

NEWS

Can't wait for the New Gen. Ed. curriculum to hit your local newstands? You'll have to wait longer than you expected. Read to find out what's stopped the presses ...

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FEATURES



See which NKU fraternity adopted six miles on I-471 in Highland Heights...

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SPORTS



The NKU softball team witnessed a rare milestone in game one of a double-header against the University of Missouri-St. Louis Saturday. Read about what this was.

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VIEWPOINTS

Do you have way too much time on your hands? One of *The Northerner's* staff members does. Find out what she has to share.

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WEBSITE OF THE WEEK



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Has your attention span become so short that normal comics just don't cut it anymore? Tired of actually having to READ the words? Check out www.dotcomix.com and sit back and watch as Dilbert and others take all the work out of viewing the comics.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

- April 2, 1513- Adventurer Ponce de Leon discovers Florida.
- April 2, 1992- Mafia boss John Gotti, "The Teflon Don," convicted.
- April 3, 1996- Unabomber suspect Ted Kaczynski arrested.
- April 5, 1951- Julius and Ethel Rosenberg sentenced to death.

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Cottrell named nation's best

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
 Sports Editor

Michelle Cottrell became the first player in NKU history to be named the Women's Division II Bulletin Player of the Year.

In another picture-perfect moment for Cottrell, she was named for the second consecutive season to the Kodak All-America Team.

Cottrell, who averaged 17.4 points and 8.1 rebounds for the Norse this season, is also the first NKU athlete to receive the honor twice. "I'm proud to represent NKU," she said. "This is a goal I try to get."

"This is a great thing for the university," said NKU senior teammate Heather Livingston. "It gives positive press for the program."

Despite the recognitions, Cottrell said she would definitely trade it all in for another shot at the Elite Eight. This was the first time in her three years on the team that NKU didn't make it that far in the NCAA Tournament.

"I'd rather have gone farther and contested for the National Championship," she said. "Things weren't just happening like last year. We should have been there."

"We ended the season on a disappointing note," Livingston added. "This was a little positive from it."

Cottrell helped herself out for the committee by improving in a couple of other key statistical categories. She shot a league-leading 62.1 percent from the field and 80.5 percent from the free throw line this season for the Norse.

Cottrell said her stats were better this season, but she felt she played better last year when NKU won the National Championship. "I look at how the team performed rather than individually," she said.

Cottrell is included in a class (10 players) with other Division II All-American athletes like April

Powell of 2001 NCAA Division II National Champion Cal Poly Pomona, Emily Bloss of Emporia State and Theresa LeCuyer of North Dakota. "It's great being recognized with them," Cottrell said. "The committee thinks I'm good with them."

The honors are just going to keep on coming for Cottrell.

Next season, she will be honored for breaking a school record. She is 174 points away from breaking the NKU women's basketball all-time scoring record, which is currently held by Peggy Vincent, who ended her career with 1,883 career points. "It will be an honor to hold that record," Cottrell said.

Livingston said, "It will be amazing. I hope I'm at that game."

However, Cottrell doesn't want to concentrate on just that for next season. She said she hopes her team can get back to championship caliber next year, especially since the Norse are losing four players.

"The team that we're losing was the team that won the National Championship for us," she said. "We have to get back on track and bring some good recruits in."



Michelle Cottrell

Campus climate needs more diversity

By Hlevani Baloyi
 Managing Editor
 Karen Andrew
 Staff Writer



Prince Ellis, the student representative of the Campus Climate force.

The concern about religion was brought to the forefront. Objection to certain religious posters, disrespect of African-American faculty and lack of support for international students were a few of many issues discussed recently in an open forum held by the campus climate task force.

A Jewish faculty member was offended by scripture, Matthew 11:28, posted on Baptist Student Union flyer. She said that since the flyer did not advertise a potential program or guest speaker, it was not appropriate to be posted at a public institution.

Robyn Granger said that a room was denied to Muslim students to go and pray during the month of Ramadan. "This is an ongoing issue and we have asked for a mul-

ticultural room to be placed in the new student union so Muslim and Hindu students can have a place to meditate."

Dr. Jo Ellen Burkholder, anthropology professor, "We talk about

this being a place where we can open a window on the world seventy percent of the world is not Christian and doesn't celebrate Christmas. Granger, a student worker at the International

Student Affairs office, echoed Northern Kentucky University's insensitive treatment of religions other than Christianity.

The goal of the forum is to engage students, faculty and administration in dialogue about how they feel about the current campus climate and were asked to provide possible solutions to correct the problems. These comments will describe how the NKU community should look by 2006.

President James Votruba reinforced NKU's mission for multiculturalism and diversity and opened the discussion by saying, "Our goal on campus is to create an environment where all feel welcome, all feel valued and all are supported."

The issue of classroom sensitivity among students and faculty was a major concern brought to the surface by Dr. Clinton Hevan, professor of political science. He said that one of the issues not

being addressed is that some white students are coming into classes taught by African-American instructors and treating them like second-class citizens.

In response Votruba acknowledged that the behavior of students can be destructive and said that a student had to be removed from campus because of a threatening e-mail that was sent to a professor earlier this week.

President of the African Student Union, Victoria Uti, addressed the issue that international students at NKU are being left out of the opportunity to receive scholarships. "We would like NKU to offer scholarships in appreciation for all we are doing on this campus."

Gregory Stewart, associate vice president of enrollment management, said the lack of scholarships for international students is being addressed and hopefully will be. See CLIMATE, Page 7

Comair strike won't affect student workers

By Rick Amburgey
 Special Projects Editor

With Comair pilots still on strike at press time, student workers at Northern Kentucky University's branch of Delta Airlines are hard at work.

They have been doing a lot of proactive calling, according to Vernon Goodwin, supervisor of reservation sales at NKU's Delta branch.

"That simply means that we're trying to contact those passengers as early as possible so they know (1) their flights have been canceled and (2) what accommodations we can provide for them," he said.

Goodwin said they are trying to re-route Comair passengers on Delta flights whenever possible. He said the routes of Comair, which is a subsidiary of Delta Air Lines, are

very similar to Delta's.

"There's some troopers out there," he said. Jennifer Larkcom, a four-year veteran of NKU's Delta operation, said the process is similar to what they do when a flight is canceled because of a weather delay.

"It's similar. It may be a little more complicated because some markets only have Comair. That's the only time we really run into problems," she said.

While student employees agree the strike has made things more hectic around the office, the general consensus among them is the management team has been a tremendous help.

Supervisors, such as Goodwin are walking around the office where the employees can ask questions, according to Dalores Malloy, who has been with this Delta branch four

years.

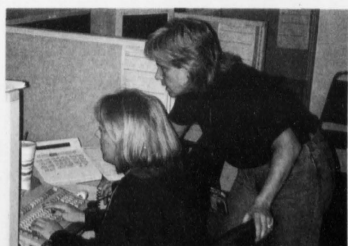
"They are providing extra like drinks and snacks and things like that," she said.

