

Northern Kentucky University

THE NORTHERNER

Edition 33, Issue 13

www.thenortherner.com

Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2003

University Housing reduces student workforce

Budget woes spur cuts

BY AMANDA VANBENSCHOTEN
News Editor
nknews@yahoo.com

With budget cuts looming over Northern Kentucky University like a dark storm cloud waiting to break, University Housing is now eliminating student jobs.

Resident Assistants, or RAs, are being offered a severance package in exchange for resigning, according to Residential Housing Association President Lindsay Hunter.

The administration has asked

University Housing Director Matt Brown to reduce the RA staff by eight members by the spring semester, Hunter said.

"We had more RAs than we needed," Brown said, "but our RAs are under contract for the year, and I wanted to honor that contract. We just don't have the occupancy to have as many RAs as we have."

The severance package will allow RAs who resign to receive free housing in the spring semester, although no meal plan will be included. The RAs will not be required to buy a meal plan, however.

"I know it's necessary for university housing to cut back on the position because of their budget problems, and I think it's good that they're giving people a chance to get out without getting fired, while also leaving them open to continue living on campus for free," said Norse Hall RA Greg Walton.

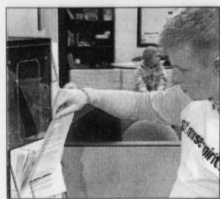
Walton said, because he is a RA in Norse Hall and oversees 90 residents, he feels that his job is secure. Brown declined to say exactly how many RAs have resigned, but said he anticipated the department would meet the goal of eliminating eight staff positions.

He said RAs who resign can reapply for the position next year if they wish.

The remaining RAs in the traditional dorms will take on more residents to compensate for the loss in staff. RAs in the traditional dorms typically oversee 20 residents, compared with Norse and Woodcrest RAs, who oversee 90 residents.

Dean of Students Kent Kelso
See J0B5, page 6

For more on University Housing staff cuts, see Page 3.



Tony Redell / Photo Editor
R.P. Proctor, undeclared freshman, grabs a form to apply for Legacy funding in Student Life.

Funds not dispersed, critics say

BY C.J. FRYER
Staff Writer
cjfryer@fuse.net

Students who control a new source of money for student organizations have drawn criticism from groups who feel they have been unfairly denied their funding requests.

Members of the office of the committee that oversees the \$40,000 Legacy Fund have the power to approve or deny solicitations made by student organizations for money from the fund.

The Legacy Fund committee is overseen by Tiffany Bellant, assistant director of the Office of Student Life, and is composed of seven members appointed by SGA.

The fund's charter stipulates that the committee must be comprised of representatives from a variety of student groups: Greek, residential housing, minority, transfer, adult/non-traditional, international and graduate.

"One claim that people have had is that we're not allocating enough money," said Eric Fegan, executive vice president of Student Government Association and Greek representative on the Legacy Fund committee.

"The three things we can allocate money for are operational assistance to a club or organization, programming assistance and travel assistance," Fegan said.

"Another argument we've heard is that African American and minority organizations haven't been getting all the allocated funds that they're asking for," Fegan said. "We've actually allocated 47 percent of our money to African American and minority organizations, which make up a little less than 6 percent of our campus. To me, there's almost an unfair skew in the opposite direction."

"Of the money that has been expended from the fund so far, 71 percent went to African American and minority organizations," Fegan said. "So for me, that's a tough claim to ever give because the numbers speak for themselves."

When the African Student Union went before the Legacy Fund to request money for

See FUND, page 6

Students observe World AIDS Day

Event strives to raise awareness, abolish myths

BY C.J. FRYER
Staff Writer
cjfryer@fuse.net

All across Northern Kentucky University, students wore red ribbons in honor of World AIDS Day.

The Association of African Churches hosted an event Dec. 1 in the Otto M. Budig Theatre to raise student awareness of the day.

"Most people don't even know about this day (but) it's something done around the world," said Selina Oladapo, AAC vice president of administration.

Lovingson Mtongwiza, AAC founder and vice president of research, said he was pleased with the turnout.

"This part of the region, people tend to think issues like AIDS, poverty and hunger are things that are found far away from them, and they don't have anything to do with them," he said. "For us to get 20 or 30 students is great."

Although Oladapo said she wished more people could have attended the event, Mtongwiza said he still saw the day as a victory.

"We're not measuring success only by attendance, because our main aim as an organization was to raise awareness at NKU," he said.

Mtongwiza believes the AAC achieved just that, because students became aware of the day by the



Tony Redell / Photo Editor
Above: Lovingson Mtongwiza and Jeff Iker perform a skit intended to help abolish myths about AIDS. Below: Students hung posters such as this in the University Center Dec. 1 to raise awareness for World AIDS Day.

AAC's advertising of the event.

That's how freshman Sherree Davis learned of the event.

"I remember something about World AIDS Day back in grade school," she said. "But I didn't remember it was Dec. 1."

David Tucker, risk reduction specialist from AIDS Volunteers of Cincinnati, was the event's main speaker. "The figures he gave us spoke," Mtongwiza said. "(AIDS) is here."

President James Votruba also spoke at the event and said that he wants the day to be a campus-wide event next year, involving the entire university.

This year's theme focused on getting rid of stigma and discrimination associated with the AIDS.

"So many people are refusing to come out and get tested because of the stigma associated with AIDS," Mtongwiza said.

The event also featured an essay contest, won by Emmanuel Brace and Sharon Schuchter, who were presented with gift certificates to the campus bookstore.

"I thought it was well-executed," Davis said. "It served its purpose as in illustrating the issues, dealing with the AIDS epidemic."

"I'm on cloud nine with the whole thing," Mtongwiza said.



Survey says: 90 percent of freshmen like being at NKU

Report Card for NKU

Students who feel safe and healthy have gone out of their way to avoid them	
Students who feel NKU is committed to excellence in its academic and support services	
NKU has good reputation in the community	
It is easy to get the questions answered that find the answers and services that I need on campus	
I feel I have made a good decision about attending NKU	

Signature: Hays = 20%

Mike Brennan / Illustrator

BY MICHELLE MORENO-BERRY
Staff Writer
moreno_berry@yahoo.com

An online satisfaction survey given to incoming freshmen and transfer students this fall showed overwhelmingly positive results, according to the office of student affairs.

In the beginning of the fall 2003 semester, President James Votruba requested that a survey be given to freshmen and transfer students.

