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Proposed constitution challenged

By C.J. FRYER

News Editor

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Student Government Association Sen. Michael Tobergta submitted a petition to the dean of students office Jan. 25, asking SGA to repeal the proposed amendments to its

constitution that were passed in the Jan. 19 student referendum in a 93-35 vote.

His petition, signed by 200 Northern Kentucky University students, cited the document's content and the manner of its referendum as cause for its repeal. The new constitution is scheduled to go before the Board of Regents for final

approval at its Jan. 26 meeting.

"I want to see where the Board of Regents stands," Tobergta said. "I want to see if they're going to actually put students first."

Tobergta, who served on the committee that drafted the new constitution, said he wants the board to send the document back to SGA to resolve the

matter.

"The board is going to make their decision tomorrow anyway because there was a referendum," said SGA President Andy Hixson, who serves on the board as the student regent.

"The students passed it."

In an e-mail sent to SGA senators and advisers the night of Jan. 25, Hixson said he will

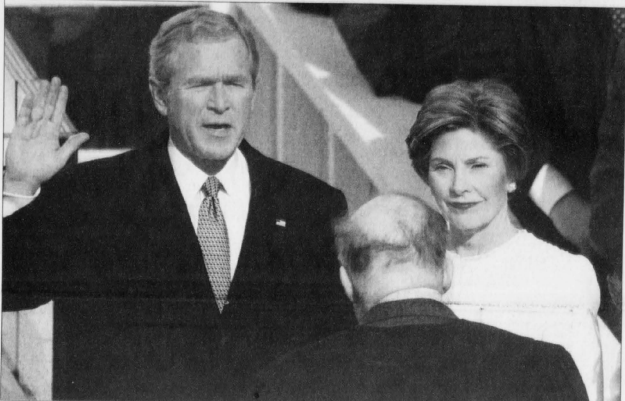
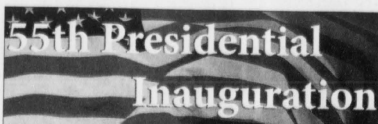
proceed forward with the constitution that was passed by the student body and take it before the Board of Regents.

At the Jan. 24 SGA meeting, Tobergta told the student senate that the proposed constitution it passed Nov. 29 was not the same document that appeared online for the student referendum. The petition states that

neither version would be valid, as neither was approved by both SGA and the student body.

Dean of Students Kent Kelso, who serves as SGA's adviser, acknowledged that the document voted on by the student senate and the one that was posted on its Web site were different.

See CONSTITUTION, page 3



Top: Protesters face police during the presidential inauguration. Bottom: U.S. President George W. Bush takes the Oath of Office from Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist Jan. 20, as First Lady Laura Bush looks on with daughters Barbara and Jenna.

Group visits Washington

Students travel to the capitol for 55th presidential inauguration

By JOSH BLAIR

Arts & Entertainment Editor
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About 25 students experienced a first-hand political science lesson when they traveled to President George W. Bush's inauguration in Washington, D.C., Jan. 20.

Joe Mayer, executive vice president of the NKU College Republicans, helped organize the three-day trip.

Mayer said the majority of students that went are members of the College Republicans.

It was a natural step after the election, Mayer said. "We had a lot of our members in the College Republicans working hard on campaigns."

"I thought that would be a good chance for a lot of members in the College Republicans to see something like this; it's very rare. It's something special."

James Binney, a political science professor and advisor to the NKU College Republicans, accompanied the group to the inauguration.

Binney said the trip was a good learning experience for the students.

"It's a first-hand witness of democracy in action," Binney said. "The peaceful transition of power. Something that a lot of other countries have a great

deal of difficulty doing."

Binney said there were some protesters at the event, which was also something the students could learn from.

Binney said he and the students talked about how "politics is about consensus and majority rule with minority rights, and not to really take it personally that those people are protesting and to deal with them in a calm fashion."

"It's a first-hand witness of democracy in action."

James Binney, Ph.D.

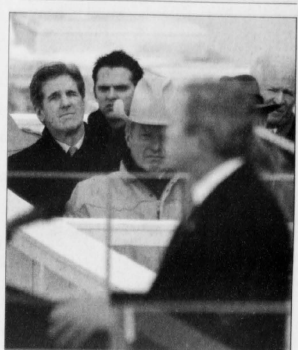
"I thought it was good for a lot of the members in the College Republicans to visibly see the other side of the issues," Mayer said. "I think that was one of the nicest things because

you're not sheltered around just your party's side; you're forced in that situation to really hear out other people, and I think that's one of the greatest things about democracy."

"While you're there in support of your President that you helped get elected, you also had the demonstrators who didn't agree with your side."

Binney said the inauguration was also a good experience for him as a professor.

"We're supposed to do public service as part of our tenure responsibilities," he said. "This kind of event... it is really rewarding. You really get close with kids and kind of bring together schooling and classroom knowledge with real-world events."



KRT Campus

Sen. John Kerry sits on the podium as President George W. Bush gives his inaugural address Jan. 20.

Democrats find themselves on the sidelines

By MICHELLE MITTELSTADT
The Dallas Morning News

WASHINGTON — The 55th presidential inauguration showcased an indisputable fact: The Democrats are ascendant, with four more years in the White House and more majorities in Congress. The Democrats, they're another story.

No one was more emblematic of their reduced fortunes Jan. 20 than Sen. John Kerry, who watched from a prime seat as George W. Bush took the oath for the office he had fought to claim.

Before the ceremony started, the Massachusetts Democrat walked up to the inaugural platform's edge and peered out at the crowd that

stretched from the Capitol grounds to the National Mall. Twice, as his image flashed on the giant screens flanking the stage, the audience boomed loudly.

"There has been a lot of talk over the last four years about uniting Americans. I hope now there will be a real effort to make true bipartisanship a priority," Kerry said in a statement. "I'll be ready to reach across the aisle anytime we can work in good faith to make our country stronger."

Others pledged bipartisan ship. The inaugural "would have been much more exciting if it had been John Kerry as president, because John Kerry was my guy," said Sen. Ken Salazar, D-Colo. "But once the election is held the elec-

See DEMOCRATS, page 3

Steely Library receives congressional papers

By ERIC HUTH

Reporter
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Congressman Ken Lucas, who served on the Board of Regents at Northern Kentucky University, donated his congressional papers to NKU during a ceremony held in the W. Frank Steely Library on Jan. 22.

Lucas retired this year after serving three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he represented Northern Kentucky's 4th Congressional District.

"I have a lot to be humble for," Congressman Lucas said. "Much of the success in politics has to do with timing, and I've

been fortunate to have been in the right place at the right time. I have had a fortunate life. I am thankful for everything."

According to Michael Thomson, chair of the Political Science and Criminal Justice Department, Lucas has a unique perspective being a Democrat in a Republican-controlled Congress while serving under a Republican president.

"NKU is not only Ken's home area, Lucas had a long term relationship with the university. We should be the only place where Ken's papers reside," Thomson said.



Ken Lucas

In recognition of Lucas' 23 years of service as a regent at the university, Lucas had a building named in his honor, the Lucas Administration Center. He is the only regent in NKU history to receive an Honorary Doctor of Laws from the university.

The collection of memos, correspondence and notes will be available to researchers in the Schlachter Family Archives located in Steely Library.

"The library will store, organize, catalog and preserve papers," said Associate Provost for Library Services Arne Almqvist. "The library is work-

ing to build a collection of political papers of northern Kentucky politicians. This will be a resource of growing importance to historians and political scientists, as the collection develops."

Lucas, a Grant County native, introduced a plan to extend the life of Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds while serving in Congress. Lucas also secured \$100,000 for NKU's Urban Learning Center in Covington, an adult education center operated by a partnership of NKU, the Covington Community Center, Thomas More College, Forward Quest for Library Services Arne Almqvist. "Mr. Lucas' papers will be in demand."

Prior to his election to Congress, Lucas served as Boone County Judge-Executive. During this time in office he founded and directed the Tri-county Economic Development Corporation. He also served as the Boone County representative to the Northern Kentucky Area Development District and the Northern Kentucky Drug Strike Force.

"The papers are important because they provide primary documentation of congressional activities, particularly as they relate to the northern Kentucky region during the period that Mr. Lucas was in office," said Almqvist. "Mr. Lucas' papers will be in demand."

INSIDE



Several bands featuring NKU students recently performed at Cincypunk Fest. See page 6.

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campusbriefs

Bailey resigns from SGA executive board

Student Government Association President Andy Hixon announced at the student senate's Jan. 24 meeting that Amanda Bailey had resigned from her position of SGA vice president of academic and student affairs.

Bailey was the only SGA executive member that did not run on Hixon's ticket last year in the spring semester election.

SGA is currently accepting applications for the vacant position. The deadline for receiving applications is Feb. 1.

Hixon and his executive council will then appoint a new vice president of academic and student affairs.

The appointed vice president will have the position for the remainder of the semester.