Goodwin said the management staff at both this branch and Delta headquarters in Atlanta have been sending e-mails offering updates on the situation.

"We've been sending e-mails out to them on a daily basis, and sometimes on a half-an-hour basis, because some things can change quite that often," he said.

Goodwin said that even though things have been more hectic, student workers have not been asked to work hours in addition to their usual 20 hours per week. He said, however, that students who are sales calls trained do have the option to work extra time.

Goodwin said the strike will have no effect on student employees.



Supervisor Vickie Fisher helps student employee Jeanie Haas prepare for a possible increase in Delta's business in the wake of the Comair strike.

"Any non-contract employee, here, their jobs would not be affected whatsoever," he said.



David Crowley and WenKeith Smiley do a "Praise Dance" at the Black Women's Organization's 4th annual talent show.

Debate rages over curriculum

By Dan Mecher
News Editor

Faculty, administration and staff got their chance to poke a few holes in the new general education proposal during a two-hour discussion forum last Thursday. Some of the questions offered by those who attended were answered with more questions rather than definite answers, forcing the University Curriculum Committee to consider more revisions before taking a vote in April. Paul Ellis, director of the Learning Assistance Center, brought up the first complaint. He said that because his department does not offer courses that would be included in the program, he can take the students' perspective. "My major concern is that, on paper, this first year looks dreadfully dull," he said of the proposal's plans for requiring students' freshman year to focus on developing basic thinking, speaking, writing and reading skills. "I think the first year seminar needs to be content issues and

that type of thing." He suggested that the second year's American and global experience courses be moved to an earlier place in the program. Also a concern among several faculty members was the fear of possible redundancy in the senior capstone requirement, which they said the purpose of is already adequately met by the requirements of each major. In response, Perleu Goddard, psychology professor and committee member, said the current system does not necessarily provide students with the "culminating experience" that the capstone would offer. Because of adversity among the faculty toward the capstone, Committee Chairwoman Michele Roszmann-Millican said it may be pulled from the general education model, but still recommended as a graduation requirement. No students attended the open discussion, which was somewhat of a surprise to Roszmann-Millican. "I would have expected a few," she said.

Student input is something the committee has lacked during its work on the proposal. In development of the original document last year by the school's General Education Task Force, a series of focus group sessions involving Northern Kentucky University students was conducted. While student opinion has not yet been researched since the latest proposal changes were made, plans to do so were discussed at last Thursday's forum. The general education model has been posted for viewing on the committee's Web site (<http://access.nku.edu/ucc/general.pdf>) and e-mails requesting criticism are being sent to each student's Webmail address, Roszmann-Millican said after the meeting. Advice from the students "is not something that we will ignore," she added. According to the results of last year's focus group sessions, there was strong support among students for an interdisciplinary approach to general education. See CURRICULUM, Page 7

NKU's letters to Kajal

By Rick Amburgey
Special Projects Editor

Northern Kentucky University's branch of Amnesty International held a letter-writing campaign on March 29. The campaign resulted in 142 students, faculty and staff signing the letters on the behalf of Kajal Khidir. Amnesty International does not currently have a budget, according to Dr. Jonathan Reynolds, one of the organization's advisers and assistant professor at NKU. "When we mentioned we didn't have money for the stamps, Danny Miller, head of the Literature and language department, and a mysterious stranger who was very passing by handed us 40 bucks

and said "Go buy stamps." According to Amnesty International's Web site, Khidir is a 24-year old Iraqi Kurdistan woman who was tortured and mutilated after being accused of adultery, despite being pregnant. The report states the torture, which was committed by her husband's family, included cutting off part of her nose and apparently saying they would kill her after her child was born. The men were allegedly arrested and released within 24 hours because it was believed the men acted to protect the family's honor. A portion of the letter signed by members of the NKU community read: "As a student of Northern Kentucky University in the

U.S.A., I understand completely that, "honor crimes," are still criminal crimes that violate the rights of every woman." Reynolds said human rights is an issue of morality, in addition to being political and criminal issues. "Women find themselves having their human rights restricted because of moral issues, as in the case of Kajal Khidir," he said. Reynolds said this issue is important to students of NKU because NKU is a part of the world. "What happens everywhere else in the world is of relevance to our students here if they only take the time to notice it."

Scholarship lures for NKU transfer students across state lines

By Rick Amburgey
Special Projects Editor

Northern Kentucky University will offer a scholarship to transfer students that would allow them to pay in-state tuition, regardless of geographic location. Eligibility for the scholarship, which will be offered beginning in the fall, hinges on a set of nine criteria. (See box on Page 7) "It may not seem that way, but when you look at what we describe, it very much is a selective process," said Greg Stewart, associate vice president for enrollment management. Stewart said anyone who meets the requirements will receive the scholarship.

"Our research says to us it will be about 100 per cent," he said. Stewart believes by meeting the set criteria, a student has already displayed some degree of success. Stewart said he NKU and the Council on PostSecondary Education (CPE) have set goals to increase enrollment, tuition, and graduation rates. "NKU has the goal to support the state of Kentucky's overall goal for people from this region enrolling in higher education," he said. Can NKU handle an increase in enrollment? "It can because we also have a plan how we will physically grow," Stewart said. President James Votruba said

growth can occur in a number of ways. He said NKU has a space problem on Monday through Friday during the daytime, not during the evenings and on weekends. "I expect us to see more evening classes, more weekend classes. That's what Xavier is doing. That's what UC is doing. That's what everybody is doing," he said. Dr. Mark Shanley, vice-president of student affairs, said another way NKU will grow is with extra space provided by the new Natural Science building and renovation of the old Natural Science building. Student Government Association has been pushing in

See TRANSFER, Page 7

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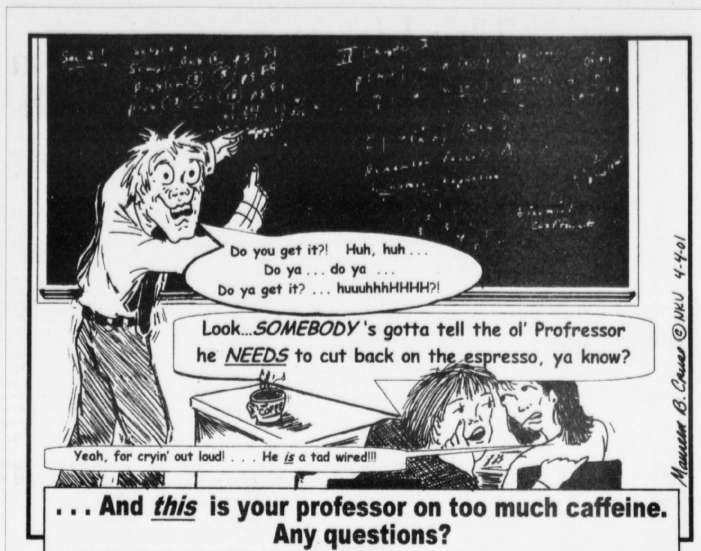
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Have you ever wondered ...?