Stephanie Baker, research assistant for student affairs, said Votruba wanted to understand

what new students thought about Northern Kentucky University.

"Freshmen made the decision in the first four weeks of college to stay or go, according to a national study," Baker said.

Baker said that Votruba was delighted with results of the survey and that the university plans to use it in the future.

"We couldn't believe how positive the results were," Baker said, adding that students had many great things to say about their initial impression of the campus.

Five hundred ninety-three students answered the online

survey, of which 416 respondents were female and 175 were male. Two respondents declined to give their gender.

"We liked doing the survey online because we felt that the answers were well thought-out, since students didn't have to hurry up and write out their responses," Baker said. She also said that she liked the online survey because the results were immediate.

One of the most encouraging results of the survey was that 90.2 percent of respondents said they had made a good decision to attend NKU. Similarly, 88.5 percent of respondents felt

that NKU was committed to excellence in its academic and support services.

Another promising result was that 87.4 percent of students surveyed said they felt welcomed on campus.

While the survey gave positive feedback, some results were a painful reminder of the continual struggle to involve students at NKU.

Only 50.4 percent of respondents said they would get involved in student organizations. Only 56.5 percent of respondents said that they knew how to get involved in clubs and organizations.

Fat or Phat? The Atkins Diet Revealed

The low-carbohydrate and high-protein diet is taking America by storm. This week's Life and Times examines the benefits and drawbacks of the diet that promises quick weight loss.

Page 7

Inside

Other news: page 3

Viewpoints: page 4-5

Life & Times: page 7

Northern Life: page 8

Sports: page 10-11

Classifieds: page 12

dpsreports

NOV 30 2003
Sunday-10:24 p.m.
Classification: SMOKE
ALARM
Location: UNIVERSITY
SUITES
Disposition: Closed
Summary: A smoke alarm was activated at listed location. Central Campbell County Fire department responded along with Power Plant and Officers. No sign of smoke or fire was found, building was cleared by fire department and reopened for occupancy. State Fire Marshall was notified by email.

NOV 30 2003
Sunday-8:30 p.m.
Classification: BURGLARY-
Burglary 2nd Degree
Location: COMMON-
WEALTH HALL
Disposition: Under investigation.
Summary: Subject stated that a cordless phone had been taken from listed location over the holiday break.

NOV 30 2003
Sunday-5:45 p.m.
Classification: BURGLARY-
Burglary 2nd Degree
Location: COMMON-
WEALTH HALL
Disposition: Under investigation.
Summary: Subject stated that several items were missing from listed location when they returned from break.

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

campusbriefs

Tailgate tips off basketball season

The annual "Tip-off Tailgate" opened the Norse basketball season Nov. 21. Members of the campus community arrived to show off their team spirit before Northern Kentucky University took on Gannon in the first game of the season. Campus Recreation sponsored the event, which included food, drinks, contests and give-aways.

Librarians can answer questions instantly

Steady Library now offers instant messaging with librarians so students can get questions answered right away. The service can be found at

<http://library.nku.edu/ask/> Monday-Thursday 7-9 p.m. and Friday 2-3 p.m. In-depth questions may still require students to visit the information desk in the library. Consultations with librarians are available upon request.

WMS debuts new Web site

The Women's Studies Program launched its new and improved Web site Nov. 20. It features information about departmental events, course offerings and contact information. Also on the Web site are tools for faculty, including a lending library list and on-line work request. Visit <http://www.nku.edu/~wms/index.html>.

Book drive winds down

The Student Education Association will hold the final days of its Holiday Book Drive Dec. 3 and 4. Students may drop off new or slightly used children's books or monetary donations in the University Center and Business Education Psychology building lobbies from noon until 1 p.m. The books will be distributed to children at Covington elementary and middle schools. Students who donate will be entered in a drawing for prizes.

Research misconduct report available

Steady Library now offers two copies of the Investigative Report Findings from the Ad

Hoc Investigative Committee on Research Misconduct on reserve for public use.

The report, published in August, details the research misconduct of finance professors Anju and Balasubramani Ramjee.

Others in the investigation include economics professor Richard Snyder, and faculty members Shalendra Verma and Louis Noyd.

Committee members found the professors committed numerous instances of "fabrication, falsification, plagiarism or serious deviations from accepted practices."

The investigation includes 23 published research papers, according to the report.

nationalbriefs

President Bush visits troops in Iraq

President Bush made a surprise Thanksgiving visit to American troops stationed in Iraq on Nov. 27. He visited 600 soldiers at a military base at Baghdad International Airport, where he addressed the troops and then served them Thanksgiving dinner.

The two-and-a-half hour visit was kept a secret even from Bush's family and top advisers until he, with several aides and members of the media, landed safely in Iraq.

I-270 shootings linked

Eleven vehicles have been fired upon this year on a five-mile stretch of Interstate 270 near Columbus, Ohio. Authorities told the Associated Press that they now believe the shootings are related.

Gail Knisley, 62, was shot and killed Nov. 25 while riding in a car with a friend. Franklin County police say the bullet that killed her came from the same gun as a bullet used in an interstate shooting earlier this year. Police have increased patrols in the area and are asking locals to be alert and report any suspicious activity.

100 Guantanamo prisoners to be transferred

Military officials said Dec. 1 that over 100 prisoners will soon be transferred from the U.S. detainment camp at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Officials declined to say where the prisoners will be sent. The transfers will occur in December and January, according to the Associated Press.

There are currently 660 prisoners from 44 countries being held at the military base. Many are terrorist suspects. They have not been charged with crimes, nor have they been given access to lawyers.

SAA builds student-alumni rapport

By RYAN SMITH
Contributor
northerner@nku.edu

You don't have to pay to join, you receive free stuff and you have the opportunity to mingle with alumni and learn what the real world is like. Sounds too good to be true, but it's not — it's the Student Alumni Association (SAA), which serves as a link between students, administration, faculty and alumni.

"Networking is the No. 1 thing we do," said Amy Schmitt, SAA president.

Through its mentor program, the organization pairs students with alumni who have gone into a field the student is studying.

"The mentor program gives us contacts and answers questions about potential careers," Schmitt said.

SAA is also one of the sponsors for the Alumni Lecture

Series. With that connection, SAA members have been able to shadow major political figures such as Newt Gingrich, George Stephanopoulos, James Carville and this semester's speakers, political strategists Paul Begala and Mary Matalin and journalist Bob Woodward.