Outstanding advisers to be recognized

Students are encouraged to nominate their adviser for the Outstanding Academic Adviser Awards to honor their service to Northern Kentucky University. Nominees can be any current, full-time NKU faculty or staff members with at least three years of advising experience, excluding previous winners of this award.

The winners will receive \$1,000. All nominees should be forwarded to the Office of the Vice-Provost, Lucas Administrative Center R34, by March 18. Nomination packets can be found in the Old Science building, room 411.

Registration begins for flag football tournament

Students should begin forming teams for the Norse Bowl Feb. 12. This Homecoming Flag Football Tournament is a single-elimination tournament with teams competing for the title of "Norse Bowl Champion."

The winning team will have their team name engraved on the Norse Bowl trophy. Entry deadline is Feb. 8 at the Campus Recreation Center.

For more information, contact Jill Kleiser at (859) 572-5728.

The following reports were filed with the Northern Kentucky University Police Department between Jan. 18 and 24.

Tuesday, Jan. 18

9:20 a.m. Two-vehicle non-injury accident reported on Kenton Drive. Both vehicles remained in service.

12:08 p.m. Single vehicle non-injury accident reported at the Fine Arts Circle. Vehicle was towed from the scene.

1:27 p.m. Harassment reported from the University Center, subject claimed to have received disturbing email. Email later discovered to have been a joke.

2:58 p.m. Theft of computer equipment reported from AS&T Building, under investigation.

10:30 p.m. Medical assistance requested to Norse Hall. Officers and Central Campbell County Squad responded. Subject transported to St. Luke East for further evaluation and treatment.

Wednesday, January 19

8:34 a.m. Owner of a reserved space located on the Administrative strip of reserved parking requested a car be towed from a parking spot.

8:34 a.m. Injury accident reported on University Drive. Officers and Central Campbell County Squad responded to the call. Both vehicles were towed from the scene; one driver was taken to St. Elizabeth South for evaluation and treatment.

11:35 a.m. Complaint reported student may be trying to access personal information of subject. Subject advised no criminal activity had occurred.

1:14 p.m. Theft of two musical instruments reported from Fine Arts Building, under investigation.

9:12 p.m. Non-injury accident involving two vehicles reported on Numm Drive.

11:30 p.m. Hit and Run reported that occurred Jan. 18, 2005 in parking lot I, no suspects at the current time.

Thursday, January 20

7:01 a.m. Subject issued a Kentucky State Citation at the corner of Johns Hill Road and University Drive for Disregarding a Stop Sign.

7:09 a.m. Theft of a cell phone reported from the Albright Health Center, under investigation.

2:10 p.m. Owner of a reserved parking spot in a section of the administration strip of reserved parking requested an unauthorized vehicle be towed.

5:43 p.m. Subject issued a Kentucky State Citation on University Drive for Expired Registration.

10:30 p.m. Single vehicle auto accident reported on Three Mile Road, no injuries were reported. Vehicle towed from scene.

Friday, January 21

12:56 p.m. Subject issued a Kentucky State Citation in parking lot L for Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Cancelled Operator's License.

2:10 p.m. Officer requested to Kentucky Hall for possible drugs, contraband located and turned over

to DPS for destruction, no charges were filed.

4:23 p.m. Subject issued a Kentucky State Citation on Numm Drive for Expired Registration and Failure to Produce an Insurance Card.

7:37 p.m. Theft of a lamp reported from the Albright Health Center, under investigation.

7:40 p.m. Theft reported from the Ceramic's building, theft determined to be under \$300, under investigation.

Saturday, January 22

1:42 a.m. Subject found under the influence of alcohol at the University Center causing a disturbance. Subject taken into custody, charged with Alcohol Intoxication and Disorderly Conduct and transported to Campbell County Detention Center for lodging.

10:12 a.m. Theft reported from the AS&T Building; theft under \$300.

10:02 p.m. Harassment reported in the University Suites; under investigation.

Sunday, January 23

12:16 a.m. Fire alarm reported from the University Suites. Officers and central Campbell County Fire Department responded to the call, cause determined to be the smoke from a cigar being smoked by a resident.

Monday, January 24

10:03 a.m. Fire alarm reported from Commonwealth Hall. Officers and

Central Campbell County Fire Department responded to the call, cause determined to be contractors working in the area.

11:07 a.m. Vehicle towed from lot W from illegal parking.

3:04 p.m. Lost or stolen 2005 NKU Parking Pass reported while vehicle was parked at an off-campus location.

3:35 p.m. Theft of a 2005 NKU Parking Permit reported from the University Parking Garage, under investigation.

3:27 p.m. Theft of a book bag from the Steely Library reported, under investigation.

3:59 p.m. Medical assistance requested for subject at Greaves Concert Hall. Officers and Central Campbell County Squad Responded. Subject was transported to St. Luke East for further evaluation and treatment.

4:35 p.m. Officer requested to Woodcrest Apartments for possible drug finding during an administrative search, the contraband was located and turned over to DPS for destruction, no charges were filed.

5:30 p.m. Officer requested to Woodcrest Apartments for possible drug finding during an administrative search, the contraband was located and turned over to DPS for destruction, no charges were filed.

10:29 p.m. Fire alarm reported at the BEP Building. Officers and Central Campbell County Fire Department responded. Burnt popcorn was the cause of the alarm.

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 Session starts promptly at designated time
 University Center
 Room #8

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Customer Service Outside Ramp Agents (Part-Time)

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Norse Bowl



Flag Football Tourney

February 12, 2005

Entry Deadline: Tuesday, Feb. 8th @ CRC

One day, single elimination tournament for "Norse Bowl Champion" title.

Brought to you by the CRC and 2004-2005 Homecoming committee.

Questions? Call Jill Kleiser at 572-5728

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No registration necessary!

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C.J. Fryer & Sarah Loman
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Other news

Law students help free the innocent

Kentucky Innocence Project incorporated into Chase College of Law two-credit elective

By SARAH LOMAN

Assistant News Editor
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It's like something out of a John Grisham novel.

As part of the Kentucky Innocence Project, 10 third-year law students from Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University are working to free inmates from Kentucky prisons who are innocent of the crimes for which they were convicted.

The program was created in Kentucky by the Department of Public Advocacy as an answer to the public concern about innocent people behind bars. The department sends lengthy applications to inmates who claim actual innocence and have new evidence to support their claim.

The department is then responsible for the initial screening of the applications, and the ones that pass the department's qualifications are handed off to law students and their supervisors.

Diana Queen, criminal

defense investigator for the Department of Public Advocacy, believes that NKU students have great work done for the project. "The NKU students are terrific," Queen said. "We'll see several exonerations because of their hard work, and we're grateful to NKU for being involved."

Chase Law students work side-by-side with University of Kentucky Law students and students from the University of Louisville Brandeis Law School.

According to Mark Stavsky, the Chase faculty supervisor to the project, students interview the clients, visit the crime scene and do everything that a real investigator would do. It is an elective worth two credit hours, but it's worth more than credit. "This is an enormous benefit to them even if they don't want to go into criminal defense," Stavsky said. "Even if someone is not exonerated, it's always a success because you've taken a case from start to finish."

Queen agrees. "It gives students some real life experience.

They get a peek of what the legal process is really like. It also educates the public. No matter how great your legal process is, it's not infallible," she said.

Students are required to participate in the project for two straight semesters, and to commit to a certain number of hours, which is one of the reasons that it attracts mainly third-year law students. They have taken the bulk of the classes that they need and their schedules are usually more flexible.

The cases that the students are working on "...generally involve murder, rape, and aggravated assault. These are very serious felonies, but we haven't had a death penalty case," said Stavsky. "Most of the cases that we're handling are individuals who have exhausted all of their appeals." Stavsky went on to say that the goal of the students, and of the project in general is "Trying to determine whether or not this individual did what they were convicted of."

Stavsky's main concern is the students. He hopes that

through this project that they get the training that they need, and are able to put the work that they did in law school this far to work for them. "Two weeks ago students went to a crime scene and spent as much time there as the police," Stavsky said. "It's a learning experience."

Queen does hands-on work with the students involved in the project. She teaches the curriculum on investigation and supervises the students with the help of the staff of Gordon Rahn, the current Innocence Project Coordinator.

In 2002, two NKU students were instrumental in the exoneration of Herman May, who spent 13 years in prison and was wrongfully accused of raping a Franklin County woman in 1988.

The National Innocence Project was founded by two lawyers from New York working out of the Benjamin N. Cardozo Law School. They started it in 1992 when DNA evidence was still fairly a new process and are now considered top legal experts in the field of

Reasons the innocent are in prison:

- Mistaken eye witness accounts
- Police and prosecutor misconduct
- Defective/fraudulent science
- Bad defense lawyers
- False witnesses
- False confessions

-Source: The Kentucky Innocence Project

post-conviction DNA testing.