By Karen Andrew
Staff Writer

Are you one of those people who wonders why things are the way they are as you drive down the road? Well, I am.

There are some curiosities on and around the Northern Kentucky University campus that I've been wondering about, so I've decided to do a little research and find some answers. I'd like to share these with you each week.

For example, I was wondering about the school's architecture.

I found information on NKU's design in Steely Library in a great resource on NKU history, "Northern: Birth of a University," written by none other than Will Frank Steely himself.

He became the first president of the newly formed Northern Kentucky State College (NKU's predecessor) in 1970. Having left his position as the academic dean at Clinch Valley College of the University of Virginia, Steely favored a traditional building style for the campus. He wanted red brick, columns and domes. Other people, such as the architects, had a different idea.

Steely wrote, "Northern's architecture is fiercely modern textured concrete, and it is beautiful. Particularly exquisite is the library

which the regents named for me." The designer of this and other campus structures was Addison Clippson of Risk-Kinchard.

"When 'Clip' [Addison Clippson] was discussing his plans for it, he indicated that 'it won't be the largest building on campus,' he indicated 'it will be the sexiest.'"

Hmmm - a sexy library. I must be missing something here. As a matter of fact, sex was the furthest thing from my mind when I've walked past the library on the wind-swept plaza wondering why I hadn't put on heavier clothing. I was on my way to interview Dr. John DeMarcus, history professor. He is also one of NKU's "founding fathers" and was instrumental in the campus' design, including that of the plaza.

"While at Cambridge and Oxford (England), I noticed that they were all built out of the same basic material (steel, concrete and glass) and all used a central courtyard," said DeMarcus. He wanted a central area surrounded by buildings and parking lots.

"So far they've held to the pattern - cars on the outside and people on the inside."

The first building constructed on campus was Nunn Hall (present day home of Salmon P. Chase College of Law) and the structure was a sharp contrast to the sur-

rounding hilly countryside.

"I walked out from Nunn Hall one night and a man asked me when we were going to put on the bricks," said DeMarcus, as he described the community's reaction to the modern design.

"At first people called it Prison Architecture. It was the subject of great ridicule at first. There were no trees and only one or two buildings. It has since won several architectural awards."

I've also often wondered about that big silver box in the grassy area of the plaza between the Fine Arts Center and Nunn Hall. I thought it was some kind of heating and air conditioning duct.

DeMarcus set me straight on that matter. One of the many works of art on campus, the "Box" was created by artist Donald Judd.

"Judd was one of the leading minimalists. He said that his work would be highly polished, reflective of the buildings, seamless," said DeMarcus. Apparently, Judd wanted to make it flimsy; however, DeMarcus insisted that the structure was to be fortified in case someone went inside.

Sure enough, one day when it was drizzling, I saw a group of students standing just inside the opening. So, whether a person appreciates the "Box" for its artistic value or practical use, I now

know it is important to the campus.

Near the "Box" is a tree with a plaque. A tree that warrants a plaque always makes me wonder. So, one afternoon I trekked up there and found out that the tree is a sugar maple, Acer saccharum, and it was planted in the spring of 1900 by Joseph Adam Ziegler. Apparently this part of the campus was once the John Adam Ziegler family farm. DeMarcus told me that the campus area had been a group of farms and several of the farm buildings and houses had been used by the school in its early years.

"We used the barn at one time for fine arts until the fire marshal ran us out," said DeMarcus. I later found a picture in Steely's book showing the rolling farmland dotted with farm buildings, woods and a pond and later photos showing classrooms, The Northerner's office and other campus facilities occupying former houses.

And I'm still wondering about things and still researching. For one thing, I'm still wondering why the Steely Library is sexy. If you are wondering about something on and around the NKU campus, e-mail me at northern@nku.edu and I'll see what I can find out.

NORTH POLL

What class at NKU would you recommend other students take? Why?



Angie Kaybourne
Anthropology
Wildier

"Anthropology, because it opens your mind to new ideas such as the history of Africa."



Robyn Granger
Anthropology
Covington

"Race and Gender because it gives the necessity training for an individual entering a diverse/multicultural setting to acquire the sensitivity necessary to grow. A person may even learn a lot about what makes them tick."



Hans Schellhas
Graphic Design
Covington

"An History, because I think it expands your mind and it is interesting to learn about other cultures and history at the same time."



Valerie Tutt
Speech Communication
Newport

"Aerobics, because it is fun and it showed me how out of shape I was!"



Tiffany McGuire
Journalism
Dayton

"Tap or some type of dance class, because taking a class like that lets off a lot of energy and stress that you have."

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When goodbyes are *too* hard to say

By Rick Amburgey
Special Projects Editor

The Bible says all things shall pass away. Still, it's never easy letting go when you lose a loved one.

I received the call Sunday night that my grandmother had just passed away. I knew by the tone of my father's voice what had happened.

My grandmother had been consistently in and out of hospitals in the year or two, so the news came as no shock to me. But the news was still shocking, and seemed so final.

My mom and dad went down to Eastern Kentucky to see her in the hospital the day before, because she knew the end was near.

I chose not to go, even though I was certain I was passing up a chance to see my grandmother one final time.

I didn't want to see her in that state. I knew that vision would haunt me forever. My grandmother will live eternally in my heart and my memory.

I chose not to go because I wanted to remember her with happy thoughts, in happier days. I'm sure that is how she would have wanted me to remember her.

I told my mother to tell her that I wanted to come just to tell her I loved her. Mom said grandma blinked her eyes when she said that. I know that meant she understood.

I was hoping that she would hang on long enough to know that I graduated college. I know she would be proud of me.

Even if she had survived to hear I graduated, she would still have been too ill to come to see the ceremony. Now I am sure she will see it. I know she will be watching it from Heaven.

She always told me she believed in me. I hope I don't let her down because I know she will be watching over me and protecting me.

Even though I'm hurting because of my earthly loss, I know she's in a better place. Tonight, she is in a golden palace overlooking a celestial sea.

Tonight, there's one more angel on my side.

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On the road to brotherhood and community



The Kappa, Kaptivating Kappamen of Northern Kentucky University have begun making their presence felt in the Northern Kentucky community by taking on an Adopt-A-Highway program. The organization is responsible for the six miles, located in front of the BP gas station, on I-471 North in Highland Heights, KY.

On Tuesday April 3, the men of Kappa Alpha Psi, along with other volunteers, cleaned up the strip of highway.