SAA works at all Northern Kentucky University alumni events, which allow students another chance to mingle with alumni.

Alumni benefits are important, Schmitt said, because students have the chance to talk to alumni, as well as receive dinner when they work the events.

Shelia Perry, a senior social work major, is happy to be in the association because she said it allows her to see how important alumni are on campus.

"I joined SAA due to the fact that I'm going to be graduating in May," she said. "I wanted to be part of an organization that gives back and represents



SAA members met pundits Mary Matalin and Paul Begala (above) at the Oct. 1 Alumni Lecture Series.

alumni."

SAA belongs to the national Student Advancement Program and attends its yearly conferences with schools from all over the country.

"We earn money every year to send our members to state and district conferences," Schmitt said.

To raise money for this year's conference in Charleston, S.C., members of SAA will work the ticket stands at all NKU home basketball games.

"Any student can join any time," Schmitt said. "We're an open organization with no fees associated with it."

Campus Book and Supply and
The Northerner present

The Great Christmas Giveaway

\$1,000 in prizes divided among 8 winners.

Prizes include \$100 and \$50 gift certificates to Campus Book and Supply and gift certificates to other area businesses.

Register online at www.thenortherner.com.
Limit one entry per person.
Contest ends December 13, 2003

All winners will be notified by e-mail
by December 20, 2003.

Campus Book and Supply

Section Editor
Amanda VanBenschoten
859-572-5260

othernews

Maintenance staff cuts hit home

By MICHELLE MORENO-BERRY
Staff Writer
moreno_berry@yahoo.com

An increased workload for maintenance workers and a decrease in staff means students in Northern Kentucky University's Residential Village must wait longer for needed repairs.

University Suites, which opened in August, added 400 rooms, but the maintenance crew decreased from five to four personnel when one full-time maintenance worker left earlier this semester.

The maintenance staff now consists of two full-time student workers.

Lindsay Hunter, Residential Housing Association president, said she is concerned about the increasing number of work orders compared with the decreased number of maintenance staff.

"The major problem is the lack of ability to get to everything," she said.

While many students in the Residential Village have good things to say about mainte-

nance crew workers, they have also noticed an increasingly long wait for non-emergency work orders.

Matt Brown, director of university housing, said the department is trying to maximize the efficiency of its staff in light of state budget cuts and a financially uncertain future for the university.

"We are doing an experiment to determine what is the best overall process to maximize efficiency," he said.

"We analyzed the number of hours, number of employees, and the number of tasks each day."

Some students, however, feel that the experiment is not working.

John Rafp, a senior computer science and accounting major, said he put in a work order for his leaky toilet in September and it wasn't fixed until the first week in November.

"They told me it had something to do with a warranty, since this is a new building," said Rafp, who lives in University Suites.

"Our window does not shut properly without excessive force," said Paul Ulrich, a junior



Mike Brennan / Illustrator

computer science/philosophy major. "We have put in a request to have it fixed twice, sometime in September."

Even though some students wait longer than usual to have their work orders filled, the students who were interviewed said they understand why they are waiting and hope that new staff will be hired soon to alleviate the problem.

Jenny Weddle, a junior speech communication major, said she has not bothered to put

in a work order for her clogged sink because she knows maintenance doesn't have time to fix it.

Emily Lepping, a senior political science major, said maintenance supervisor Willie Davis has bent over backward to do repairs for her dorm room.

Lepping said her air conditioner had badly flooded her room when she ran into Davis at the end of his shift.

"Willie fixed my air condi-

tioner, vacuumed my carpet and gave me a can of Lysol," Lepping said. "He didn't have to do that."

Maintenance work orders are divided into three categories: preventative maintenance, emergency and daily work orders. The preventative maintenance is done on time and the emergency work orders take priority. Daily work orders typically take a back seat to the emergency and preventative orders.

Hunter worries that the stress put on the small maintenance staff has strained the relationship between residents and the staff.

"If the staff does not feel comfortable, then the residents don't feel comfortable," she said.

Hunter said some of the housekeeping personnel are looked upon as mother figures to students.

"They have baked us cookies and everything," Hunter said, adding that she sees how hard the staff works every day, and sees a need to hire more personnel.

Housekeeping from the main campus has already begun

working on weekends.

"I can see that the housekeeping staff is not happy about working weekends," Hunter said.

Brown said University Housing is considering requiring Residential Village maintenance staff to work seven days a week, as well.

"The crew will not have to work seven days, but we are thinking about a rotation to where crew members would work one Saturday per month," he said.

He said that he has discussed these changes with his staff and that having one or two weekdays off was attractive to some employees.

Residential advisor Jesse Rupe said that they are telling students to be patient and that they understand their frustration.

"If it were up to us, there would be maintenance staff available 24/7, but people have to understand that the staff is working the best they can with what they have," Rupe said.

Brown said that he plans to reevaluate the situation and make a decision about hiring as early as spring.

Service to seniors can benefit NKU students

By ROBYN PONTNER
Staff Writer
northerner@nku.edu

Students at Northern Kentucky University who are interested in giving back to the community can do so by volunteering their time to Senior Services of Northern Kentucky (SSNK).

SSNK, located in Covington,

is the primary provider of a variety of non-medical services to senior citizens in the community.

According to the SSNK's web page, it is also the only agency in this area to deliver "Meals-on-Wheels" to senior citizens who are unable to prepare meals for themselves.

SSNK is looking for students to volunteer as little or as much as they are able.

"Being a volunteer doesn't mean making a huge time commitment," said Sonya Turner, SSNK volunteer coordinator.

"Senior Services of Northern Kentucky offers many flexible one-time projects, like raking leaves or cleaning for an older person."

There are also opportunities for students who are interested in volunteering more of their time.

"Volunteers who want to give a few hours per month can grocery shop, help with yard work, run errands or just visit," Turner said.

"The elderly in our community love to tell their stories about growing up during the Depression, World War II and all their life experiences."

Siddharth Munisif, a senior finance major, rakes leaves this summer for an elderly woman.

"It was a fun way to get some experience with volunteering," he said.

Munisif said it was a good experience for him because he plans to go to medical school after graduation.

"It was great doing community service and interacting with senior citizens," he said.

Turner said that Munisif is a good example of how even someone who is very busy can

find time to volunteer.

"By making a connection with older adults, volunteers are richly rewarded, knowing that they are truly making a difference in their lives," Turner said.