According to the Innocence Project of the National Capital Area's Web site, as of July 2003 there have been 111 people in 25 states that have been released from Death Row with evidence of their innocence. The site goes on to state that according to a 1996 National Institute of Justice report, "Reasonable credible estimates are that up to 10 percent of our national prisons population

may be factually innocent of the crimes for which they are convicted." In other words 200,000 innocent people are currently serving time in American prisons, according to the site.

"We're in this for the long run," said Queen. "As long as there are people in prison to free," Stavsky, however cites a different reason. "I do this cause it's fun," he said.

Constitution *Continued from page one*

"We're looking into why the constitution that was voted on by the student senate was not the same constitution that was voted on by the student body," Kelso said. "There were some little changes, but it wasn't, in my opinion, substantial changes."

Toberta disagrees: "We have almost a whole section of the constitution left out (from what the student senate voted on)."

A section in the SGA-approved constitution explaining that legislation shall comprise of bills and resolutions was completely removed from the version that students voted on. Toberta cited this example, along with many other discrepancies between the two versions, as a "substantial change."

"The things that were left on there or taken out... wouldn't have made a difference (in the student referendum) anyway," Kelso said.

Kelso said the "correct document" - the version the student body approved - will be what

the Board of Regents will vote on at its meeting.

According to the current SGA constitution, a petition for repeal of current SGA legislation must be signed by a majority of students equal to the majority of the number of students voting in the last SGA election. The 200 signatures obtained by Toberta exceed this number, as 360 students voted in SGA's fall semester election. If the judicial council verifies the signatures on the petition, another student referendum will be held within 10 school days to ask students if they want to repeal the constitution that was voted on by them Jan. 19. Should the document be repealed, the referendum will then be subject to final approval by the Board of Regents.

"The board can say, 'Well, we like this constitution; screw you guys, and there's nothing we can do because we have no control over the board,'" Toberta said. "We have one representative on the board."

Toberta said Hixson has a responsibility to speak on behalf of the students at the board's meeting and to recommend they not vote on the constitution.

Hixson said he thinks Toberta is simply trying to cause controversy.

"Michael served on the board's committee that brought this constitution forward, and then he didn't vote on it (when it went before the student senate)," Hixson said. "And now he's fighting it? Why didn't he express this in committee? It's like he wanted this to happen."

Toberta said he hopes the controversy surrounding this new constitution will get more students involved in the situation.

"The board doesn't want to

be in the middle of (the controversy)," Hixson said.

Hixson also accused Toberta of making this a personal issue.

"It's no secret he hates Dean Kelso," Hixson said. "He's just trying to make life hard on him."

Toberta denied any hatred toward Kelso and said his petition has nothing to do with the dean of students. Toberta admitted, however, that there is an "issue of trust" between Kelso and him.

"I'm getting tired of (Kelso) and the administration, stepping into student business," Toberta said. "The dean was a part of the new constitution just about every step of the way, and in my opinion, he shouldn't have been because it is a student govern-

ment constitution."

"Michael's trying to make it sound like the dean did something unethical," Hixson said. "That's not what happened at all. The dean didn't make changes (to the constitution)."

Last year, the student senate and the student body approved a new constitution that gave SGA control over the Activities Programming Board and the Residential Housing Association. However, university officials deemed it a "flawed document," and NKU President James Votrubia recommended sending the constitution back to SGA at the Board of Regents July 21 meeting.

"That constitution that was voted on by the students - the same students that voted NKU Hixson in office - was not honored by the administration," Toberta said. "It left a very sour taste in my mouth."

"Deep wounds are hard to heal, and when someone keeps putting salt in the wounds, it's even more hard to heal."

In his petition, Toberta

accused the administration of setting ultimatums for the new constitution during its creation period, including: defining the role of the SGA adviser, legitimizing the ability for the administration to review and approve of any amendments to the constitution, and providing a clause to grant the president of the university the power to amend the constitution under exceptional circumstances.

"We're responsible enough to vote," Toberta said, "we're responsible enough to pick up a fight, and defend our county, we're responsible enough to drive; many of us are responsible enough to drink - but apparently the administration thinks that we're not responsible enough to govern ourselves in student government."

"The students are tired of the bullshit, I'm personally tired of the bullshit, and I have people from other parts of the state saying that they're tired of the bullshit from up here, and I feel it's my responsibility to do what's best for the students."

Democrats *Continued from page one*

KRT Campus

Police use pepper spray on protesters during the inauguration of George W. Bush on Jan. 20.

tion is over and you need to find ways of working together." Some Democrats made clear, however, that the fight would begin anew once Congress takes an ambitious agenda to remake Social Security, overhaul the tax code and tackle controversial immigration policy changes.

"Personally, I don't feel much like celebrating," House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi of California wrote in an e-mail fund-raising appeal for House Democrats. "So I'm going to mark the occasion by pledging to do everything in my power to fight the extremist Republicans' destructive agenda."

There is an upside to the daily Republican control of the White House, House and Senate, said Rep. Solomon

Ortiz, a Texas Democrat who hosted a post-inaugural luncheon for visiting Texans.

"If something goes wrong or doesn't get done, they have nobody to blame but themselves," he said.

Eager to avoid Republicans' boisterous celebrations, some Democrats left town. A group of Kerry campaign staffers booked a Caribbean cruise. And former campaign communications director Stephanie Cutter headed for Florida's beaches. "I lived through it once. I don't need to live through it again," she said of the inaugural.

Some Democrats were willing to celebrate.

"We just felt it was an historic event. Not since John F. Kennedy's inauguration had there been a father-son team," said Felix

Vasquez, who traveled from Texas with wife Dina to attend the swearing-in and inaugural parade.

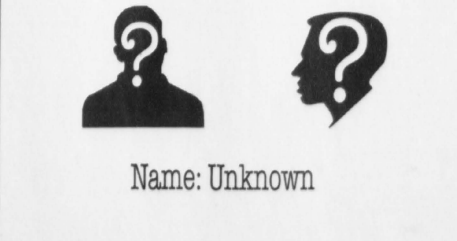
Other Democrats stayed in town, but avoided the festivities. Phil Singer, who served on the Kerry campaign, spent the day working on reviving Senate Democrats' prospects. And he planned to cap the evening at a bar popular with Democrats.

"I'll probably just go to Steetons and have a couple of steps of the way, and in my opinion, he shouldn't have been because it is a student govern-

Dallas Morning News
correspondent Todd J. Gillman in Washington
contributed to this report.

WANTED:

Business Student



Last seen on the campus of NKU hanging around the BEP Building. Is highly motivated and extremely intelligent. Might seek opportunity in a fast-paced, real-world experience, such as becoming business manager for a student newspaper. If you have any information please contact Emily Chalfant, High Sheriff at The Northerner. Stop by UC 203 or e-mail nkunews@yahoo.com.

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Wayne Stayskal / KRT Campus

Prepared students succeed

Dust off your book bag, put down that adult beverage and start setting the alarm clock—it's a new semester.

Set those goals high. Start anew. No parking tickets, no late assignments and no more reliving the infamous unzipped fly in speech class fiasco.

Your Year's resolution to quit smoking may have failed them, only in three people die from cancer, right?), but when it comes to starting a new semester, everyone has a clean slate.

Missy Knoital, author of The New York Times bestseller



A comic's perspective
with Matt Stanton

"Good College Tips for Bad Students" highlights three strategies for success. Covering the key points of college life, Knoital makes it easy enough that even a Hoosier could achieve scholastic gold.

To begin to be successful, you must first get to class. This is no easy task.

Northern Kentucky University's daily scavenger hunt, the great parking spot search, has been going on since frontier time. Daniel Boone used to be late to class because that jerk Simon Kenton would double-park the new wagon with the muffler tip. You must

be an eagle-eyed hunter while searching for your treasure.

Many have fallen victim to the deceptive phantom spot. These spots look open, but are just Toyota Corollas hidden in the shadows of soccer moms' towering Expositions.

Knoital points out that roads are just guidelines. If you must go four-wheeling though the grass, your reward of a parking space will cancel any reckless driver's remorse.

Now you have arrived at the concrete jungle known as NKU. Make your way to the classroom; it's time to find a seat.

Knoital cautions you to avoid the back row. This mistake can put you in the doghouse with the instructor even

before the class begins. You might as well ask, "Do hangovers count as excused absences?"

Sit in the very middle, and if at all possible, sit behind the fat kid. Like a soldier in the jungle, take as much coverage as you can.

Finally, the part that everybody can agree on: It is time to impress the opposite sex. A room full of 20-somethings has so much sexual tension even Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston would feel uncomfortable. The first few weeks of class have more wandering eyes than an optometry convention.

Single people dress to impress during the first weeks of classes, so put those Christmas gift cards to good

use. Knoital points out that smelling good is another overlooked virtue. If no one is sitting within a five-foot radius of you, invest in some Bath and Bodyworks. Please don't be that smelly kid.

Remember these three tips: park with reckless abandon, hide behind tubby and wash daily. With Knoital's tips, even the most clueless freshman can survive college and enjoy a successful semester.

Godspeed my fellow Norse, and study with caution.