Founded in 1911, the fraternity's objectives include the inspiration "To serve in the public interest." The organization has had members at NKU since 1999. "This is just the beginning of what we plan to do in the Northern Kentucky Community. In addition to the involvement in student life at NKU," said Chapter president Stephen Howard. "We plan to be an asset to the school, as well as the entire tri-state region."

The fraternity is also sponsoring its KAPPA WEEK April 2 - April 6. Events include a Clothing and Kanned Good Drive, a Kappa Splash Splash, and an End-of-the-Week BBQ and HouseJam.

Jennifer Davis/The Northerner

SGA can be your soapbox too

By Erin Johnstone
Staff Writer

The deadline for students interested in running in the spring SGA elections is April 6.

Becoming a member of the Student Government Association can give students the opportunity to become more involved and represent the student body at Northern Kentucky University.

"SGA's job is to serve as the official agency for presenting the collective viewpoint of the student body on university policies or issues, according to Jennifer Surgalski, vice president of Public Relations. She said, "SGA gives students the opportunity to get a unique understanding of our university, as well as current initiatives to improve it."

Spring elections for Student Government are April 18-19. Anyone interested in running for an office is eligible. In order to run for an office, students must complete an election packet.

These packets can be found in the SGA office, UC 208, and returned to the Dean of Students office, UC 346, by April 6. The GPA requirement is a 2.0, and verification must be obtained from the registrar's office in order for the election packet to be complete. Students interested in running

"SGA gives students the opportunity to get a unique understanding of our university."

**-Jennifer Surgalski
V. P., Public Relations**

consists of 15 senator positions, two Judicial Council positions and five Executive Board positions. All elected positions are for a one-year term.

There are many activities that SGA is involved with at NKU. It sponsors events such as FreshFusion, Black History Month, the President's Picnic, Community Care Day, Hoxworth

Blood Drives, a voter registration drive, the President's Roundtable, and Gripe Day, where students can voice their opinions and concerns about the university to the SGA. It is also involved with other activities on campus and some volunteer service projects as well.

SGA also sponsors Team 2002, a continuation of Team 2000, which advocated increased funding for NKU. In the 2002 legislative session, Team 2002 will lobby for additional funding for NKU and initiatives like the new student union and special events center.

Chris Tyner, a senator of SGA, said that the job of Student Government is to act as a voice for students related to concerns, issues or problems that arise on campus while an individual attends NKU. He said, "SGA is a great way to get involved with NKU campus life."

The blunt side of pot

By Rick Amburgey
Special Projects Editor

Northern Kentucky University's Willie Elliott told students the facts about marijuana, including that no one has overdosed on the drug, during the lecture "Let's Be Blunt," March 27 in Norse Commons 117.

The event was sponsored by Zeta Phi Beta sorority.

The organization's president, Karen Mize, said they have a seven-point plan, one of which is drug and substance abuse. The group hosts a drug and substance abuse program every semester.

The purpose was not to tell people not to use marijuana, but to help them make informed decisions if they choose to use the drug, the group's vice-president, Lanisha Evans, said.

Elliott, who is a faculty member in the Allied Health Services and social work department, delivered his message with a comedic tone and was received well by the students and faculty who attended.

A large portion of the lecture consisted of Elliott answering student concerns about marijuana and other drugs.

Some questions included why music sounds better when you are high or why a hot shower seems to enhance the effect of the drug.

Elliott's answer to both questions was the same:

it has a great deal to do with perception.

Elliott discussed his views on marijuana and addictions in general with The Northerner before the lecture.

Elliott did not state whether he believes marijuana should be legal but did say he thinks it is illegal because it would be difficult to tax it.

"I would say that the basis for it being illegal is not because of the potency nor the destructiveness of the drug. Anybody with a light and dark room can grow marijuana," he said.

Elliott said the effects of marijuana, like any other drug, is very individualized.

Elliott said he considers something as a drug when you lose control.

He recalled a former student that was addicted to drinking soda pop. He said she drank about eight 2-liter bottles of soda pop per day.

Elliott said he never had a drug problem, but he has battled addiction for much of his life. He explained that drugs don't just include marijuana, heroin, cocaine and other controlled substances.

He said his drugs of choice were women, credit cards and sugar.

He said like any drugs, all three were dangerous and if he had continued to use them he would have likely died.

He used his addiction to women as an example. He said that if he continued his behavior someone one may have killed him for being with their wife or girlfriend.

He said he knew he was addicted to credit cards when he was \$100,000 in debt without anything to show for it.

Elliott said his most recent battle was with sugar. At the time of the interview, he said he had gone two weeks without sugar.

Pot: not such a grim reaper

By Rick Amburgey
Special Projects Editor

It's 4:20. What are you smoking? The debate over marijuana is a scientific battle, not just a battle between users and drug advocacy groups.

A 1994 study by the Bureau of Mortality Statistics and the National Institute on Drug Abuse revealed marijuana is not directly responsible for any deaths per year, making it less lethal than aspirin.

Research done on lab rats has shown that the amount of marijuana necessary to kill someone is about 40,000 times the amount it takes to become intoxicated from the drug.

The National Center for Toxicological Research conducted additional research in 1991, with findings published in the medical paper "Chronic Marijuana Smoke Exposure in the Rhesus Monkey IV Neurochemical Effects and Comparison to Acute and Chronic Exposure to Delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in Rats."

The paper indicated there were no neurochemical changes in the brains of rhesus monkeys after being exposed to marijuana smoke on a weekly or even daily basis for one year.

This study was conducted on 64 monkeys and its results contradict the findings on Dr. Robert Heath's findings, which were criticized by the National Academy of Sciences.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse does report that marijuana use can lead to respiratory problems, including lung cancer and emphysema.

Five cigarettes of marijuana have as much tar as about 140 tobacco cigarettes, according to some reports.

However, some scientists believe that tobacco is more harmful than marijuana because cigarettes contain levels of polonium-210, a source of the same type of radiation found in atomic bombs.

C. Everett Coop said during a nationally-televised 1990 speech that he believes that 90 percent tobacco-related incidents of lung cancer are related to radiation instead of tar. The National Institute on Drug Abuse also indicates that marijuana use can affect the hormones and reproductive system, but no scientific research was given to support such claims.

Marijuana is currently legal for the treatment of certain medical problems. Research is constantly being done to determine if marijuana helps fight ailments and diseases such as AIDS.

Currently, the federal government provides marijuana to 12 people for medical purposes.

While there is much discussion on the short and long-term effects of marijuana, there is no question that law enforcement officials are cracking down on users.

Uniform Crime Reports indicate that the chances of getting arrested for marijuana possession in the state of Kentucky is one in 38.

Jeff Butler, interim director of the Department of Public Safety, said that the incidents of drug use on campus have been very minimal. He said the drug of choice on campus seems to be alcohol.