Students who are interested in volunteering can contact Sonya Turner. She can be reached at 859-491-0522 or send an e-mail to Turner at sturner@seniorservicesnky.org.

h, baby!

Help bring a child's laughter to a loving home



Our deepest desire is to start our family, but infertility prevents us from doing so.

You can help by becoming an egg donor. Your commitment would be one menstrual cycle. All of your expenses would be paid and you would be generously compensated for this wonderful gift.

If you are a healthy, intelligent and physically fit woman between the ages of 21 and 32 and would like to enrich your life by helping us fulfill our dream, please call today.



INSTITUTE FOR
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
3800 Edwards Road • Cincinnati

For more information about becoming an egg donor, call the egg donor nurse at (513) 924-5577 or send e-mail to eggdonor@fuse.net. Mention Department HOPE.

Today we have conquered the stars...

So why can't you achieve your goals?

You can.

Buy and read

Dianetics

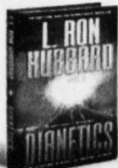
IGNITE YOUR POTENTIAL

Get your copy from:

Church of Scientology, Cincinnati, 219 West 4th St., Cincinnati, OH 45202 (513) 421-2927

www.scientology-cincinnati.org

©2000 CSI. All rights Reserved. DIANETICS and the DIANETICS symbol in a circle are trademarks and service marks owned by Religious Technology Center and are used with its permission. Services relating to Scientology religious philosophy are delivered throughout the world exclusively by licensees of the Church of Scientology Technology Center, holder of the SCIENTOLOGY and DIANETICS trademarks. Item#49311.



Got a nose



for

NEWS?

Reporters needed
for SPRING 2004.

Stop by The Northerner's offices
in the University Center 209

northernerstaff

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Lori Cox
[editorku@yahoo.com]

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

D.J. Carter
[carterdon@nku.edu]

NEWS EDITOR

Amanda VanBenschoten
[nkunews@yahoo.com]

FEATURES EDITOR

Susan Nelmer
[nku_features@yahoo.com]

PHOTO EDITOR

Tony Redell
[redella@nku.edu]

SPORTS EDITOR

Kyle Burch
[kjbnku@yahoo.com]

CALENDAR EDITOR

Amie Vogt
[vogtmari@nku.edu]

LAYOUT / DESIGN EDITOR

Bree Culnan
[breeculnan@yahoo.com]

WEBMASTER

Mike Brennan
[brennam@nku.edu]

EXECUTIVE COPY EDITOR

Bryan Ashcraft
[bryanashcraft@yahoo.com]

COPY EDITOR

Travis Gettys
[travis_northerner@hotmail.com]

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Ryan Wilham
[ads_wilham@yahoo.com]

BUSINESS MANAGER

Brittany Contois
[bcontois@yahoo.com]

CARTOONIST

Mike Maydak
[ChiefWackemgood@aol.com]

STAFF WRITERS

Emily Chalfant
C.J. Fryer
Michelle McCloskey
Michelle Moreno-Berry
Robin Poynter
Jen Vorholt

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS

Pam Atkinson
Tyler Butcher
Clark Clark
Nicole Jones
Rachel Ligon
Fran McQueen

COLUMNISTS

Elias Hajjar
Dominick Wise

ADVISER

Gayle Brown
[brownng@nku.edu]

contact information

Northern Kentucky University
University Center Room 209,
Highland Heights, KY 41076

Phone: 859-572-5260
Fax: 859-572-5772

email: northerner@nku.edu

reproduction information

Entire contents are 2003
copyright of *The Northerner*.
May not be reprinted in whole
or in part without prior
consent.

further details

The Northerner, the newspaper
of Northern Kentucky
University, is published weekly,
except during holidays and
examination periods from
August through May by
students.

Views expressed do not
represent the opinions of the
administration, faculty or the
student body.



Steve Sack, Star Tribune/KRT Campus

Money can't buy justice

"Jackson admitted that he's slept in the same bed with many children..."

By CURTIS R. BURDETTE
Aquisas Times (Aquisas College)

(U-WIRE) GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Michael Jackson is in the news again for allegedly molesting a young boy.

These allegations follow a child abuse investigation in 1993 that brought Jackson's career to a screeching halt. In a shameless display of injustice, criminal charges never resulted from that incident, but Jackson reportedly settled the claims in a multimillion-dollar civil settlement.

Another innocent child served a tragic dose of American justice.

What kind of parent lets his/her child sleep over at

Neverland Ranch?

Only a year ago Jackson was in the press for dangling his baby over a balcony on the fourth floor of a German hotel. In February 2003, ABC broadcast a documentary on national television that was watched by millions of fans who must have some unexplainable fanaticism for the pop star.

On the show, Jackson admitted that he's slept in the same bed with many children not related to him.

When questioned about it, he said it wasn't sexual but, instead, was "very charming" and "very sweet."

While his admission claims to show that his actions are harmless, parents ought to

evaluate the history of allegations and compare that to his behavior.

According to the American legal system, Jackson is innocent until proven guilty, but it doesn't take a Parent of the Year to realize that he might not be the best guy to chaperone a young son or daughter at a sleepover.

Waiting until his guilt is proven in court is like holding your bleeding hand in a pool with a hungry shark to be sure that it really will bite. But instead of your hand, you're feeding your child to the predator.

Perhaps his behavior is perfectly innocent, but it just doesn't seem rational. Amid rumors that Jackson has had multiple cosmetic surgeries, he was in court on Nov. 13 wear-

ing a surgical mask and a bandage on his nose.

His appearance in Santa Maria Superior Court was for breach of contract because he cancelled two New Year's Eve performances that were scheduled for 1999.

Expert plastic surgeons who compare pictures of Jackson when he was younger with current photos suggest that over the years he has bleached his skin and made his nose pointier to have a face that looks more Caucasian, as well as other procedures on his chin, lips and eyes, although he denies having any cosmetic surgeries.

Jackson obviously has personal issues with his looks, which suggests that his eccentricities border on serious

mental disorder.

That alone doesn't make him a predator, but he has no fear telling the world that he likes being in bed with children, even though he recognizes that people immediately associate sleeping in the same bed with sex.

Michael Jackson is not your average father, who enjoys spending time with his children and their friends. He suggests that sleeping in the same bed as a young child that isn't a relative is perfectly innocent.

However, his beliefs won't clear his name.

Let's see if he has enough left in his checkbook to make his problems disappear.