—Matt Stanton is a junior liberal arts major at NKU and a stand-up comedian. You can contact Matt at stantonm@nku.edu.

Bush impressive at inauguration

By STEVE FINARO
Staff Writer

Once every four years a president is sworn in. It is supposed to be a day of celebration and a time for everyone to come together. Four years ago, about half the country was feeling a bit too angry over the election results. This year was no different.

Walking down Constitution Avenue, the site of the inaugural parade, I could see protesters lining both sides of the street. From sectioned-off quarters along the street, they screamed obscenities at people as they walked to the swearing-in ceremony and speech.

Parts of Seventh Street were even blocked off by protesters. If you tried to pass them, they would throw things and scream at you.

These people, ironically, were the protesters for peace.

Some burned flags while others were busy holding trash in one hand to throw and "President Bush's war is evil" signs in the other. These "peaceful" protesters got so violent that they charged police and were taken to jail.

When I finally made my way past them and TSA checkpoints into the area sectioned off for the speech, I looked up just in time to see the 43rd president place his hand on the Bible in front of an aging Justice Rehnquist.

When President George W. Bush took the oath of office Jan. 20, I let out a cheer. Our country needed four more years of his leadership. I was ready for his inaugural speech, but I had not expected it to be as good as this was.

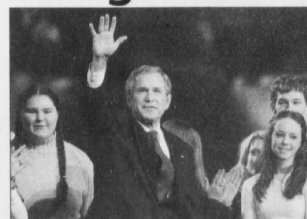
Bush's second inaugural speech was one of the best speeches ever given by a president. While not as good as

Abraham Lincoln's second (nothing is), it was right up there with Franklin D. Roosevelt's first. It had a far-reaching vision and will serve as a beacon for our country for years to come.

While Bush borrowed words and ideas from earlier inaugural works, he created his own masterpiece. Bush outlined part of his plan and goals for the United States following his term in office. When he follows with his State of the Union address in a few weeks, we will know more about his truly daunting plan and vision for the United States.

It seems he may truly stay in his faith during the next term, and our country needs someone in office with a strong sense of belief.

Time after time, the Democrats and media liberals doubt President Bush. He strikes back at them quietly but



OLIVIER DOULIERI/ABACA PRESS / KRT

WASHINGTON, DC - President George W. Bush waves to the crowd at the "America's Future Rocks Today" concert at the D.C. Armory.

defiantly through his own actions and speeches like his one. I doubt the State of the Union speech will be so strong, but Bush never fails to surprise.

Steve Finaro is a senior history major and a member of the College Republicans at NKU. You can contact Steve at SFinaro@gmail.com.

SGA constitution should be repealed

By MICHAEL TOBERGIA
Contributor

On Jan. 19, the Student Government Association declared a referendum for the newly proposed SGA constitution.

Unlike past SGA elections, the polls were only open on that Wednesday, thereby not giving many of our students the opportunity to cast their vote. Also inhibiting the democratic

process was the timing of the referendum, particularly due to it being held at the beginning of the semester. It was held at this time so that the Board of Regents could approve the Constitution at its Jan. 26 meeting and give SGA a framework to prepare for the spring SGA elections.

Along with the timing, the document made available to the students via the SGA Web site was not the document approved by SGA at its Nov. 29 meeting.

There were inaccuracies in wording, and several sections failed to be included in the online version. The 128 students who voted during the referendum is also a concern.

Only 93 students voted in favor of the Constitution, and if they read the document, did not realize that it was not the one approved by SGA. Still, not even 1 percent of the student body participated in the referendum of the "Student Government Constitution."

Reaching out and educating the student body on important issues like this is something that needs to be addressed in order to better serve the student body.

One clause in the proposed Constitution that rallied up to 200 students to sign a petition against it stated that the president of the university would have the power to amend the students' constitution without their approval. This defeats the purpose of democracy, which

the university is supposed to promote. More students should try to seek the truth on what is going into their constitution and stand against anything that would deny them proper representation. It's time for everyone to look at the big picture and put students first.

Michael Tobergia is a junior political science major and the chair of NKU's Students First. You can e-mail Mike at studenfirst@yahoo.com.

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

The staff editorial reflects the views and opinions of The Northernner staff. Staff editorial articles are written by a senior staff member. Topics are determined weekly by a majority vote among the editorial board, which is composed of all section editors, assistant editors and senior staff members.

npr

norse poll responses

Compiled by Nicole Jones

Which
Homecoming
events do you
plan to attend?



Tiffany Sester
Sophomore, finance
"Yell like hell and... the
freestyle battle."



Heather Howard
Grad student, law
"The step show"



Ben Stevie
Senior, marketing
"None."



Shameka O'Neill
Grad student, law
"The step show."



Jason Chinn
Junior, sports business
"I'm on the court so I'm
going to all the ones I
can make it to."



Bryan York
Senior, photography
"Not any."

Letters to the editor

Attendance is part of the price students pay for public education

Dear Editor,

In the Jan. 12 edition of The Northernner, Sean Dressman argued that students at Northern Kentucky University should not be required to attend classes. In so doing his editorial reflects a poor understanding of how public universities work.

First, let me respectfully point out to Mr. Dressman that every student who attends NKU is subsidized to the tune of about 50 percent of costs. These funds come from state funding, the campus endowment, grants, donations and the like. Think of this as an automatic scholarship provided by the fine state of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, along with people from a host of organizations, corporations and alumni groups who have seen fit to invest in NKU students. They do so because they believe that a liberal arts education is good for both the individual and the wider community. Students are not simply customers; they are also the product.

Further, Mr. Dressman needs to be aware that he is attending an institution that was built with money other than his own. Current tuition only helps maintain the facilities and services that others generously helped to establish. When you cut class — missing class for a good reason is another matter — you throw away not only your own money but that of the generous people who helped to build this campus. That is a rather unfortunate thing to do.

Education is an unusual commodity. It

is the only investment where the customer wants as little in return for their money as possible. As such, there is something of a conspiracy between lazy students and lazy faculty. Students are all too happy when a class is cancelled. "Whoosh! I'm getting less education for my tuition dollar!"

The explanation for such economically irrational behavior comes from the fact that things are expected of students when they come to class.

It is demanding and frequently stressful work. But here too lies the logic behind expectations of attendance. Hiring a teacher isn't just hiring someone to help you learn; it is also a process of hiring someone to help you learn. Think of it as the very demanding personal "brain trainers." We are here to get your flabby cerebral cortex of the couch and whip it into a lean, mean, critical-thinking machine.

a lean, mean, critical-thinking machine. In Mr. Dressman's own words: "To me this university has one job: provide the means to get an education and help people grow and learn. The teachers have one job: to teach and give students a good education."

Finally, I just don't see how Mr. Dressman expects us to do our job for students who aren't in class.

Jonathan T. Reynolds
Associate Professor of History

How to write The Northernner

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

- E-mail letters to the editor to northernner@nku.edu, or submit letters by visiting the online edition at www.thenorthernner.com.
- Letters must include writer's name, telephone number, class year and major.
- Letters must be 400 words or less.

- Letters must be received on Friday before publication to be included.
- Event or organization announcements will not be printed on the Viewpoints pages. Submit to Regan.Coomer@nku.edu
- The Northernner reserves the right to edit for content and space.

Policy must change to empower instructors

Dear Editor,

This is in response to the Dec. 8 issue's article on the new attendance policy and the response from Sean Dressman in the Jan. 12 issue. I am a junior at Northern Kentucky University. As a recent transfer student, I am appalled by the lack of power instructors at NKU have; at my previous university, a student would no more challenge an instructor's decision (be it in-class or potential, policy-wise) than bring a gun on campus (which, I know from personal experience, was an issue last semester).

The attendance policy at NKU needs the change. As I see it, students who don't have the decency to show up on the first day of class are forfeiting any rights they have to make the argument for staying in the class.

We all have emergencies, but extenuating circumstances aside, the first day of class is the most important; besides receiving the syllabus and hearing the class details, that is when students get the opportunity to decide whether or not they really want the class. When dropped in a timely manner, another student, one who actually needs the course, can pick up the class.

While we, the students, are "paying to be here," it is the instructors and staff who give their time to show up regularly and teach. Teaching is not one of the better-paying fields, and many of the instructors are in their position because they are driven by the desire to connect with and inform students. They do not deserve to be belittled by students who think they have the right to come to class only three or four times a semester. Not only is that behavior disrespectful to instructors, it is disrespectful to the other students — students who work hard to come to class and to have their assignments promptly turned in.

For most of the students at NKU, it is our "career" at this stage in life to be a student — to come to class. When that takes a backseat to misreading behavior, (bullying teachers during class, acting disrespectfully to students), there is a problem. Teachers have to add a caveat to their syllabi noting their right to correct disruptive behavior; that right should exist without mention.

Kyllikki Brock,
Junior, English & French

Voter exclusion hurts university

Dear Editor,

As African-American students we are concerned with what is happening at the American Pluralism Committee meetings. Two African-American student representatives (myself included) have been told that we are unable to vote on that committee.