The Northerner

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NKU pitcher Moore hurls no-hitter

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
Sports Editor

NKU softball coach Kathy Bown witnessed something she has never seen in the three years she has coached the Norse. She saw one of her pitchers throw a no-hitter.

That pitcher was senior Jamie Moore. Her no-hitter came against the University of Missouri-St. Louis in game one of a doubleheader Saturday at the Roger Grein Softball Field. "I didn't really know it until the last inning, but I was excited when I did it," Moore said.

"Anytime that happens, it's good to see," Bown said. "Being one of our seniors, that makes me even happier for her."

The Norse offense helped win the game by banging 10 hits in rout to a 4-0 victory. Juniors Krista Eldridge and Joanna Doerner both contributed two hits in the win. Doerner had a double and drove in all four runs for NKU.

In the second game, the pitching was again the dominating factor. NKU senior Kim Bina pitched a complete game, two-hit shutout. "Our pitchers were both exceptional. In my mind, they are the best pitchers in our conference," Bown said.

Offensively, the Norse weren't as dominating as in the first game, but NKU did get all the scoring it needed in the third inning.

Freshman Camie Deaver started the inning with a single. Two outs later, sophomore Amanda Davidson blooped a hit over the third baseman to drive in the only run of the ballgame to win 1-0.

"We didn't feel like we were coming together a few weeks ago," Moore said. "We are pretty much coming together right now."



Rachel Dietz/The Northerner
NKU softball pitcher Jamie Moore dazzled the University of Missouri-St. Louis offense by pitching a no-hitter against them Saturday at Roger Grein Softball Field.

NKU went over the .500 mark with the doubleheader sweep. Bown said that her team is doing well so far against its conference

opponents. "Getting two today was big. We played two of the better teams in the conference. We split with Southern Indiana and we were right there with SIU-Edwardsville."

NKU finished up the week playing Quincy University in another home doubleheader Sunday. The Norse won both games by scores of 3-1 and 2-1.

In the first game, NKU scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to secure the victory.

Sophomore Crystal Wilson drove in two runs and Molly Fachman went 3 for 3 and scored a run in the Norse win.

Also, NKU senior Kerry McKee and Deaver both recorded two hits in the game. The Norse rapped 11 hits in the game.

NKU had to go into extra innings in game two against Quincy.

Eventually, the Norse scored the winning run in the ninth inning and won the game 2-1.

NKU was outlived 10-6 in the game but managed to pull out the victory.

Bina had three of the hits and scored one of the runs for the Norse.

Doerner went 2 for 4 in the game, drove in a run and scored a run.

Bina pitched a complete game for the Norse, striking out eight in the process.

Bown said that both her senior pitchers are getting close to the strike-out record. "Bina is in the '70s and Moore is close to it."

NKU is now on a six-game winning streak and has an overall record of 17-13. The Norse also improved to 5-3 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

Norse win 3 of 4 to push record to 24-8

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
Sports Editor

The NKU baseball team put on a massive hitting attack in the second game of a doubleheader against Bellarmine University Saturday.

The Norse ended up winning both games of the doubleheader, 2-1 in game one and 9-2 in game two.

In the second game, NKU put up three runs right off the bat in the first inning to take a 3-0 lead. The Norse never looked back in winning the game by seven runs.

Junior Jason Martin led NKU's 14-hit attack, going 4 for 5. Martin also drove in four runs and scored three in the victory.

"We have been selective at the plate," NKU coach Todd Asalon said. "We have swung at good pitches."

Senior Matt Mason and juniors Steve Walton and Justin Rahschulte each contributed two hits in the game for the Norse. Mason drove in two runs as well.

NKU completed the doubleheader sweep by winning the first game against Bellarmine, 2-1.

The Norse were down by one run early on, but in the bottom of the sixth inning, NKU scored twice and held on for the win.

Mason came up big again for the Norse. He hit a homerun and had two RBIs in the game.

Asalon said that Mason has done what it takes to be a leader on the ball club. "He's not a big 'rah-rah' guy, but he plays hard. It's contagious."

NKU junior pitcher Josh Whaley helped out with some great pitching. He pitched a complete game five-hitter and struck out seven batters to improve to 6-0 on the season.

The Norse came back the next day and played host to Kentucky Wesleyan in another doubleheader. In the first game, the Panthers scored seven runs in the first four innings and won the game 9-4.

Mason gave some light to NKU when he hit a two-run homerun in the final inning of the game.

"We didn't swing the bats in the game, but we were walked nine times," Asalon said. "We were in a funk today."

In the second game, the Norse rallied in the bottom of the sixth inning by scoring three runs, highlighted by a Walton two-run homerun. "We expect to explode sometime," Asalon said. "We just have to wait and be patient. Walton came up big for us."

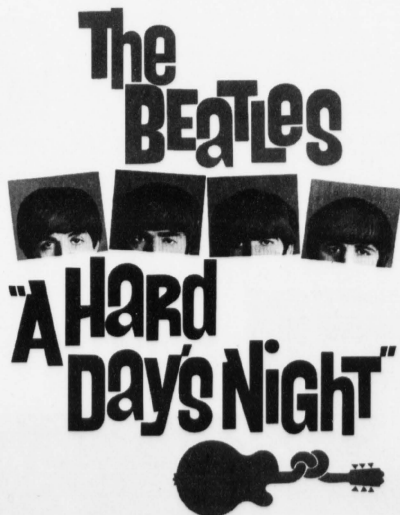
NKU wound up winning the game by a score of 4-1.

With the 3-1 home stretch, the Norse improved to 24-8 on the season and 4-3 in the GLVC.

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Baseball team takes down Lindsey Wilson

By Aaron Stamm
Staff Writer

Paced by the bats of Matt Mason and Jason Martin, the Norse won both games of a doubleheader.

NKU dominated with good pitching and timely hitting. The Norse improved its record to an impressive 20-7.

In game one, the Norse used a four-run fifth inning to pull away from Lindsey Wilson in winning 8-2.

Part-time starter and reliever Chaz Goetz picked up the win in relief for the Norse. He improved his record to 4-1 on the season.

NKU head coach Todd Asalon said he is very impressed with his young pitcher.

"Chaz has been awesome. The key for him is he is throwing strikes and keeping the ball low. He has some college experience coming from Bluefield State College and his experience is showing," he said.

So far this season, Goetz has made nine appearances, starting four of them. He has 23 strikeouts and only nine walks.

Junior catcher Jason Martin was the offensive hero in game one as he went 3 for 4 with a double. Senior first baseman Mason also belted a double for the Norse.

"We did a good job hitting mistake pitches off Lindsey Wilson. Our kids are hitting well right



Infelder Shaun Erie rifles the horsehide on to first for the putout.

Rachel Dietz/The Northerner

now," Asalon said.