State has no role in marriage

"What business is it of the government to regulate marriage in the first place?"

By ARPAN SUJA
Daily Texan (U. Texas-Austin)

(U-WIRE) AUSTIN, Texas — The culture wars raged on last week as the Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled that state marriage laws must not be construed to exclude homosexuals.

This newfound civil right vindicated liberal pundits, who saw current marriage laws as intolerant. Conservative commentators complained that courts should not arbitrarily redefine marriage and overturn a law supported by the people. Once again, both sides just don't get it: What business is it of the government to regulate marriage in the first place?

Both liberals and conservatives argue that since marriage is of such fundamental import, the state has a compelling interest in defining and controlling it.

They often allege, correctly, that marriage is one of humanity's oldest and most important institutions. But they make an invalid deduction: the government must have power over it.

The question, then, does not revolve around whether mar-

riage is important. Rather, who should define this institution: The government or individuals? In the end, whatever the merits of marriage as a social good, it does not need the government's interference to survive. It never did. Whereas the modern state dates back only a few hundred years, marriage has long existed independent of government.

Most marriages derive their personal significance from religious or cultural sanctions, not from the approval of a low-level government functionary.

As it stands, every state government has the power to define marriage, and by extension, the derived benefits, such as tax write-offs or homeownership benefits.

Conservatives, who are traditionally skeptical of programs such as affirmative action, should take note of marriage laws that selectively endorse entitlements to one segment of the population over another.

The fundamental problem with marriage licenses is the benefits, but rather the nature of the license itself. Marriage licenses are contracts. The state government, not the couple involved, defines the legal

terms of the contract. If a couple wants to be married and receive legal protection and recognition, they have no choice but to abide by the terms of the state. This makes marriage, in essence, a state-sanctioned monopoly.

Deregulating marriage means ending government monopoly, state by state. It signifies that couples have full legal authority to draw out their marriage contracts. Courts could then enforce those contracts just like any other legally binding document. If the government were removed from marriage, the benefits would be numerous.

First, since the monopoly no longer hold the monopoly on marriage, each couple could tailor important issues in the marriage contract to their own needs. A couple could define their marriage contract according to purely religious definitions, or they could use a standard template.

Second, companies that recognize homosexual marriage contracts would gain a comparative advantage in the marketplace. If a health provider or an insurance company decided to recognize only heterosexual marriage contracts



with visiting rights, the gay-friendly business would gain a competitive foothold in society.

In short, the only thing that would regulate a particular union would be social norms, which is exactly the way it should be.

Third, removing the government from marriage would make marriage and divorce laws much simpler.

Liberals are right in their belief that the government

should not create discriminatory preferential policies against homosexuals — conservatives are correct in that the government should not endorse a form of activity that the majority does not approve of.

The solution, then, is to remove government from the equation altogether. The state needs to stop playing priest for every wedding.

Individuals should be free to define the terms of their own relationship.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

SUBMISSIONS

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

Wednesday
December 3, 2003 5
Edition 33, Issue 13

Letters to the editor

Voter apathy is the issue, not politics

To the editor,

I here in my office at NKU and laugh as I read a letter to the editor written by Sharon Schuchter (published Nov. 12) concerning Mr. Noah Meeks' letter (published Oct. 29), on the recent election.

Ms. Schuchter must realize that the real problem is not Noah's opinion about the election, his potential to sway votes or the timing of the publication.

The real problem is the voter apathy among college students. How can one say voters when no one is voting?

I currently teach a University 101 course and offered my students extra credit for voting on Tuesday. I stated up front I don't care which party - just vote.

I was agast to learn only one student was able to vote, because the rest of the class was not even registered, and many had no idea there was even an election going on. All were uninformed on who to vote for.

Personally, I think Ms. Schuchter should be more concerned about voter turnout among college students than the freedom any one individual

has to voice his political opinion.

At least Mr. Meeks is somewhat informed on something involving politics.

The real risk for all college students in Kentucky was that neither candidate had committed to an invested commitment to making NKU a top priority in Franklin.

Isn't time that we look at the real issues in politics, not just the party lines?

Anita Zike Adams
Support Specialist
Student Support Services

Students should avoid offensive rhetoric

To the editor,

As a columnist, I would like to respond to the letter published Nov. 12 and written by Joe Wanninger entitled, "Racism is not just a white issue."

I am sure that many readers, much like myself, felt that this letter was very offensive and was obviously a strongly sarcastic, opinionated letter with no factual basis. I can say with certainty that after reading the letter I was extremely thankful that it was not a reflection of

How to write The Northerner

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

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

publication in order to be included.

- Event or organizational announcements will not be printed on the Viewpoints pages. Submit to Amie Vogt, vogtmairie@yahoo.com.
- The Northerner reserves the right to edit for content and space.

the beliefs of all Anglo-Saxons in regard to racism.

"Ms. African American freeness" was the first overtly offensive reference made in Mr. Wanninger's letter.

As educated college students, the author may not have realized the offensive nature of this label, it was blatantly disrespectful, just as it would be equally as offensive and disrespectful if I were to repeatedly refer to Mr. Wanninger as "Mr. White-biased authorism."

As educated college students, we should know that making such statements is degrading and demeaning. The author's statement suggesting that blacks are more racist than whites and are more likely to get away with their racist comments was a generalized, hypocritical, unintelligent miscon-

ception.

Although it was not the first instance, this bitter and disgusting denunciation further discredited the possibility of viewing this author as being impartial and informed in regard to race relations as it affects blacks and whites.

Perhaps the only accurate statement made by this writer was that "culpability lies in all sides." However, this is overshadowed by comments which were reflective of his biased and defensive stance as a white American.

Unfortunately, he (like many) has been misinformed about the abolition of slavery being a step taken by whites in order to recognize "the error of their ways."

Emancipating those enslaved was in fact an essential step in the struggle towards

equality; however, in no way did the vast majority of whites abolish racism or recognize and take responsibility for the fallacies of this horrendous institution.

Racism will only cease to exist when we all learn to speak without offending and listen without defending.

In the future I would advise those that wish to address issues as controversial as race to think before they write and to have an educated, unbiased, informed professor/advisor revise their letters in order to prevent authors (such as this one) from making himself/herself look like the exact person that he/she claims not to be.

Josica K. Long
Junior
Spanish/Fine Arts

npr

north poll responses

Compiled by Tony Reddell

How do you deal with the stress of exams?



