformation into the creature Gollum (Andy Serkis), we join the action, already in progress from the previous film.

The original fellowship is still separated. Frodo (Elijah Wood), Sam (Sean Astin), and Gollum have ventured farther into the evil land of Mordor in attempt to destroy the ring that is quickly driving them to madness.

While Frodo is on his quest to destroy the ring, Aragorn (Viggo Mortensen), Legolas (Orlando Bloom), Gimli (John Rhys-Davies) and Gandalf (Ian McKellan) begin the ultimate battle for Middle-earth against hordes of Sauron's evil minions.

The movie is filled with New Zealand's amazing scenery, enhanced by some ingenious technology.

One of the most stunning visual moments comes when numerous beacons are lit atop snow-capped mountains hundreds of miles apart.

The city of Minas Tirith is a shining oasis of white towers and spiraling staircases, and a testament to the powerful role of computer generated imagery in movie production.

Digital effects also help create spectacular battle sequences during the clash between the massive armies of good and evil.

The first time the camera pans over the hill to reveal Sauron's full regiment, there is indeed a great sense of shock and awe for both the characters and the audience.

But, for all the amazing visual elements, the storytelling that made Tolkein's creation so popular seems a little lacking at times.

The movie far too often focuses on only two stories – Frodo's quest to destroy the ring and Aragorn's realization he was meant to be king – neglecting all other characters and plots.

In fact, the two characters of Legolas and Gimli are reduced to nothing more than comic relief and only chime in when the script calls for a droll one-liner.

Most dramatic scences are created through the use of sappy emotional sequences instead of the compelling story a person would expect.

By the end of the movie, especially the last 30 minutes, I just wanted the film to end so I could stretch my legs and empty my bladder.

Still, Peter Jackson and his crew have created something special for this time. There are few with this imagination and creativity.

Although the final film was not as solid as hoped, all three films together form something truly amazing, and there will still be Ring fanatics packing all-night sh[illegible]gs in 20 years.

ae briefs

• Former Beatle George Harrison's estate is suing his former doctor for $10 million and the return of an autographed guitar. The suit contends that the doctor forced Harrison to sign a guitar against his will in the last few days of his life.

• Britney Spear's hometown is not too happy with her joke marriage to friend Jason Alexander. The town claims that the negative publicity is hurting them all and, more importantly, that Ms. Spears hasn't shared her wealth with them.

• Michael Jackson is no longer living at Neverland Ranch. Since being released from jail, Jackson has been living in a $100,000 a month penthouse overlooking Beverly Hills. "It's a house now," Jackson said of his ranch. "It's not a home anymore."

• Tim Burton's "Big Fish" toppled "Return of the King" at the box office this week, according to estimates. Burton's "Big Fish" took in $14.5 million on the opening weekend, to finally oust the trilogy's conclusion from the top spot.

• Former Minnesota governor and professional wrestler Jesse "The Body" Ventura has been appointed to Harvard's Institute of Politics as a visiting fellow. No word yet as to whether or not he'll be wearing tights and a feather boa.

• Jim Carrey has been named the top money-making star of 2003 in a poll of motion picture exhibitors. Nicole Kidman was second and Jack Nicholson came in third place. The survey also named Ashton Kutcher and Scarlett Johansson as "Stars of Tomorrow."

- courtesy of the Associated Press

MOVIE REVIEW

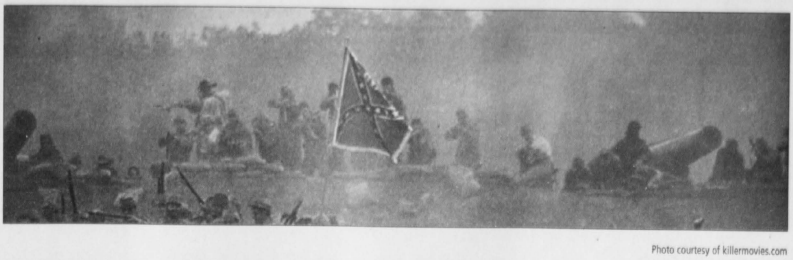

Photo courtesy of killermovies.com

Director Anthony Minghella's 'Cold Mountain' starring Nicole Kidman and Jude Law shows the audience how one town and the people who live in it are affected by the Civil War.