Since the game wasn't in the conference, Asalon was able to use some flexible pitching rotations as he gave some of the young guys a chance to pitch.

"It was nice to give those guys a chance to pitch

and play. They needed work," he said.

Game two, was considerably tighter, as the Norse squeezed out a 7-6 win.

For the game, the Norse committed four errors and allowed Lindsey Wilson to hang around.

It took a home run by Mason in the fifth inning to put the Norse up 7-5. It was Mason's seventh home run of the year, which leads the team.

Senior catcher Michael Tudor said he believes the key to winning lies with the whole team playing well.

"We need to continue to get good pitching and keep getting timely hitting in the key situations," he said.

Junior center fielder Justin Rahschulte was one of the offensive stars for the Norse as he had a double and knocked in three runs to spark the offense.

"Our attitude is better. We are learning to win close games. It really gives us confidence in conference play," said Asalon.

Asalon credits the win during spring break in Florida Slippery Rock University, which was ranked 13 nationally at the time. NKU made up a four-run deficit in the final inning to secure the win.

"With that win, our kids now they could come back and win," Asalon said.

Freshman pitcher Tom Unkraut got the win for the Norse in game two. He improved his record to 2-0.

"We just to need to come out ready to play every day. We need to remain healthy and continue to play aggressive at the plate and on defense to be successful in conference play," Tudor said.

NKU softball scores 16 in doubleheader

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
Sports Editor

The NKU softball team got plenty of hitting in one game and rallied late in the other to capture both ends of a doubleheader at home against Kentucky Wesleyan last Wednesday.

The Norse started out the twin-bill beating the Panthers 11-6.

NKU junior Krissa Eldridge and senior Kerry McKee each had three RBIs in the victory. Freshman Jessica Dougherty went 4 for 4 to help out the Norse.

NKU coach Kathy Brown said that Dougherty and freshman Camie Deaver have played well in their first season on the team.

"They didn't know if they were going to start, but here they are. They are getting the job done. They have picked it up a notch," Brown said.

Despite the impressive hitting in the first game, the Norse offense slowed down in game two against Wesleyan.

The Panthers held a slim lead throughout most of the game.

However, in the bottom of the sixth inning, Eldridge ripped a two-run homerun to put NKU out in front to stay, winning 5-4.

Eldridge finished the doubleheader driving in five runs and two doubles to go along with the homerun. "She has always been a good hitter. It hasn't surprised me," Brown said.

Eldridge has had good offensive stats all season, but Brown said she feels her defense is what has been the most impressive lately.

Before the games against Wesleyan, NKU went on the road to play Southern Indiana and Southern Illinois-Edwardsville, where the Norse lost three out of four games.

Brown said it was a long road trip, but that she was pleased how her team performed.

"We are proving what we're capable of doing. We played well, even though we lost. We didn't get blown away," Brown said.

"We just have to believe in each other. We have the ability," she said.

With the two wins, the Norse improved to 13-13 on the year.

Correction

In the March 28 issue of *The Northerner*, Chris Hook was misidentified in the recaps of Saturday and Sunday's baseball game.

The quotes should have been attributed to Todd Asalon, head coach of the NKU baseball team.

The Northerner apologizes for the mistake and any inconvenience it may have caused.



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Tim's Weekly Horoscope

By Timothy Conboy
Northerner Astrologer

This week we have many influences brought about by the Astrological New Year, it is going to be very stable for everyone with an underlying aggressiveness attaching itself to the psyche. Take caution, all who read this, as such aggressiveness can lead to conflicts with others that are highly unnecessary. You have been warned.

Aries (March 21-April 20)



Aquarians are a hope for your future. Your attendance may be asked at a social gathering that should not be passed by. This is your time, (my time-happy birthday to me) and self promotion is a great asset this week. Loneliness will be interrupted by admirers and lovers. Don't you aid in your ego take control too thoroughly though, as it can prevent such happiness from occurring.

Taurus (April 21-May 20)



This week will bring nothing new to you. Stagnation is a part of life you are familiar with and all of your primary drives will be put to the bottom of the list for the time being. Allow those around you to aid in pulling you out of this slump. About you will only find yourself feeling more pained.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



That Aries on the other side of the room wants you bad. Make it your goal to figure out the signs of those around you. In love be aggressive, but don't become overbearing. People find you confused and sometimes schizophrenic (no harm intended to you who suffer these problems. Take this time to prove them all wrong. You know a little about everything, try to learn these things on a deeper level.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Your shell is being hammered away by someone. Allow others a chance to get inside your mind to find out who YOU are. You should take this opportunity to more thoroughly learn about yourself in the process. There are many around whose aggressiveness frightens you, but you are an animal with few predators, so don't hold yourself back based upon this alone.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



You are looking for love in all the wrong places and all the right places at the same time. Get to know your prey so that your potential love will trust you more. Boldness and arrogance are both common traits to your sign and this nature should be restrained and understood thoroughly before you can learn how to love someone. Don't let more aggressive people see this arrogance, a massive conflict may ensue.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sept. 22)



Your love life is roaring to your surface and the last within you is showing through. Don't allow others to hold you back. Your need to help others leads to a dilemma of family as you have recently met many calling out to you for your compassion. Let your love life take control and try to sit aside one big thing for it to replace. Start something a day late and let yourself relax.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)



Novelty is virtue and sentimentality is the easiest way through relationships. If you don't have any real markers in your relationship this week, make them up. Your significant other will love you for it. You have a way of setting your mind and becoming more hard-headed than the most extreme Aries. Not welcoming new ideas creates conflict and prevents you from learning. But then again, you are always right (only if your definition of "right" is that loose).

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)



You are highly idealistic and look at your views as the best for everyone. Some are scared off and others accept. Do not try to force opinions and hostile humor. Both of these things will result in burning wrath from your opposition. The fighting will be extreme and conflict with loved ones will be terrifying, but it can be stopped if you try.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 20)



Education takes precedence over relationships. You are all business this week. You may not need too analytical and prejudiced, creating rifts between yourself, co-workers, friends, etc. Watch your temper so it does not overwhelm your friends.

Capricorn (Dec. 21-Jan. 19)



This is a bad week. An extreme ending will take place and confrontation is almost inevitable. Mind your manners around Aries and skip the parties. Old deeds will come back to haunt you. Love life is growing but as soon as the Mob catches up with you, you will turn into Frankenstein at the windmill.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)



People around you wish nothing but the best. Look at the potential of your friends as more or less. This is a week that will result in many changes in life. You will find that you may feel better about a relationship with one of these people than those you have seen as possible before.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)



Old flames may rekindle. If not, a long rain will come. Your Aries sidekick will offer great support, but you may not accept the good over your bad self-esteem. Try to find new experiences and push them to the limits. Cut loose and let your aggressive side spring through. An ending may not be as it appears. The person with which you have fallen from grace is ready to mend your wings. And as a tribute to all of my Pisces, you people are the greatest.