Bob Catanzaro
Senior, business management

"Be well prepared."



Talia Borerer
Freshman, music

"I'll have to practice my music a lot. Also study a lot because I try not to get stressed out."



Marquis Samson
Freshman, undeclared

"I'm not sure I really don't get stressed out when I take exams."



Dawntay Porter
Freshman, math/education

"Get a lot of sleep."



Sarah Wilson
Sophomore, undeclared

"Usually I just blow them off and then cram at the last minute. I usually study with music when I do study."



Nomo Nthenya
Freshman, Marketing management

"I work best under pressure."

editorialnote

What exactly is 'white'?

"Racism has built 'whiteness' on the backs of... 'non-white' peoples."

Worry



by DJ Carter

Racism is one hell of an issue for "whites."

The fact that most people who consider themselves "white" or find themselves categorically lumped into "white" don't catch its significance demonstrates the depth of its impact.

"Whiteness" is a vestige of the "peculiar institution" that was Slavery. Yeah, that's

Slavery with a capital "S," not capitalized by some nationalistic arrogance, but because this country participated in the dingiest, damndest mother of all slaveries.

It wasn't prisoner-of-war slavery/societal indenturedness, as in African, Roman or Greek slavery traditions. It was a most brutal, life-binding, self-sustaining and self-perpetuating system, tall and new on recorded supports.

It was peculiarly and uniquely entrenched, and contrary to the values the U.S. conferred in its political rhetoric and policy.

The fact that there are "white" people demonstrates that we still bear up Slavery's supports.

Trace the beginnings of "White"-ness back to Jamestown, Va., in the first

permanent English settlement in the New World.

People became "white" after African indentured servants ran away with European indentured servants of many ethnicities. People became "white" after Africans and Europeans came together and burned Jamestown to the ground.

Colonial law testifies to this. It's documented in Judge A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr.'s *The Matter of Color: Race and the American Legal Process, the Colonial Period*. Before multicultural escapes and Jamestown's burning, the law referred to people by ethnicity (Scottish, Irish, Dutch, etc.) but afterwards it held them as "white." They received punishment and privilege as "whites" by law based on far different standards than their African brothers and sisters. Its effective

heart, this set the peculiar stage for slavery.

American history is full of poignant examples of people sacrificing degrees of cultural heritage to the law and society to become "white." "White" became a valuable commodity, and people bought it and fought for its racial privilege with whatever they had. People still do.

Racism robs "whites" of chunks of humanity, culture and truth. Racism has built "whiteness" on the backs of African-Americans and other "non-white" peoples.

It has built "Whiteness" on the backs of "whites" too.

From Ku Klux Klansmen to everyday folks, racism uses and abuses "whites." Its standards of inhumanity and division stand as a gauge. It gauges consciously or unconsciously

in people's minds and in our institutions, allowing the humanity of all interactions to be lower.

An injustice to one is really an injustice to all. If it's OK to treat most folks like crap, it's more OK to treat more folks like crap.

"Whites" need to claim, reclaim and work towards culture independent of race-structured values to truly and meaningfully communicate at the table with African Americans and other people of color.

It may be that "whites" have to begin to move in this direction just to understand racism and our situation.

The views expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent the views of The Northerner or its staff.

collapse in Asia during the late 1990s.

The World Bank and IMF's structural adjustment policies that countries that take loans must adhere to like the privatization of enterprise by foreign investors, government cuts in spending, in particular education and health care, raising interest rates, eliminating tariff protections have increased the amount of people living in poverty in these nations.

But what is the solution? Is it Dean's overhauled idea or Kucinich's complete elimination of the WTO? Are there any other suggestions? How can suggestions be made when the education isn't there?

Mainstream media in most of the United States ignores it most of the time and, when it is covered, they tell a story of fanatical protestors and suits smiling

and shaking hands.

But why are the protestors fanatical and why are the suits smiling?

Scrutiny of America's foreign policy is becoming more and more frequent making it one of the most important issues in the upcoming presidential elections.

It is vital that consciousness is raised and solutions multiple solutions are presented to educate the public. Write your congressmen and senators. Write the program directors and newswriters in the mainstream media telling them that this issues must be reported in an unbiased manner to with the purpose to inform voters.

The views expressed in this editorial do not necessarily represent the views of The Northerner or its staff.

By MORGAN McCLOSKEY
Staff Writer
northerner@nku.edu

Last September the World Trade Organization ran into a problem when leaders and representatives of underdeveloped countries walked out of meetings that would set the momentum of free trade and push an extension of NAFTA by adding seven Central American countries to the agreement in a deal called the Central America Free Trade Agreement.

Criticism of free trade have been increasing since the 1999 WTO demonstration in Seattle. Anti-free trade demonstrations that have occurred after 1999 have seen in an increase in participants and venues that include the World Bank and IMF. Free Trade of Americas

Agreement and CAFTA. Anti-globalization activists call for an end to free trade and hope to see it replaced with fair trade.

In a presidential debate on Thanksgiving, Howard Dean said that the WTO needed an "overhaul," and Dennis Kucinich called for an end to the WTO.

A dramatization of the unequal distribution of wealth, called The Meal of Fortune, recently took place on campus.

Dr. Jon Ferrante, professor in the sociology department, presented to students examples of exploited workers in underdeveloped nations that make goods that are mostly sold and used in the United States, such as tantalum, a metal that is necessary for cell phones to operate, diamonds and other jewels, coffee bean farmers and textile factories where workers earn between ten and 36 cents per hour.

According to Ferrante, 55 percent of the world's population earn less than two dollars a day.

Free trade is the cause and the World Bank and IMF are notorious for escalating workers' exploitation.

The World Bank gives loans to underdeveloped countries with hopes that the country will attract industry to pay back their loan and become self-reliant. Competition created by free trade forces the goods produced to remain at low price in the market and does not generate the profits necessary to pay back the loan and the underdeveloped country folds and the economy collapses.

This has occurred in Argentina, through out the continent of Africa and has been considered one of the main reasons for the economic

Homeless children often overlooked

By C.J. FYER
Staff Writer
cfyer@hcn.net

Homeless children in the United States deserve the same rights as everyone else, including suitable housing, an adequate education and legal representation, according to a former law student at Northern Kentucky University.

Homeless children often do not receive their American rights, said Marianne Chevalier, a graduate of the Chase College of Law.

She said she hopes to change this situation.