'Mountain' realistic look at war

BY AMANDA VANBENSCHOTEN
Editor in Chief
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Anthony Minghella's "Cold Mountain" is a timely exploration of war's effects upon the lives of ordinary people. In a time where the media saturates us with images of faraway war that most of us cannot relate to, Minghella reminds us that war also tears apart lives, families and communities.

His message, though sobering, is also uplifting, as we see how the effects of the Civil War make the characters stronger, for better or worse.

Based upon Charles Frazier's 1997 novel "Cold Mountain," the film tells the tale of how the war changes members of a small North Carolina town.

Inman (Jude Law) is a shy country boy who leaves town and joins the war for reasons that aren't clear even to him. He, like the other young men in the town, gets swept up in a "We'll show the Yankees who's boss" attitude, but quickly realizes that war is not a boys' game when he sees his friends killed and wounded in the gruesome battle of Petersburg in Virginia.

We see his journey as he deserts the Confederate Army to rejoin his love, Ada (Nicole Kidman). Inman battles external forces to return home, and, emotionally scarred by the brutality of war, fights internal forces to regain some part of the man he once was.

Ada and Inman's relationship is based upon a few brief meetings before he leaves for the war and a series of emotional letters between the two, where Ada communicates her love for him.

It is one of these letters, in which Ada implores Inman to come back to her, which causes him to desert the Army and begin the perilous journey back to her.

Ada remains behind in the town of Cold Mountain, left alone after Inman's departure and the death of her father. She struggles against losing her home, starving to death, and fending off the Confederate Home Guard who, in addition to hunting down and shooting deserters, seek to steal Ada's farm.

Her journey is internal, as she evolves from an innocent city girl to destitute and alone with little hope of survival. We then see her progression from complete despair to a gradual acceptance of the changes in her life and her evolution into a strong woman.

She is aided by Ruby (Renee Zellweger), a self-sufficient mountain woman who helps Ada rebuild her farm and learn to survive without the support of a man.

Ruby takes a journey as well, as Ada teaches her the meaning of love and friendship and helps her shed her tough, protective shell.

The movie focuses upon the brief sweetness of a first love that sustains both Inman and Ada throughout the war, as well as how the war changes both characters. Inman becomes lost in the horrors he has seen in a war that he doesn't know why he is fighting, and Ada discovers an inner strength she didn't know she possessed.

Zellweger offers the film's most light and humorous moments in her surprisingly comedic and touching portrayal of Ruby.

It is refreshing to see Zellweger in a role where she can display her impressive versatility as both a dramatic and comedic actress.

She truly shines as a character that swears, makes inappropriate innuendoes and rips the heads off chickens.

The supporting cast provides a sturdy foundation for the main characters to build upon, and is, aside from Zellweger, the film's only salvation from its own self-importance.

Among them, Natalie Portman and The White Stripes' Jack White stand out. White gives a solid performance as a deserter and musician who wins Ruby's heart. Portman is heartbreaking as a lonely widow whom Inman befriends, and who he saves from rape and death at the hands of the Confederate Army.

The bad side to the film is that, at two hours and 35 minutes long, it seems to drag on longer than necessary.

It is also melodramatic at times, overemphasizing the grandeur of the Romanian scenery as well as Ada's pain of being separated from Inman.

Despite solid performances, it is also difficult for Kidman and Law to make believable a love that is based upon a handful of meetings and a series of letters.

It is easy, however, for viewers to get lost in this poignant story of how quickly and profoundly war can change lives.

The film is a much-needed reminder that war is more than a brief series of images on television in our daily lives.

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norsesports

Section Editors
Kyle Burch and Dominick Wise
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Sports Scene

with Kyle

Rose admits to bets

Every sports team has that one player in its history that is sort of the identity of that franchise. One player who everyone recognizes as being a part of that team's history. Someone who is known nationally, but revered locally. For the Chicago Bulls it's Michael Jordan, for the Baltimore Orioles it's Cal Ripken Jr., for the Dallas Cowboys it's Roger Staubach. For the Cincinnati Reds, this player is Pete Rose.

Pete Rose is synonomous with the city of Cincinnati. He is the ultimate story of a hometown boy gaining national acclaim while playing for his hometown team. His name and number (14) have been sacred in Cincinnati since he first stepped into the major leagues in 1963. In 1989, while managing the Reds, Rose was accused of committing one of the cardinal sins for baseball players and managers: betting on baseball.