CLIMATE

From Page 1

available in the future.

The women had equal representation in the forum and the concern about retention of women at NKU was a concern brought up.

According to Sally Jacobsen, director of women's studies, the retention of women after sophomore year dropped by 49 percent this past year. She said the women's program is lacking funding in sufficient office space in which to operate and is affecting their ability to reach out to their target audience.

In response, Stephanie Baker, director of health, counseling and testing said the retention rate of men at the university is less than the women, but statically the academic level of expectation for a man to complete college is higher.

The climate at NKU has a long way to go before the core values of multiculturalism are completely implemented. Votruba said, "We are a nation and community in transition and we cannot afford to leave any group behind."

CURRICULUM

From Page 2

This approach would blend different areas of study into each course, which some faculty did not approve of, said Roszmam-Millican.

Anthropology professor Jo Ellen Burkholder, however, is not one of them. "Many of the newer faculty were trained in things that were interdisciplinary," Burkholder said. She described the approach as a way to put that training to good use.

Burkholder said she supported the original proposal because of its interdisciplinary focus and is glad to see some of that in the new model. "I wonder a little bit if we couldn't, on some level, do more of that," she added.

Also present at the meeting was Rogers Redding, vice president of

Academic Affairs and provost. He said the model retains positive aspects of both the current general studies curriculum and the original proposal.

He also addressed the difficulty of keeping everyone satisfied. "Curriculum is always a compromise," he said, "because there's always this issue of 'how much is my particular corner of the world going to be affected by a program.'"

The outcome of the discussion was more positive than Roszmam-Millican had expected. "Nothing was said flat out that it was not going to work," she said. "I think it is still doable."

Further revisions on the proposal are planned for this week.

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TRANSFER

From Page 2

recent years for a new student union.

NKU's current University Center was originally built to accommodate only 5,000 students, according to SGA vice-president of public relations Jennifer Surgalski.

"Student government is in complete support of a student union as well as a special events center," she said.

How big will NKU become?

Votruba said he has not set a goal for NKU's potential size.

"I have a goal to make us as large as the public needs us to be," he said.

Votruba said the CPE has set of a goal for NKU's enrollment to be 13,000 or 13,500.

"I think we will probably grow much larger than that," he said.

Votruba said he believes NKU will continue to grow, especially in transfers, despite a community college coming to the area.

"My view is that it is in the public interest that this region have a community college," he said.

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Milosevic surrenders

By Katarina Kratovac
Associated Press Writer

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Former President Slobodan Milosevic, architect of a decade of Balkan wars, was whisked away to prison Sunday after a 26-hour armed standoff with police who arrested him to face corruption charges stemming from his ruinous rule.

Milosevic surrendered after late-night negotiations between the government and his Socialist Party. Local television showed footage of the car carrying Milosevic entering Belgrade's Central Prison and the iron gates closing behind it.

Most Belgrade newspapers ran special morning editions Sunday. "It's Finished, Milosevic is Arrested!" read the splash headline in Ekspres Politika.

An investigative judge interrogated Milosevic ahead of issuing a formal detention order, valid for a month and renewable for a total six months to allow a court time to decide whether to formally charge the former president, Serbian Justice Minister Vladan Batic said.

Milosevic's lawyer, Toma Fila, told reporters that the former president was ordered detained for 30 days but would appeal. The lawyer, however, conceded that the appeal might not win Milosevic's early release.

Fila said questioning was to resume Tuesday, and it was unclear why officials scheduled an apparent break in the interrogations for Monday.

Batic said Milosevic was being treated like any other prisoner.

"He has his own room," Batic said. "He will be given food, allowed visitors, to have his own clothes and footwear, money, books, newspapers. He will not be subjected to any kind of physical harassment, no psychological pressure."

Milosevic's arrest followed U.S. threats to suspend \$150 million in economic aid if President Vojislav Kostunica's

government did not show willingness by Saturday to cooperate with the U.N. war crimes tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands. But government officials said the detention was not linked to the deadline.

The U.N. tribunal indicted Milosevic in connection with atrocities committed during his harsh crackdown on ethnic Albanians. Welcoming the arrest Sunday, tribunal spokesman Jim Landale said Yugoslavia has a "binding obligation" to turn him over.

Kostunica has refused to extradite Milosevic to The Hague, insisting he should be tried at home for corruption and other alleged crimes. However, Yugoslav authorities clearly hope that the arrest of Milosevic, regardless of the charges, will lead to U.S. certification that the new democratic government met conditions for the aid.

Police official Miodrag Vukovic said pending charges against Milosevic include abuse of power and corruption that cost the state close to \$100 million, and that Milosevic would face a maximum five-year prison term if convicted.

Batic, the justice minister, pledged a fair trial, and said the arrest had "at this moment" no link to extradition demands by the Hague court. That wording suggested that authorities might consider handing the former president over to the U.N. court once he is tried domestically, and if a ban on extraditing Yugoslav citizens is lifted by parliament passing a law later this year.

"Until we have the law... none of our citizens can be handed over," he told reporters.

As conditions for his surrender, Milosevic had requested a "fair trial, humane (prison) conditions, possibilities for visits and pledges that at this moment we were not acting upon The Hague tribunal request," Batic said.

"It is impossible to say in advance whether the proceedings



Masked members of Serbia's special police unit stand by the gate of former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic's home, early Saturday, March 31, 2001, in Belgrade as the standoff continued. Apparent attempts to arrest Milosevic late Friday having been thwarted, authorities surrounded his home while negotiations continue. (AP Photo/Srdjan Ilic)

will last for 10 days or six months," he said.

Masked police had tried to raid the sprawling villa and seize Milosevic before dawn Saturday but were repulsed by guards firing automatic weapons. During the day, hundreds of his supporters blocked the villa's gates, chanting "Slobod! Slobod!"

Milosevic told police he would rather die than surrender, and Serbian Interior Minister Dusan Mihajlovic said that at one point the former president, brandishing a pistol, threatened to kill himself, his wife and daughter. Branislav Ivkovic, a close aide to Milosevic, said he surrendered voluntarily "to include himself in the legal process."

Mihajlovic said Milosevic's 32-year-old daughter, Marija,

fired four or five pistol shots moments before her father was whisked away. A police official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said she was apparently aiming at a government negotiator. There were no injuries.

Milosevic's wife and daughter remained inside, said police officials. Describing Milosevic as a "reasonable man, who did not want any more Serb blood to be spilled," the former president's lawyer, Toma Fila, blamed authorities for provoking the violence that preceded the arrest by sending riot police to storm the residence instead of only negotiators.

Since his ouster from power last fall, Milosevic has lived

under police surveillance in the tile-roof villa built for former communist dictator Josip Broz Tito.