It concerns us greatly that we have once again been disenfranchised by this university. Because it is about American pluralism and we make up such a large percentage of the American pluralism community, we feel that our voices should be taken seriously. We are concerned with our education, which will marginalize us as second-class citizens, when

many of us came from communities that have historically been marginalized.

Without students of color this university couldn't be multicultural. We believe that before implementing more courses that celebrate diversity and multiculturalism, the university should start by respecting students of color by valuing our voices.

We demand the right of full participation, the right to vote, and we hope that students of color on campus support our demand.

Desera A. Favors
and Jordan Cornwell
Jordan Cornwell is a freshman and Desera Favors is a junior sociology major.

Behaviors unacceptable

Dear Editor,

I am an international student from Sweden, currently a freshman at Northern Kentucky University. I would like to share my horrific experience. Last semester, my first, I had an introductory class to college writing. During peer discussion I was suddenly verbally attacked by a group who insulted my fiancée and me vulgarly (and uttered sexist slander against Europeans). I am not paying out-of-state tuition, nor did I travel across the Atlantic Ocean away from my friends and family so that I could be subjected to treatment that is free back in Swedish schools.

Frequently, I feel dismayed when I look at the bathrooms covered with racist slander on the stall walls. If NKU is so aware of diversity issues, then why do racist comments continue to exist in the bathrooms? One day, I discovered two separate piles of stool in the UC men's room next to the bookstore — one pile neatly centered on the floor in each stall. Who is claiming responsibility for the immature vandals? No one! The hard-working juniors are the ones that have to clean the stool up. This puerile behavior was described as "typical

young American behavior" by one of the chairs after I reported the incident in my English class last semester.

This semester, only the first couple of weeks have passed, and students are blatantly talking during class, disrespecting the instructor who has to pay a caveat to avoid legal actions if he or she needs to remove a student from his class, no matter how desecrated it is.

I call for the president of NKU to reclaim control and empower the instructors so they can effectively remove disruptive students and prevent the influx of dishonest "high schoolers" who continually defame NKU and its hard working students. I am appalled that so many close their eyes and think of this as an "American behavior" will always remain non-motivated to college life like a bad Hollywood film instead of working to be a safe academic domain. If public universities across America condone this dumbing-down of college students, then there is no hope for future, socially functioning Americans.

Fredrik Persson
Freshman, psychology and philosophy

editorialnote

High price of spending money you don't have

Students should seek alternative buying habits to eliminate unnecessary costs, find ways to save money over time

By RANDY HENDERSON
The Seattle Times/NEXT

I'd be a rich man today if not for those stupid mistakes. And a lot of late video fees.

First, if I could, I'd go back and destroy my credit cards. Or at least not use them. Or, at least, not use them so much, except maybe for emergencies. Oh, and to build credit history. And to get that new flat-screen TV. I'll just pay extra on it the next few months and...

Chees! See? Credit is evil.

Sure, get that Xbox now rather than saving for it. But thanks to the wonders of interest, you pay \$500 dollars over many years for a \$150 item.

Another valuable thing I've learned is to not get full insurance on an older car, just get liability. After paying thousands to the insurance company, I was offered the low-end market value (minus

deductible) of \$475 to replace my reliable, sporty and utterly totaled '92 Nissan.

Yeah, right. I'd have been better off putting those thousands into savings.

However, if you're in a car accident and not at fault, settling through the other person's insurance company. Just be sure not to sign away your rights until you get what you need.

On the housing front, I had to pay a lease-break penalty of \$1,840 just to move out. How sweet of them, not wanting me to leave. But I won't be signing long-term leases for a while.

In my case, their actions were legal, if harsh. But if you feel that a landlord is trying to mess with you, or you have questions regarding your lease, check out your state's landlord-tenant laws.

Few evils compare to banks, however. I admit, while living paycheck to paycheck, I spent more than I had in my checking

account a couple times, especially on days before pay day. But the bank isn't satisfied to penalize you fair and square. Oh no.

Banks love to charge fees for everything of course. Twice, my bank tried to charge me an overdraft charge on an overdraft charge.

But their true evil genius is in the order they choose to process your daily charges and deposits, often completely ignoring the actual order these transactions took place in.

Say you make four \$1 purchases, and later a \$40 purchase, then a deposit. The policy at most banks is to deduct the pending \$40 charge first from your balance, even if it hasn't cleared yet. Oh look, you're in the negative. Then it will deduct those earlier \$1 charges, and apply overdraft charges for each. Then it will consider any deposits.

So you wake the next day and have to pay the bank \$152

in penalties on \$4 in purchases. What a great feeling.

Personally, I think this should be illegal. But in the meantime, a savings account, besides being a good idea in general, will usually protect you from overdraft charges.

While you're at it, start a 401(k) or other retirement plan. Today. Seriously. Let's say you start investing \$100 a month at age 24, for just 10 years. Under certain rates and plans, you'd retire with about \$19,000 in your account. Now let's say you wait until you're 35 instead. With the same rates, plans and \$100 a month, you'd invest for 30 years and only end up with about \$140,000. Such is the power of interest and stocks over time.

Finally, for those of you who are not sure how to be handled by a collection agency, don't let them bully you. You have rights. Learn them, enforce them.

Relatively speaking, my woes have been minor, and some of these lessons obvious. Mostly, I fell into the trap of the more I have, the more I spend, rather than saving anything. But if only I'd known then...

Randy Henderson is a writer for NEXT, a Sunday opinion page in The Seattle Times, and a senior editor at Seattle's State University. E-mail: NEXT@seattletimes.com

ON THE WEB

- Federal Trade Commission (credit education): www.ftc.gov/bpc/credit/edu.html
- Landlord-Tenant laws: www.rentlaw.com/statelaw.htm
- Car values: www.nada.com

campuscalendar

wednesday

• Homecoming voting open online at www.elections.aku.edu/homecoming

• Moment of silence to be observed for the tsunami victims at 12:15 p.m.

thursday

• Homecoming Talent Show 4 to 6 p.m. in the Budig Theater.

• Holocaust Education Resource Center opening from 3 to 5 p.m. in OS 201.

• Game Tournament in UC Game room to raise money for tsunami relief.

friday

• "Undoing Racism" workshop in Norse Commons 115, 116 and 117 from 5 to 9 p.m. The free workshop is geared toward building anti-racist leaders for life. Event sponsored by S.T.A.R. and SGA.

• Cultura Latina Social at noon in the University Center, room 11.

• Movie night at the University Suites, sponsored by Women's Empowerment. "How to make an American Quilt" will be shown in room 228 at 7 p.m. Free popcorn.

saturday

• "Undoing Racism" workshop in Norse Commons, rooms 115, 116 and 117 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Free event.

• Talent Show Performance by Johnson Elementary in Greaves Concert Hall from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

sunday

• "Undoing Racism" workshop in Norse Commons, rooms 115, 116 and 117 from 1 to 5 p.m. Free event.

monday

• Kickboxing class in the Campus Recreation Center at 6 p.m.

• Six-pack abs class at the Campus Recreation Center at 10 a.m.

tuesday

• Blood Drive from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the UC Ballroom. Free water bottle for all donors.

• NKU Symphonic Winds Orchestra concert in Greaves Hall at 8 p.m. Tickets for students are \$2.

To place an event contact Regan Coomer at 859-572-5859

Blood drive is coming soon

By KERRI HELLON
Reporter
northernner@aku.edu

Ever thought of giving back to the community? Now is the chance to help — just donate blood.

Up 'til Dawn is sponsoring a blood drive Feb. 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the UC Ballroom.

The last blood drive exceeded the number of expected donors and more personnel had to come in to receive the donated blood.

NKU students and staff saved more than 282 lives, because of the 108 volunteers and 94 units of blood given.

"It made me very proud of

my alma mater," consultant for the Hoxworth Blood Center, Kathleen Glahn said.

Brett Hardecke, Up 'til Dawn Patient Relations Chairman, has also participated in past blood drives and anticipates the upcoming event.

"I am amazed that so many students have blood donor cards, which usually means that they donate on a regular basis," Hardecke said.

Each donor will receive an NKU water bottle.

Appointments are not necessary, but are appreciated. To make an appointment, visit www.hoxworth.org/nku.

First coffee hour features music

By DAWNELLE FOUNSARD
Reporter
northernner@aku.edu

Students can drink a cup of coffee while watching a show at the first International Coffee Hour, hosted by the International Student Union.

The featured band is Patchouli. Patchouli plays modern acoustic music, according to Julie Patchouli, the lyricist and lead vocalist for the band.

"I thought the band would fit the scene perfectly," Krystle Cobb, APB Cultural Events Director said. "It's very coffee store type."

Patchouli also plays six and 12 string guitars, upright bass, marimbas, flutes and hand drums.

The acoustic guitar player, Bruce Hecksel, is the other half of Patchouli. While he primarily plays guitar, Hecksel plays bass guitar and cussion. He has also stud-

ied concert piano and choral compositions.