Chevalier is part of the

Homeless Youth Project, a joint effort between NKU and the Children's Law Center of Covington, which seeks to address homeless education, housing, and legal issues.

The project is currently in its initial phase, which "includes a lot of planning, brainstorming, and networking," she said.

"Our definition of homelessness may be different than others," she said. "It includes both children who are part of a homeless family and older children who have been kicked out or left alone by parents."

There are other programs in the area designed to help homeless children, but Chevalier said

they have restrictions that can cause problems.

"They have good intentions, but the rules get in the way," she said. "There are too many obstacles."

For example, despite the amount of public housing development in Northern Kentucky, most families cannot gain access to them because a favorable rental history of five years is required. If a family was evicted or had past due rent or utilities, they will not be accepted, Chevalier said.

The homeless also encounter obstacles in obtaining an adequate education.

"Under federal law, homeless

youth have a right to an education, but implementing these laws is hard," Chevalier said.

Most schools require documentation to enroll but, she added, "Homeless people don't tend to keep a lockbox of their important documents with them."

Chevalier said it should not matter that they lack certain documentation, and they should be enrolled immediately.

The McKinney-Vento Act was initiated to help homeless people obtain an education. This federal law requires all public school districts to have a Homeless Education Coordinator, a liaison between

the schools and the homeless. But the law still runs into problems.

When Chevalier called local schools to speak to these liaisons, most secretaries didn't know what she was talking about.

If homeless youth can't even be directed to the correct person, Chevalier said, then they've reached a "dead end."

"Once they're turned away, they'll give up," she said. "They won't fight for their rights. They're humiliated to be homeless."

Dr. Lowell Schechter, a principal investigator for the Homeless Youth Project, said he

believes that many schools aren't fully aware of these laws and haven't been adequately trained.

"We need to educate the educators," said Schechter, a professor at Chase College of Law.

In addition to examining housing and educational issues, the Homeless Youth Project is looking into legal emancipation issues and special needs of homeless immigrant children.

At Chase College of Law, Schechter said that many non-traditional students are bringing their expertise to the table.

"Many people feel very strong about these issues," he said.

Jobs

Continued from page one

said the staff cuts are necessary in order to prevent a budget deficit for University Housing this academic year.

"This is part of a plan to try and keep us from going into a deficit," he said. "Housing has to support itself, so its revenues have to exceed its expenditures. That is our struggle right now."

He said that University Housing does not get any funding from the state or from university tuition and student fees. He said its revenue comes solely from rent paid by residents.

"When Housing makes their budget, they make it based on an estimate of how much rent they will collect," he said.

"We could keep the current RA staff, but if we did, we would have to raise rent,"

Kelso said. "We don't want to do that. We're trying to be fiscally responsible so we don't have to pass any significant rent increases on to students."

Kelso said the department has already cut down on major renovation projects as well and travel and operating costs.

"The next step was to look at some of our top expenditures," he said, "and a top expenditure for us is staff."

Kelso said this year's budget, made by former Director of University Housing Todd Duncan, was based upon an expectation that the Residential Village would be 95 percent full.

"We're less than 90 percent (capacity) in the fall, so we're going to be possibly less than

80 percent in the spring," he said. "We're not bringing in the money we thought we would. During tough times we have to be very lean on our expenditures."

He said the addition of University Suites and the 400 beds it provides has put a financial strain on the budget and it may take a couple of years for the department to rebound.

Kelso said the national ratio of RAs to student residents is 1-to-40, and the university is well under that ratio.

"Our plan is to change that to lower Kentucky and Commonwealth RA staff to about 12," he said. "That puts us back to (a ratio of) about 1-to-24. That's still way below the national average."

Fund

Continued from page one

the Cultural Fest, they were denied.

According to Dean of Students Kent Kelso, the Legacy Fund is intended to help organizations advertise and promote themselves, and also to cover travel expenses for such events as workshops.

"Cultural Fest would have been something (classified) as campus-wide," Kelso said. "They didn't get anything from the Legacy Fund, but they came to me and they got \$1,500."

Kelso, along with Fegan and SGA president Chris Pace, oversees the Program and Activities Grant (PAG), which is part of a \$90,000 grant from the university's budget as President James Votruba's investment in student organization programming.

PAG, along with the Collaborative Projects Fund, are the two other primary sources of funding for student organizations.

"The intent of PAG is for organizations to design, develop and implement large cam-

pus-wide programs and initiatives that could turn into some traditional events on campus," Kelso said.

The Collaborative Projects Fund has a budget of \$15,000.

"It's not a whole lot of money," Kelso said, "but it has been used successfully to do various events on campus where two or more organizations would have to have an event together."

The Legacy Fund is different in that it is "targeted for individual student organizations," he said, adding that PAG is for campus-wide programs that require significant money.

"We want to send (African Student Union) to PAG," Fegan said, "so they could get more money and be well taken care of because we can't afford to give them what they're asking for."

"Student Life ensures that (the Legacy Fund) committee understands what their role is and the parameters they need to work under, (which include) the constitution and university policy," Kelso said.

"If indeed the decision was made in a way that indicated a discrimination issue, the university would step in and overturn that decision and make sure that no discrimination is going on. The university reserves that right to do that," Kelso said.

"At this point, I have not been made aware of anything like that," he added.

Fegan said he is confident that the diversity of the committee ensures decisions are made with much thought.

"I can say with complete and utter confidence that there's been no discrimination towards any group," he said.

Fegan said he wants to ensure that they'll have enough money for the entire year. The committee has allocated just under \$8,000 this semester, out of almost \$40,000 in total requests.

"I don't want to say, 'Well, I'm sure that is a great event, but I don't have any money to fund you with that,'" he said. "So we're trying to be as fiscally responsible as we can."

Corrections

An article on Rogers Redding in the Nov. 19 edition gave an incorrect title. Redding was vice president of academic affairs and provost for NKU.

An editorial in the Nov. 19 edition contained two errors. John F. Kennedy was the 35th president, not the 36th, and the Texas governor who was wounded when Kennedy was assassinated was John Connally, not George.

How does it feel to work for one of Fortune Magazine's "Most Admired Companies in America" — or the company they ranked #1 in the transportation industry 3 years in a row? Truth be told... it feels great. Build a better future and enjoy a better life: that's the CON-WAY way.