The eventual investigation revealed strong evidence against Rose and, although he vehemently denied ever betting on baseball, Rose was banned for life from any dealings with Major League Baseball. The ban meant no more managing, no chance of ever having his number retired by the Reds, and, worst of all, no chance whatsoever of getting inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

While this conviction might have tarnished Rose's image throughout the baseball world, in Cincinnati the fans stood by his side. After all, he made believable denials. The city wasn't going to turn its back on their hometown star.

Last week, after 14 years of stubborn denial, Rose finally acknowledged his wrongdoing and admitted to the world that he did indeed bet on baseball while managing the Cincinnati Reds.

"It's time to clean the slate. It's time to take responsibility," Rose said in a Thursday interview with ABC. "I'm 14 years late."

I have to ask the question, what took so long for you to want to take responsibility?

Rose refused to admit to betting allegations for 14 years, and suddenly he is ready to "take responsibility" and better his image. Those 14 years of lies only made Rose's reputation in Cincinnati grow larger and spread more rapidly. He became almost a cult hero for the entire tristate region.

With this admission, Rose did nothing to better his reputation in this area. He only proved to Reds fans that he is a liar.

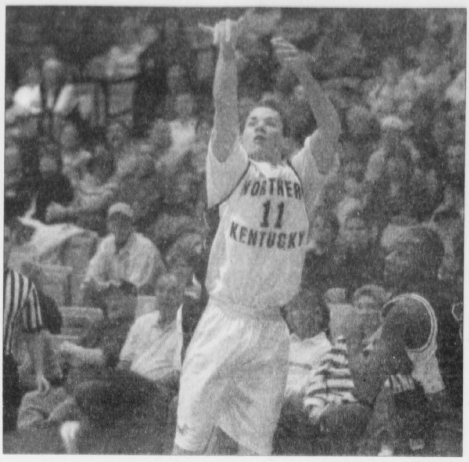
Although he says he never bet against the Reds while he was manager, how can we believe him now? Does he expect fans to trust his word after we believed his lies for 14 years?

I will always idolize Pete Rose the player. I will never idolize Pete Rose the person. His style of play, determination, and hard work will and should be seen as the quintessential way to succeed in achieving your dreams. His lifestyle of gambling, lying and deceit should be looked at as the quintessential way of ruining a highly regarded reputation. Pete deserves a place in the Hall of Fame, but he shouldn't be given any other opportunities in Major League Baseball.

He has put the ball in Commisioner Bud Selig's court now, and there should be a ruling in the near future. Hopefully, Selig can make a decision that is fair to baseball without ruining the integrity of the game.

Kyle Burch is the Sports Editor for The Northerner. You can e-mail Kyle at kjbnku@yahoo.com

Men Knock Off Number One USI



Tim Downer/Assistant Photo Editor

Senior Mike Kelsey scored 24 points Jan. 10 against the number one ranked Southern Indiana Eagles.

Kelsey scores 24 as Norse upset Eagles

By Kyle Burch
Sports Editor
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After losing two straight games by a combined four points at home to your toughest conference competition, most teams would be discouraged, tired and looking for excuses. But don't cast the NKU men's team into that group.

After suffering back-to-back heartbreaking losses at home to Indianapolis and Kentucky Wesleyan, NKU had a showdown Saturday with the number one ranked team in the nation – Southern Indiana. Instead of being frustrated and discouraged by their previous losses, the Norse knocked off the nation's number one team 81-80.

"This was a must win game for us," said point guard Sean Rowland. "We are going to be fighting to get into the NCAA tournament, and this was a big win for us towards that."

NKU trailed 77-73 with 4:43 remaining in the game, when the Norse went on a 7-0 run, sparked by a Rowland jumper, and a Mike Kelsey lay-up, giving NKU an 80-77 lead. Jon Oden ended the USI scoreless drought with a lay-up in the lane, cutting the lead to 80-79 with 34 seconds remaining. However the Norse were called with a five-second violation while in-bounding the ball, and Southern Indiana regained possession.

USI was unable to capitalize on the NKU mistake, as Joe Gordon missed a short jumper and Rowland was fouled after grabbing the rebound.