Hecksel is also able to incorporate many styles ranging from finger-style, flamenco, classical, jazz, flat-picking to folk styles.

In September of 1999, Patchouli applied their skills and decided to tour.

The band enjoys touring because it gives them the ability to be "witnesses of America," Patchouli said.

"From 2002 to 2004 we literally were on tour every single moment," she said. "The tour really never stops."

Patchouli has been touring almost constantly since September of 1999.

The concert will be held in the second floor lobby of the UC, Feb. 2 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Coffee and light refreshments will be available during the performance.

northernlife

Student-organized rock concert raises \$2,500

Section Editors
Josh Blair & Amy Ehrnreiter
859.572.5899

By RICH SHIVENER
Staff Writer
shivener@aku.edu

More than 700 people filled all three floors of the Southgate House Friday, Jan. 24, for the third annual Cincypunk Fest.

Adam Rosing, the senior journalism major who coordinated the event, said about 550 paid and the other attendees were band members, on the guest list or snuck in.

"It went better than we could have ever expected," Rosing said.

The proceeds from the concert went to Lighthouse Youth Services, a family and youth services organization.

Rosing said he expected to raise at most \$1,000, but ended up raising \$2,500.

We delivered the check... and they were extremely grateful," he said. "The money is going to their youth crisis center."

Rosing said the event couldn't have happened without all the help he received.

"There were a lot of volunteers and the bands were very helpful," Rosing said. "They knew what they were doing. The Southgate House staff also did a great job with everything."

The performing bands and the audience members had an overall positive vibe toward the concert.

"There were a ton of freakin' people there and it was all for a good cause," said Nick Wagner, drummer of Abigail.

James MacFarlane, a history major, said, "It was put together very well and I enjoyed it thoroughly."

As the night progressed, the Southgate House became full of enthusiastic concertgoers. The bands that played in the ball-



Rich Shivener / Photographer

Above: Concertgoers mosh and stage-dive during punk band East Arcadia's reunion performance in the Southgate House's ballroom.



Left: Moving East plays in the Southgate House parlour, one of the three rooms featuring music at the Cincypunk Fest.

room provided the audience with loud and clear music.

The highlight of the night was the band East Arcadia, who came together for a reunion show and headlined the show in the ballroom. The audience showed their support for East Arcadia's return to the stage by crowd surfing and singing along with every song.

Those who weren't into loud music and moshing had a place they could escape. Inside the Southgate House, a bar and stage accompanied each room.

Moving East, who played in the parlour, entertained their audience with soft melodic vocals, acoustic guitars and a banjo.

Rosing said he hopes to do another Cincypunk Fest, hopefully this summer.

"We're not sure yet, but we're planning on having the same format," he said. "One night three stages, about 15 bands—all local bands. It's going to be a charity event again."

Stuart MacKenzie contributed to this article.

Nanotechnology hits fashion

Designers develop high-tech clothing to combat stains, bugs, even sweat

By JUDY THIBODES
Chicago Tribune

You can buy apparel that battles bugs, fights the sun's UV rays, tackles icky perspiration stains, repels water and red wine while resisting wrinkling.

There are jackets wired for your MP3 player and sporting a fabric keypad on the sleeve. There are clothes that tame the human scent of hunters.

By February, women will be able to shop for camisoles that soothe with aloe vera.

Do they work? Apparently they do.

There is so much easy-care clothing in stores these days can be credited in part to nanotechnology, the buzzword du jour in all sorts of areas.

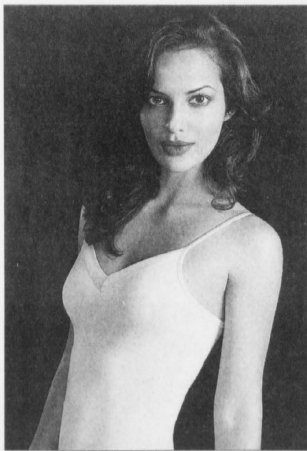
In the case of apparel, nanotechnology shows up in everything from outerwear to underwear and involves fiddling around with fibers and fabrics and finishes at the molecular level.

Yet that's not the only reason that so much of this stuff is out there. It is the time-crunched among us who deserve a chunk of credit as well, say those who spend big time and big money on consumer research. There is a growing demand for comfortable and stylish clothing that is also easy care.

Today's zapped clothing is a far cry from the double-knits of the '70s and your granddaddy's perma press. They feel better. They work better. And they're all over the place.

Check the clothing at your J.C. Penney, Sears, Target, Gap, Banana Republic, Marshall Field's—you name it.

At Nordstrom, such smart stuff shows up in wide variety of apparel, from the washable wool Technofleece coats by Kristen Blake to the Red Label merino wool sweaters for men. In fact, the washable suede



In February, Olga will roll out its "Smooth Benefits" intimates collection with camisoles featuring aloe-enriched fabric, thanks to Lygra Body Care technology.

clothing line by Bernardo for men and women is so popular that the retailer regularly holds trunk shows, said Amy Lippencott, the retailer's eastern regions manager. "Bernardo is a huge portion of the sportswear and coat business in women."

Off clothing, which uses a substance from chrysanthemums to repel insects, is a hit not only with sports enthusiasts but with travelers as well.

"A lot of people going to Africa or going on expeditions to different locations around the world seem to really enjoy it," said store manager Brett James. "We have a lot of repeat customers."

James, 25, counts himself among the believers. He wore a long-sleeve T-shirt and convertible pants when he taught a fly-fishing course near Mineral Point, Wis., this past summer. "I was skeptical. But I was the only one with Buzz Off, and I

had no problem with mosquitoes and no see-ums."

Today's consumers "are busier" than ever and that is spurring demand, said Linda Kearns, spokeswoman for Irvina, the Spokesman, Del-based maker of products such as stretchy Lycra and moisture-wicking Coolmax.

"They're looking for greater convenience. And they're looking for clothes that will last longer, be more durable and stay looking good longer," she said.

Added Peter Kijome, who manages stain-battler Scotch Guard's apparel business for St. Paul-based 3M, "They want to save time washing clothes."

"If we had offered somebody in the 1950s stain-repellent and wrinkle-repellent clothes, they would have loved to have it. The needs haven't changed, but our expectations have changed as science has evolved," said Rebecca L. Davis, an associate professor in fashion and textiles program at California State University at Los Angeles. "Science has evolved to meet what the consumer has wanted."

Science and technology have made finishes on fabrics more durable and effective. They have moved Teflon from water-repellent outerwear to stain-fighting everyday clothing. They have rehauled the double-knits and ditched the waxy feeling found in old wrinkle-resistant shirts.

Coming up with innovative textiles is one thing. Getting people to wear them is another. That, insists Scotch Guard's Kijome, involves delivering fit, knits and ditched the waxy feeling found in old wrinkle-resistant shirts.

"We are very conscious that we are adding features on top of those core things that consumers really care about," Kijome said.

Sports Scene



with Matt Steffen

The Pats keep rollin'

After six months of football, the biggest championship game in the world is set. The New England Patriots will meet the Philadelphia Eagles Feb. 6 in Super Bowl XXXIX at Jacksonville's Alltel Stadium. With their 41-27 defeat of the Pittsburgh Steelers, the Patriots will attempt to win their third Super Bowl in four years when they match up against the Eagles.

The Patriots avenged the loss the Steelers gave them on Halloween night and in the process made the Steelers' quarterback, Ben Roethlisberger look like what he really was this season: a rookie. The Eagles will need a lot of help if they want to defeat the Patriots, and they hopefully will be getting that if star receiver Terrell Owens returns to play in the big game.

Cory Dillon (although he was stuffed by the Steelers' defense yesterday and only picked up 73 yards on 23 carries) is finally getting his wish to play on Super Bowl team. It's a far cry from his days with the Cincinnati Bengals when he once said that he'd rather flip burgers than play for a lowly team such as the Bengals.

Yet everybody seems to be happy now. The Patriots are returning to the Super Bowl and the Bengals are an up-and-coming team. Since recent additions they made in the past couple of seasons, The Bengals received a quality draft pick as a result of the Bengals when he once said that he'd rather flip burgers than play for a lowly team such as the Bengals.

The Patriots are led by one of the great masterminds in today's NFL, Bill Belichick. This guy was run out of the head coaching job for both the Cleveland Browns and New York Jets, somehow surfaced with the Patriots and currently owns a 9-1 postseason playoff record. Only the legendary NFL coach Vince Lombardi lives the record. Lombardi's name is fittingly the name of the trophy that is given to the Super Bowl winner. Wouldn't it be weird, fifty years down the road, if the commissioner of the NFL says to the Super Bowl winner, "And now here's the Bill Belichick trophy for winning the Super Bowl?" This isn't likely, but crazier things have happened in the history of professional sports.

What's so odd about the Patriots is that Bill Belichick has taken all of these casts and made them into a Super Bowl dynasty. The leader of them all is quarterback Tom Brady. Brady was a sixth-round draft pick in the 2000 NFL Draft out of the University of Michigan.