Milosevic gained power during the waning years of communist rule in Europe. In 1991, he triggered the bloody breakup of the former Yugoslavia, sending his army into losing wars against the pro-independence republics of Slovenia, Croatia and Bosnia.

His brutal attempts to put down an ethnic Albanian rebellion in Serbia's province of Kosovo led to NATO airstrikes that pushed his forces out of the province in 1999.

When Milosevic refused to accept electoral defeat, opposition supporters rioted. He conceded defeat Oct. 6, but remained politically active.

Solidifying soft-money in D.C.

By David Ego
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — After more than a week of turbulent debate, campaign finance legislation was at a crossroads when key senators and their aides filed into an ornate conference room a few paces down the hall from the Senate floor.

Behind closed doors Wednesday, they sought what Sen. John McCain called a "razor-thin kind of balance" — a compromise formula for raising campaign donation limits put into place during the Watergate era a quarter century ago. Without an accord, officials said Friday, there were fears the bill would be doorned and its ban on so-called soft money would perish with it.

Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., argued for raising the current \$1,000 limit to \$2,500, as he had proposed in an amendment on the floor, according to participants in the session. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., countered with the \$2,000 figure contained in her rival amendment. Of equal — possibly greater — importance was the question of how much money donors should be allowed to give to all candidates and parties combined for their direct campaign expenses.

"Money is not evil in and of itself," Thompson had said earlier in the day, and McCain, R-Ariz., the driving force behind the legislation, had said frequently that "the only question is how much" to raise the limits.

But there were careful political calculations to be made, as well. Some Democrats said they worried about putting themselves at a political disadvantage, given the Republican superiority in fund raising. Others, strong supporters of the bill, said that injecting more money into the campaign system ran counter to the spirit of the legislation.

Several sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Sen. Chuck Hagel, R-Neb., argued that the new limits should be allowed to rise in future years with inflation, another sticking point with some Democrats.

These sources also said Wisconsin Sen. Russ Feingold, lead Democratic supporter of the bill, cautioned Thompson that if he refused to bend, he would be branded a hardliner and his support eroded in the face of opposition from other Republicans.

At one point, a tentative deal seemed snuck. Donations of \$2,000 would be permitted to candidates, a figure that would rise with inflation in the future; an individual would be allowed to give a total of \$80,000 per two-year election cycle.

But when Democrats went to their party leader, Sen. Tom Daschle of South Dakota to present the deal, he rejected it, saying the \$80,000 figure was too high and could damage his party's ability to wage campaigns.

Feinstein returned to the negotiations to relay the news, then stayed while Republicans talked among themselves.

Thompson soon floated a counterproposal — a \$75,000 cap in overall donations per election cycle, but it, too, would be allowed to increase with inflation.

This time, Daschle signed off — reluctantly, Feinstein told the Republicans — and by later in the afternoon, the compromise had been drafted, debated and passed on a vote of 84-16.

"I think McCain-Feingold is on its way to passage," Feinstein said afterward, referring to the Senate's shorthand for the bill to overhaul the nation's campaign finance legislation.

Senate passage is set for Monday on the measure designed to curb the influence of big money in politics. Approval would cap a five-year struggle in the Senate, and send the legislation to the House. There, too, the issue of limits on donations to candidates poses a challenge to supporters.

House Democratic leader Dick Gephardt, who supported earlier versions of the bill, told reporters earlier in the week he favors no change in the 27-year-old limits.

And Rep. Tom Davis of Virginia, the chairman of the House GOP campaign committee, served notice on Friday he will attempt to raise them higher than the level in the Senate bill. "If you want to get the soft money out of us, we must raise hard money limits," he said.

There were other checkpoints during two weeks of Senate debate — as McCain and Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis., sought to hold together their coalition.

One came shortly after the beginning of debate, when the bill's supporters were on the verge of losing the first test vote, an amendment by Sen. Pete V. Domenici to strengthen the hand of incumbents running against wealthy, self-financing rivals.

With time running out on the vote, Daschle stood in the well of the Senate, lobbying New Jersey Sen. Jon Corzine and Robert Torricelli, while Feingold spoke urgently with fellow Wisconsin Sen. Herb Kohl. Daschle's message, according to one official, was that defeat on the very first test could cause the bill to unravel.

"This is dilatory," Domenici said as Democrats used parliamentary devices to keep the vote from being announced.

In the end, though, all three Democrats switched. Domenici's amendment was defeated, and supporters of the bill survived their first test, even though its backers were forced into unwanted negotiations over a compromise.

Daschle played a key role again 10 days later on the last critical vote, as he sought to fend off one final attack on the bill's centerpiece, a ban on unlimited donations to the political parties by unions, corporations and individuals. Supporters of the bill prevailed by a surprisingly wide margin of 57-43.

Bush for poisoning America's water source?

By Christopher Newton
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush is leading a strategic assault on the environment after he announced plans to rescind a Clinton-era regulation limiting the amount of arsenic allowed in drinking water, a Democratic governor said Saturday.

Washington Gov. Gary Locke said Bush is in the pocket of big business and is taking his cues from the energy industry.

"It is the wealthy donors and the special interests that helped put him in the White House who want to loosen environmental controls," Locke said in the Democrats' weekly radio address. "As a result, their problems are his problems, and the environmental regulations that are in their way, are in his way too."

The comments were in reaction to Bush's announcement this week that he will pursue a reduction in the amount of arsenic allowed in drinking water, but not before more scientific studies indicate where the level should be set.

The current standard, set in 1942, allows a maximum of 50 parts per billion. Last year, the Environmental Protection Agency recommended reducing that to 5 parts per billion as demanded by many environmentalists, but President Clinton directed that the standard be set at 10 parts per billion.

The Bush administration says it will withdraw the Clinton standard, which would have taken effect later this year.

Health and environmental groups have been campaigning since 1996 to reduce the standard. The EPA acted as part of a court settlement after the National Academy of Sciences found in 1999 that arsenic in drinking water can cause bladder, lung and skin cancer, and might cause liver and kidney cancer.

Locke said Bush's action is just the latest in his "anti-environmental initiatives."

"On the campaign trail, then-Governor Bush promised that he would place limits on the level of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere," Locke said. "Right after he got into the White House, though, that pledge went out the window."

"Two days later, the president announced that he thought



Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Christie Whitman, center, talks to reporters after touring Rocky Mountain Arsenal near Denver, Thursday, March 22, 2001. Standing behind Whitman at right, is Colorado Gov. Bill Owens. Earlier Thursday, Whitman told a gathering at a Western Governors Association meeting in Denver she has no doubt that the current, 60-year-old drinking-water standard of 50 parts per billion of arsenic is too high. She pledged that a new standard would be in place by 2006, a deadline set by the Clinton administration.

our national parks, such as Yellowstone and Yosemite, have the president in the strongest terms to protect our environment," the governor said. "We urge