Rowland converted one of two free throw attempts stretching the lead to 81-79 and on USI's ensuing possession Oden

Tim Downer/Assistant Photo Editor

Sean Rowland ran the offense and finished with eight assists.

was fouled while attempting a shot in the lane with 2.6 seconds remaining in the game. However, Oden, who led the Eagles with a game-high 31 points, made his first free throw and missed his second giving NKU the upset victory.

"At the beginning of the season we weren't even supposed to be able to play with any of these three teams," said Head Coach Ken Shields. "I'm just very, very happy with the way this team has been playing and we will get better with every game we play."

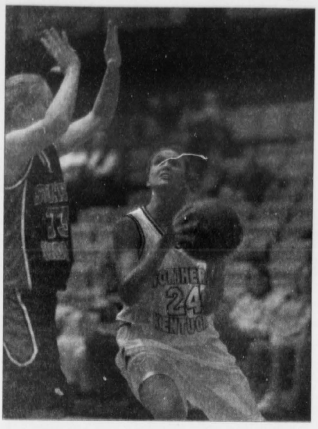
The Norse, who shot 56 percent from the field, were led by Kelsey who scored 24 points and had five assists. Senior Jesse Rupe scored 14 points and Steve Purdon came off the bench to score 11 points in the win. Rowland finished with seven points and eight assists.

"Purdon was hot off the bench for us today," said Shields, "and we decided at half-time to shorten the substitution rotation in the second half, in order to match-up successfully with [Southern Indiana]."

Besides 31 points from Oden, the Eagles also got double-digit scoring from Chris Brunson, but they couldn't recover from shooting just 44 percent from the field.

"This is the finest collection of young men," said Shields. "It really is a great group of guys from one end of the bench to the other."

Lady Norse come up big in GLVC play



Tim Downer/Assistant Photo Editor

Karyn Creager came off the bench to score 16 points and help the Lady Norse beat Southern Indiana. The win ups their record to 10-2.

Myers scores 22 points and leads women to third consecutive conference victory

By Kyle Burch
Sports Editor
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The NKU women's basketball team capped off an impressive three-game stretch by defeating Southern Indiana Saturday, 83-74. It was the seventh straight win for the Norse and the third consecutive conference victory, after defeating Indianapolis and Kentucky Wesleyan earlier in the week.

What makes the streak even more impressive is that they have had to do it all without their leading scorer, Sharell Snardon, who has been with family due to the death of her stepfather.

"We've gotten solid play from Karmen Graham while Sharell's been away," Head Coach Nancy Winstel said, "and it should just continue to improve as she becomes more comfortable in that role."

> *"We aren't real flashy, but what we are able to do, we do very well"*
> -Head Coach Nancy Winstel

Connie Myers took over the offensive void left by Snardon, tallying a double-double with 22 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Norse. Karyn Creager came off the bench to score 16 points, shooting 11 of 12 from the free-throw line.

The win raises NKU's record to 10-3 this season, and should better their national ranking, which is at number 22 in the latest NCAA Division II poll.

"We are getting better every time we go out on the court," Winstel said. "We aren't real flashy, but what we are able to do, we do very well. Everyone continues to contribute."

The Norse were able to establish their inside presence early and continued to dominate throughout the game, outrebounding the Eagles, 41-29. They also held off any chance of a comeback attempt in the second half by going 23 of 29 from the free-throw line.

"We hit some very big free throws down the stretch, were able to do a great job on the boards and played with a very high intensity," Winstel said.

Nikki Perkins finished with 15 points for NKU.

Freshman Graham continued to have a positive impact, totaling nine points and grabbing eight rebounds.

USI, who had four players in double-figures, got 22 points from Jaime Truitt and 16 points from Shannon Wells.

"Our conference is so tough, that we really have to win these games at home," Winstel said. "As long as our young kids continue to get key minutes and everyone plays very hard we should be alright."

Both men's and women's teams will face their first conference road tests of the season as they travel to take on Quincy on Thursday before going to face Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville on Saturday.

Men's program reaches historical marks

Shields records 300th career victory; Kelsey breaks scoring mark, achieves 50 points against Indy

By Kyle Burch
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During the winter break the Northern Kentucky University men's basketball program participated in two events that will leave a mark on the school record books for a long time.