Although the Patriots beat my favorite NFL team, the Indianapolis Colts, and I'd like to see the Eagles defeat the Patriots, they are just too good of a team.

The Eagles will have to play their best game in franchise history to defeat the Patriots Feb. 6.

Matt Steffen is the Sports Editor for The Northerner. You can e-mail him at MSteffen2@msn.com

norsest sports

Critical shot secures victory

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, Ky. - It was only fitting that Karmen Graham took the biggest shot of the game - and possibly, the season - on Jan. 22 for Northern Kentucky University.

Wisconsin-Parkside held a 50-49 lead in the final 15 seconds when Graham received the ball in the lane, rose above two defenders and released a 10-foot jumper. Graham's shot found the bottom of the net to give NKU a 51-50 advantage with 10.9 seconds left.

After a Wisconsin-Parkside timeout, Carrie Weir drove into the lane and attempted a short jumper that was contested closely by NKU's Karyn Creager. Weir's shot was off target and rebounded by Elizabeth Burrows, who was fouled with 3.4 seconds on the clock.

Burrows made both free throws to give NKU a 53-50 lead. Wisconsin-Parkside had a final chance to send the game into overtime, but Weir's three-point attempt hit the front of the rim at the buzzer. As the ball hit the court, NKU celebrated its sixth consecutive victory.

"It was a great win. I thought it was a struggle, but they are just so good, and they are just so experienced," NKU head coach Nancy Winstel said. "They're tough. I'll tell you right now, they are the best team we've played so far in the conference."

"At the end, I thought our seniors really played. That steal by Connie (Myers) was huge. (Elizabeth Burrows) made those two free throws at the end, and (Karmen Graham) hit the basket that was huge."

Graham was a major reason the Norse won and improved to 10-7 overall, 8-3 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. The sophomore post player scored 20 points and was 8-for-11 from the field. She also grabbed nine rebounds and blocked four shots as the Norse took sole possession of second place in the GLVC.

"We just tried to run an offense, and it just ended up that I had the shot, which I think if I would have turned the other way, I would have been wide open," Graham said of her winning shot.

Prior to Graham's winning shot, Wisconsin-Parkside had the ball and a chance to take a three-point lead. Myers, however, came up with a steal to set up Graham's last-second heroics. Myers' steal came after she missed two free throws with 47 seconds left in the game and her team trailing by one point (50-49).

"I think at the end of the game, we just knew that it was our game," said Burrows, who finished with seven points, five assists and six rebounds. "Like Connie said, after she missed those two free throws, she knew she was going to have to get that steal."

Myers had 10 points and 10 rebounds for NKU, which won the battle of the boards by a 35-27 margin. Angela Healy came off the bench and added six points, two blocks and four rebounds for the Norse, who rejected six Wisconsin-Parkside shots.

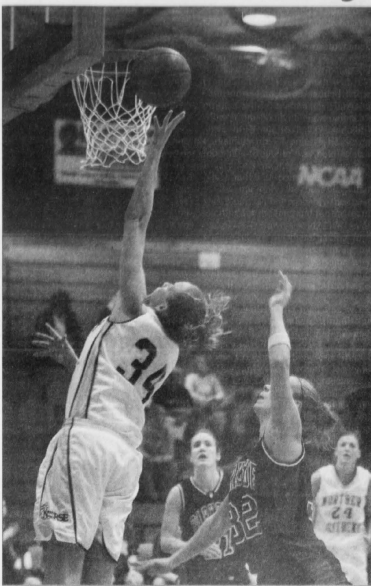
"I thought we played pretty well. Our biggest thing was our defense," Graham said. "I think our defense was way more important than our offense."

Sammy Kromm led Wisconsin-Parkside (14-8, 8-4 GLVC) with 21 points and 10 rebounds. Weir and Carrie Schieve each added 13 points for the Rangers, who knocked off NKU in Regents Hall last season by a 57-45 score.

"She's really a good player. She makes the most out of her post ability, and she's just tough," Winstel said of Kromm. "But, what about Karmen Graham? People are really relying on Connie and double-teaming Connie, and (Graham) is starting to figure that out, and she is able to do more things. It's nice to have that one-two punch."

NKU is ranked eighth in the latest NCAA Division II Great Lakes Region poll, while Wisconsin-Parkside is sixth. The top eight teams in those rankings will advance to the NCAA Division II Tournament in March.

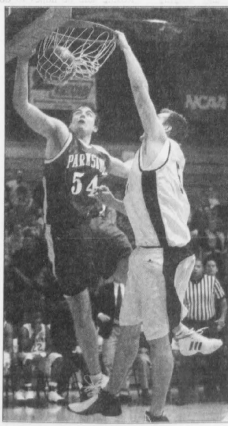
*Article by Sports Information



Blue I Photographer

Karmen Graham hit the game-winning shot against Wisconsin-Parkside Jan. 22.

Norse win big over Wisconsin-Parkside



Blue I Photographer

Pat Cary led the Norse with 22 points in the Norse win over Wisconsin-Parkside.

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, Ky. - At halftime of the Jan. 22 game with Wisconsin-Parkside, Northern Kentucky University was shooting a scorching 78.6 percent from the field.

The Norse began by making their first nine shots from the floor en route to building a 19-4 lead and held a 56-31 advantage at the break.

When the final buzzer sounded, NKU owned a 101-86 win over Wisconsin-Parkside. The Norse finished the game at 64.3 percent shooting from the field and improved to 9-8 overall, 5-6 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

How does a head coach explain that type of shooting?

"It's weird when it happens, and you just kind of have to enjoy it," NKU head coach Dave Bezold said of his team's shooting. "We were sharing the ball. We were moving the ball well, and it caused us to get good shots. You normally don't (shoot that well), but when the first couple felt the kids were relaxed and just played well."

NKU senior Pat Cary led the offensive attack with 22 points on 9-for-10 shooting from the field. The 6-foot-9 senior center scored 10 of NKU's first 12 points, and the Norse controlled the entire game. Cary also grabbed six rebounds for NKU, which won the battle of the boards by a 37-29 margin.

"We came in here motivated," Cary said. "In the first half, I had the

most fun I've had playing basketball in a while. I think I can speak for the rest of the team when I say that. We had fun playing, and we jumped on them and got a good lead."

Mike Kelsey added 17 points for NKU and upped his career scoring total to 1,362. Kelsey drained a trio of three-point shots and also added two assists.

As a team, NKU finished 12-for-22 from three-point range. The Norse are now 10-0 all-time in Regents Hall against Wisconsin-Parkside (7-12 overall, 4-8 GLVC).

Steve Purdon scored 14 points and made four three-point shots for NKU, which started five seniors on Saturday. The experienced lineup paid huge dividends for the Norse.

"The five seniors who started kept us focused for 40 minutes, and they led the team," Bezold said. "They didn't run the team or just show up; they led the team and that was very important."

Senior point guard Jordan Stowers, who leads the GLVC in assist-to-turnover ratio, finished with seven points, six assists and six rebounds. He combined with fellow senior Sean Rowland for 12 assists, 11 points and just three turnovers.

"Before the game, coach called Sean and me in and told us what the lineup and game plan would be," Stowers said. "He said, 'Look, you two are going to have to score.' We know that teams are going to double

teff us with Kelsey and Purdon outside, so we just drove to the basket. If they are going to give us wide open looks, it's up to us to knock them down."

The NKU bench contributed 37 points, led by Derek Smith with 13. Courtney Ferguson added nine points, while teammate Harrison Morton finished with eight points.

Kevin Boutelle led Wisconsin-Parkside with 24 points and seven rebounds. Boutelle was held to just four points in the first half, when NKU built a 15-0 point lead.

"It's not only the best half that we've played, but probably the most exciting for the fans and for the team ourselves," Stowers said. "It's great when you are out there having fun, especially when you are winning by 25. Even if we played the same way and we're up 10 or 11 points at the half, it's still just as much fun to go out there and play."

NKU will hit the road this week for a trip to Southern Illinois at Edwardsville (8:30 p.m. Jan. 27) and Quincy (4 p.m. Jan. 29).

The Cougars of Southern Illinois at Edwardsville currently lead the Great Lakes Valley Conference with an overall record of 16-1 and a conference record of 9-1. In the first meeting of these two teams back on Dec. 11, the Cougars defeated the Norse 65-59 in Regents Hall.

*Article by Sports Information

hotseat



with John Rasp

In this week's Hot Seat, John interviews women's basketball player senior Nikki Perkins.

John Rasp: I asked Brittany Winner (a sophomore) if the four sophomores played well and she said the sophomores. Do you agree with this statement? You know the sophomores Nikki Perkins! You know the sophomores were very talented, but I think with Connie Myers we could take them.

JR: What game would you say was the maddest that Coach Winstel has been this year?

NP: I know early on Georgetown and Central State was pretty mad. But she was probably the maddest at Kentucky Wesleyan.

JR: Last week, Jordan Stowers said he could beat any women's player including those in the WNBA. Do you think this is true?

NP: No. Definitely not. I think Connie (Myers) could take Jordan Stowers.

JR: What would you say was your best game at NKU?

NP: Probably last year versus Kentucky Wesleyan at home. I probably shot the ball the best.

JR: Out of the three assistant coaches, which one(s) do you think you can beat?

NP: I think I could beat Michelle Wolfe and Coach Schmidt but I don't know about Michelle Cottrell.

JR: The men and the women have similar records right now. Jordan Stowers said in last week's hot seat that the men will end up with more wins. What do you think about that?

NP: I hope they have just as many wins as us. I think right now we're leading.

JR: What's the biggest difference from Division I and Division II?

NP: I'd say in Division II there is a lot more to play like conference championships and the NCAA tournament as opposed to playing mid-division I basketball.

JR: I was told in a previous hot seat that you would be most likely to get a technical foul among the players. Is this true?

NP: I'd say that might be true. I get a little feisty on the court.

JR: Who's the toughest player to guard in practice including some of the men practice



Blue I Photographer

Senior point guard Nikki Perkins is the team's assistant leader.

players? **NP:** Probably Jeff Henry because he's so quick and can shoot over us. He also stronger than us.

gamesextra

GRIMMER by Ricky Glore and Josh Blair



horoscopes

For the week of Jan. 24-30

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

ARIES

(March 21-April 20)
Love relationships will this week take top priority. Early Monday, watch for a sharp increase in romantic messages, private invitations or new flirtations. Many Aries natives will soon resolve outstanding social or home disputes. After Tuesday, expect powerful gains and fast discussions. Late this week, employment offers and last minute business decisions may trigger unexpected confrontations. Colleagues will press for final announcements; remain quietly detached.

TAURUS

(April 21-May 20)
This week, friends and relatives are socially outgoing and optimistic. After a brief pause in inward thought or romantic doubt, expect loved ones to respond positively to new suggestions or proposed events. Don't hesitate to introduce controversial ideas; at present, friends and lovers will adopt fresh challenges with a cheerful attitude. Wednesday through Saturday, plan short-term financial strategies. Definitive terms are needed for success; refuse to accept a compromise.

GEMINI

(May 21-June 21)
Over the next 5 days, new business and social information may provide an unique glimpse into career policies, emotional loyalties and past workplace history. Remain silent and carefully study a coworker's attitudes toward authority; there's much to learn. Wednesday through Saturday also highlight romantic overtures, social invitations and rare private flirtations. In the coming weeks, passionate relationships will require careful diplomacy; avoid bold public statements.

CANCER

(June 22-July 22)
Property management, leases and rental partnerships are complex but workable over the next 5 days. After Monday, expect previously stalled financial contracts or home negotiations to work in your favor. Verify all proposals and remain dedicated to reliable dates; this is not the right time to offer or accept vaguely defined agreements. Thursday through Sunday, a close friend or relative may need to discuss rare travel plans or career changes. Don't delay; your advice is crucial.

LEO

(July 23-Aug. 22)
Public image and social reputation will this week bring new friendships into your life. After Monday, expect colleagues and friends to offer rare invitations or demand quick promises. Don't hold back; there's a powerful time for group participation and new romance. Leos born after 1972 may also encounter unusual business or financial proposals. If so, watch for a new career opportunity to arrive before mid-February. Social contacts are vital for success; stay open.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Old friends or lovers may reappear over the next few days. Some Virgos will now return to past relationships or make peace with yesterday's romantic decisions. After mid-week, emotional progress will be fast and intense; expect loved ones to provide detailed explanations or final answers. Friday through Sunday highlight leasing agreements, home renovations and family planning. Loved ones will avoid direct decisions; gently offer your leadership and wisdom.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Pay close attention to the social or family needs of loved ones over the next 5 days. Romantic partners will this week respond positively to a display of support. Don't hesitate. At present, key relationships will greatly benefit from group approval, bold public statements and shared family events. Thursday through Saturday, a minor workplace disagreement may trigger ongoing tensions. Co-workers will not easily accept criticism; go slow and wait for subtle signals.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)
Long-term business goals will soon be established. Late Monday, expect key officials to hint at revised job descriptions or expanded duties. In the coming weeks, many Scorpios will redefine their daily work habits or improve their career objectives. Stay alert; change may be necessary. After Thursday, a previously silent family member may discuss past events. Parent/child obligations, traditional roles and scheduling decisions are accented; remain focused.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23-Dec. 21)
Before mid-week, a close friend may be unusually moody or reflective. Social disputes or the subtle comments of a lover may be a key concern. Encourage others to adopt a broader, more open-minded opinion of recent events. At present, sensitivities may be unnecessarily high. Wednesday through Sunday, yesterday's business or financial mistakes will demand resolution. Work officials, mentors or teachers may soon need to repeat assignments; remain diplomatic.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22-Jan. 20)
Financial proposals will soon provide tangible rewards. Late Monday, ask loved ones for specific details, facts or numbers. Over the next 5 days, home and practical decisions will require consistent timing and a group effort. Refuse to retreat into silence; bold discussions will help resolve past misgivings. Thursday through Saturday, romantic partners will expect obvious displays of affection and clear statements of long-term loyalty. Go slow; passions will be high.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 21-Feb. 19)
Business communications are unreliable over the next few days. Revised reports or complex paperwork will likely contain inaccurate information. Avoid questioning the authority, needs or instructions of colleagues; pride and public reputation are now a strong concern in all workplace relationships. Wednesday through Saturday, a close friend or lover may reveal private doubts. Ask probing questions; group acceptance and yesterday's mistakes may be a vital concern.

PISCES

(Feb. 20-March 20)
Daily routines may this week be briefly interrupted by reversed business decisions. Maintain an emotional distance in all workplace discussions and avoid direct questions. Authority figures will now need extra time to streamline procedures or settle outstanding legal issues. Thursday through Saturday, a powerful relationship from the past may reappear or demand completion. If so, expect loved ones and friends to offer unusually bold criticism. Stay balanced; all is well.

classifieds

To place a classified ad, contact Brianna Bodine at 859-572-5232

Software Application Trainer
Full-time computer training opportunity in the Mayville, Ky. area. MOS, A+, Network+ certifications desired. Send resume to bledoscm@nku.edu.

HUGE THRIFT STORE
NOW OPEN No. Ky. Varsity
25 W. 7th St. Covington, Ky.
Pike St. Exit (Old Good Will

building). Follow Pike into 7th, we're on the right. Great selection & 50% sales daily. Tons of awesome new & gently used shoes, boots, coats, purses, & clothing from infant to adult! Tuesday - Saturday: 10-5. Tuesday: cash only.

For Rent One bedroom apartment in Alexandria, Ky.

Equipped kitchen. About 6 miles from campus. Two blocks from busline. Student Special! \$350/month with one month free. (513) 561-RENT.

SPRING BREAK! FREE INFO NOW! at www.spey-athere.com.

Sell academic online services(s) to school districts, colleges and campus websites. Excellent pay potential. www.InfoTechTutors.com.

Gymnastics coach needed. ASAP. Excellent pay. No experience required. Located in Walnut, Ky. Contact Megan Jones at (859) 866-0908.

Classified Ad Rates

- \$12 per week
- \$25 words or less
- Must pay in advance for all classifieds (print and webste)
- \$26-50 words is \$24
- \$51-75 words is \$36
- \$76+ is \$7.25 per column inch

Classified Ad Deadline

- Classifieds should be submitted no later than a week prior to the set publication date.

Advertise on the Web

\$55 weekly for banner ads; \$45 for box ads. Classifieds also available. See www.thenortherner.com.

crossword

ACROSS
1 Type of pasta
5 Video-game company
10 Insolence
14 Asian sea
15 Hunger strikes
16 Potpourri
17 Elite group
20 Booning jet, for short
21 Comment
22 Avignon's river
23 Beach, FL

LAST WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

S	C	A	M	P	L	I	S	P	B	E	S	T
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DOWN
2 Tennessee flower
3 Diplomacy
4 Sort or kind
5 Declare
6 Body art
7 Tennis great Arthur
8 Numbered boy
9 Small pc. of land
10 Grotesque genre of fiction
11 Choir member
12 Property claim
13 Handed-down history
14 Vast expanse
15 Galled
16 Geese formations
17 Fr. rel. figures
18 Attention getter
19 Red pepper pod
20 Mark new prices
21 Pat down
22 Toy-cube inventor
23 Bradley and Epps
24 Golf standards
25 Persian ruler
26 Also
27 Oriental staple
28 Tex-Mex snack
29 Violin maker of note
30 Carthaginian
31 Lifts
32 "Lupin"
33 Pasture
34 Quarrel
35 Circle parts
36 Actor Bogarde
37 Scrambled order

"The Daily Crossword" Edited by Wayne Robert Williams (KRT)

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Mall event
Pelican's partner
Manipulates
Fighting Tigers of the NCAA
Poetic contraction
Bandleader Brown

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