The first happened Dec. 30, when Head Coach Ken Shields, in his sixteenth and final season at NKU, recorded his 300th career victory. The mark came as the Norse defeated Mt. St. Joseph's College with 82-67.

"It was very nice to get the win at home," Shields said. "I never thought about reaching this mark, it kind of just happened."

Shields has been involved in coaching for nearly 30 years, and has won a combined 760 games between the high school and college ranks.

"I have had a lot of great players and assistant coaches," he said, "and they deserve a lot of the credit for helping me to win this many games."

After reaching milestone victories of 200 and 250 on the road, Shileds was especially pleased to get his 300th win at home. In his previous 15 years at NKU, Shields finished with a losing record just five times, and is currently working on his tenth consecutive winning season.

Mike Kelsey broke the record for scoring the most points in a game at NKU, as he notched 50 points in an overtime loss to the University of Indianapolis in Jan. 2.

Kelsey's point output was nearly matched by David Logan, who had 44 points for Wesleyan in the 95-92 overtime loss.

Kelsey broke the previous mark of 43, set by Greg Phelia in 1992. Kelsey, who scored 39 points in the second half, hit nine three-pointers and was 16 of 25 from the field and nine for nine from the free-throw line.

After Saturday's game Kelsey's career point total is at 972 points, which places him 25th in career points at NKU.

"That was one of the top three or four games I've seen an individual play," Shields said. "I was here when Greg scored 43, and when Derek Fields scored 39. I also was coach at Highlands when Scott Draud scored 69 points in a game, and that was before there was a three-point line."

Tim Downer/Assistant Photo Editor

Kelsey marks his 50 points.

sportscalendar

Men's Basketball

Thursday, Jan. 15
-@ Quincy at 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 17
-@ SIUE at 4 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Thursday, Jan. 15
-@Quincy at 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 17
-@SIUE at 1 p.m.

hotseat

with John Rasp

In my first ever Hot Seat interview, I decided to interview women's basketball senior starter Jessica Brock.

Brock is one of NKU's most versatile basketball players.

She transferred to NKU her sophomore year from Indiana-Purdue, Ft. Wayne.

John Rasp: Why did you transfer from IPFW?
Jessica Brock: I didn't like the coach. He was young and a hot-head basically.

JR: What was the most exciting game you've ever played in?
JB: Probably the national championship game. Even though we lost by 15, it was great being there. It was probably my most memorable moment because most people can't say they've been there.

JR: What is the toughest gym you have to play in?
JB: Probably Indianapolis because it so open. We're not used to playing in a gym that open.

JR: What was the best game you ever had?
JB: Probably at Lewis this year. Even though we lost, I had 18 points and a lot of rebounds.

JR: What team left on the schedule do you most want to beat?
JB: Probably Bellarmine at home. I don't think I've ever beaten them at home since I've been here.

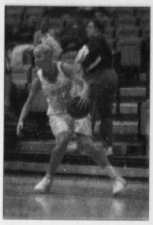
JR: Toughest player you had to guard in practice?
JB: Probably Michelle Cottrell.

JR: Have you ever had a technical foul called against you?
JB: No. I came close though in high school. I had the ball and a girl wouldn't get off me, so I swung around and didn't mean to hit her, but I got her right in the nose. It was kind of a frustration foul.

JR: If you weren't playing basketball, what sport would you be playing?
JB: Probably volleyball. We went to the state finals in volleyball at my high school.

JR: In a one-on-one game between you and assistant coach Brian Neal, who wins?
JB: Me, because I would push him around too much. He's a complainer. (laughs) I'd make him cry.

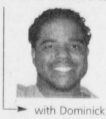
JR: What's the maddest you've ever seen Coach Winstel in a game?
JB: Probably last year at the conference tournament in Evansville. She was so mad at the Quincy game. She came into the locker room with her hands out. She took a jug of water and tossed it. I could have cried right there. I thought for sure she was coming after me, but I didn't know what I did.



Tim Downer/Assistant Photo Editor
Brock in action on the court.

Pats, Eagles look for Super Bowl matchup

Football Picks



with Dominick Wise

Championship: Indianapolis Colts at the New England Patriots, 3:00 p.m.

Could this game come down to another goal-line stand? We will see this Sunday afternoon.

On Nov. 30 the Patriots dominated the Colts in a 38-34 win, but Peyton Manning rallied the Colts from a 21 points deficit. The Patriots led at half-time 31-10. With 14 seconds to play, Manning led the Colts down to the Patriots' one-yard line. On fourth and goal, instead of calling one of his famous audibles, Manning decided to hand the ball off to Edgerrin James, who was stopped short by Willie McGinest (last week's playoff defensive player of the week).

Manning and the Colts offense are hot this postseason. They are so hot that they haven't had to punt in their two games. So far, Manning has completed 44 of 56 passes for 681 yards and eight touchdowns. In last week's playoff game against the Chiefs, Manning torched the Chiefs' secondary for 304 yards passing and Edgerrin ran all over the Chiefs for 125 yards.

On the other hand, the Patriots are just as hot as the Colts right now. The Patriots have won 13 games in a row and have improved their home record to 9-0. They beat the Titans last week 17-14 in one of the coldest games ever to be played. The temperature was two degrees with a wind chill of negative 11, but don't tell that to the Patriots. They're used to winning in frigid temperatures at Foxboro.

The biggest question this week is: how can you stop Manning? I think the Patriots can do it. There defense is one of the best and so is their secondary – just ask Steve McNair. Bill Belichick will have a defensive scheme ready to stop Manning. This will be game of field position. It will be somewhat high scoring. Manning is on fire and so are the Pats.

Which team will cool down? I think neither will, but I'd like Belichick and the Pats defense to come up with a last-minute turnover and prevail. I know Manning will get in his 300 yards passing, but I think Edgerrin James will struggle with running the ball. The Colts need all three of their big play threats to produce in this game.

Prediction:
Patriots 24 Colts 21

NFC Championship: Carolina Panthers at the Philadelphia Eagles, 6:45 p.m.

This game is a rematch of a week 13 meeting wherein the Eagles won 25-16. The Panthers should have won that game, but their usually reliable kicker missed three field goals. Will this be the game in which John Kasay finds his redemption? We will see this Sunday evening.

The biggest question in this game is will Stephen Davis play? If so, how much, or how much will his injured quadriceps take a toll on his performance? Another question surrounding this game is will the Eagles star cornerback, Troy Vincent, be able to play or will his hip injury cost him to sit out another game? Both teams need these two players to play.

Stephen Davis is 80 percent of the Panthers offense. The Panthers love to run the ball and control the time of possession. Their offense might not feature a lot of superstar players and may be boring to many, but it gets the job done (just as the Cowboys and the Rams). The Eagles better hope they get Vincent back, because his replacement, Sheldon Brown, got torched by Brett Favre and Robert Ferguson. If Vincent can't go, you better believe the Panther's coach, John Fox, will concoct ways to get their star playmaker Steve Smith on him. If that happens in this game, it might be a long day for the Eagles.

You can never count out the legs of Donovan McNabb and the Eagles. He rushed for more than 100 yards against the Packers last Sunday. If the Panthers want to win this game, they better have someone spying McNabb. The key to victory for the Panthers is to run and pound Stephen Davis between the tackles and utilize Steve Smith in the passing game.

The Eagles weakness on defense is stopping the run, so look for Davis or his backup, Deshaun Foster, to carry the ball 25 to 30 times. Jake Delhomme needs to play a mistake free game to win, because he almost caused the Panthers a loss last week in St. Louis. I think the Eagles will be ready for this game, simply because this is their third year in a row in the NFC championship. I don't see them losing a third one. I think their experience in the big game will lead them to victory along with the legs of Donovan McNabb.

This game will also be a game of field position. I think Eagles Kicker David Akers will be the hero for the second week in a row.

Prediction:
Eagles 20 Panthers 17

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Stretch /Strengthen	M/W @ 5:30pm and Sat. @ 10:30am
Kickboxing	M/W @ 6:00pm and Sat @ 11:00am
Step Aerobics	T/R @ 6:30pm
Shallow Water	M/W @ 5:30pm
Deep Water	T/R @ 5:30pm
Beginning Yoga	M/W @ 12:00pm and T@ 5:00pm
Beginning Fitness	T/R @ 4:45pm

Classes begin the week of January 12 and are held in the Campus Recreation Center. For more information call (859)572-5197

5 on 5 Basketball League
Campus Recreation Center (CRC)
(1st floor of the Albright Health Center)

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Play Begins: Sunday, January 25

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