PART-TIME DOCK WORKERS
(LATE AFTERNOON/EVENING)

You must be 18 years or older and provide verifiable employment history (including addresses and phone numbers). Starting rate of \$11.00 per hour.

For a rewarding career, contact: **CON-WAY CENTRAL EXPRESS, 5289 Duff Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45246; Call: (800) 722-2734; Fax: (513) 860-2518; Email: ccx.jobs@con-way.com**

We conduct a pre-employment drug screen and background check. Con-Way Central Express is an equal opportunity employer.

www.con-way.com

CCX CON-WAY CENTRAL EXPRESS
Con-Way Transportation Services, Inc.

Think fast - think FedEx.

FedEx® Ground. Thinking about some fast cash and help with college? Join the fast-paced FedEx Ground team as a part-time Package Handler. You'll work up a sweat. And in return, get a weekly paycheck, tuition assistance and more.

P/T Package Handlers

Qualifications:

- Must be able to lift 50 lbs.
- \$9 to \$9.50 p/hr to start, scheduled raises after 90 days and 1 year. 2 shifts available: 5PM-10PM Mon-Fri or 2AM-8AM Tue-Sat
- Ability to load, unload, sort packages
- 18 years or older
- Part-time, 5-day week

Apply Directly to:
FedEx Ground
9667 Inter-Ocean Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45246

fedex.com/us-careers
Women and minorities are encouraged to join the team.

© 2003 FedEx Corporation. All rights reserved. FedEx, the FedEx logo, and the color brown are trademarks of FedEx Corporation. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

FedEx Ground

16" Extra Large

Cheese Pizza

\$6.99

Domino's Pizza

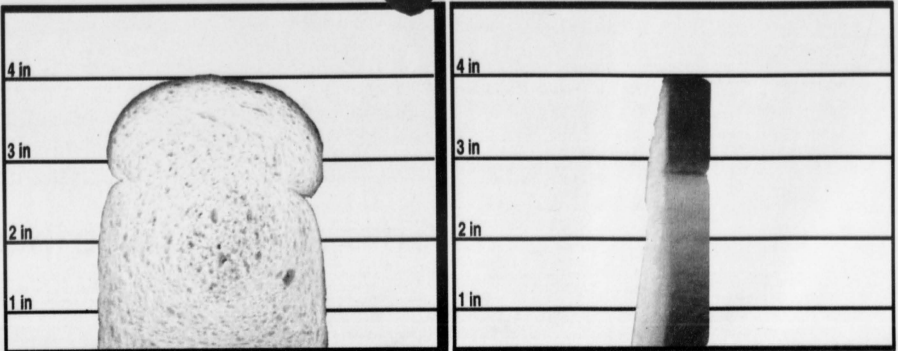
Toppings Extra

781-3311

Ft. Thomas/Newport/Southgate/NKU
(Ft. Thomas Plaza behind Jeff Wyler)

Store Hours
Open at 11 am everyday
Sunday - Thursday open until midnight
Friday and Saturday open until 1 am

Public Enemy Number 1



Description

Height- 4"

Weight- .7 oz

Alias- Toast, Carbohydrate, Sourdough

Last Known Whereabouts- Plastic bag with several friends

Photo illustration by Mike Brennan

The skinny on the Atkins Diet

By RYAN SMITH
Contributor
northerner@nku.edu

Thanksgiving has passed and Christmas is close on its heels.

It is at this time in the holidays that many Americans worry about how much weight they are gaining and begin to think of ways to keep the weight off.

The weight loss plans for shedding those excess holiday pounds are as varied as the people who try them.

The plans range from cutting calories to ready-made shakes to one of the most popular diet plans in America today, the Atkins Diet.

The Atkins Diet is heavily marketed as a quick way to lose weight by eating a low amount of carbohydrates and more protein.

"Any time you become aware of the types of food you're eating and the quantity you're taking in, (it) is an effective for weight loss," Sue Roth, Northern Kentucky University's wellness coordinator, said.

Roth said that the Atkins Diet does make people aware of the food they are eating; however, the short-term goals do not help with the long-term effects.

"I do not believe the Atkins Diet is a helpful diet," Roth said.

Although the diet program is popular today, there is still a lot of information people may not know about Atkins.

The diet started 30 years ago by Dr. Robert Atkins, who believed his weight loss plan would promote weight loss and disease prevention, according to the November 2002 University of California, Berkeley, newsletter.

The National Academy of Sciences' Institute recommends that the average adult should consume 130 grams a day.

However, the Atkins Diet recommends that during the first two weeks of the diet, a person can eat unlimited fat and protein including beef, bacon and cheese.

The individual on the diet is advised to restrict the amount of carbohydrates taken in each day to 20 grams.

The consumption of fruit, bread, rice and other grain products is prohibited with this diet.

After the two-week period the second phase begins, in which the diet may add 5 grams of carbohydrates until the weight loss ends.

Once it ends, the web site said people should decrease intake by 5 grams each week, so that they can maintain the gradual weight loss progress.

After 30 years why is the Atkins Diet now so popular?

"The media is picking up on it now, because people are starting to buy low carb beer and pasta," said Roth, who believes that marketing is now playing on people's insecurity to sell the Atkins Diet, she said.

"Marketing is such a competitive field, and they are playing with people's ideas of how to market their product," Roth said.

Roth also believes that another reason Atkins has caught on is because people are talking about the benefits of quick weight loss.

"It's all (anecdotal), people are telling friends, colleagues and acquaintances," she said.

While the Atkins Diet may seem like a fast, easy weight-loss plan, there are many things a person should be aware of, Roth said.

"Atkins can work for a short time," Roth said.

"However, the weight you lose is oftentimes more water weight. Your body loses it very quickly. The body starts to lower metabolism and makes it more difficult to continue weight loss over time," she said.

The Berkley Wellness letter also said that, if any normal healthy person decides to go on the Atkins Diet for a few weeks or months, it might be safe as long as there are proper supplements.

However, the longer you remain on

the diet the greater the risks.

The risks include heart disease, high blood pressure, stroke, diabetes and various cancers if you consume such a rich intake of animal fat and low in plants.

Another study, which appeared in the 2001 Tufts University Health and Nutrition letter, also showed a risk of dieters developing kidney stones.

The Tufts University study consisted of 10 people who wanted to lose weight.

The volunteers were put on the Atkins Diet and on an initial two-week plan to determine the effects of the program.

Researchers wanted to find out if developing kidney stones were developed by low carbohydrate/high protein diets.

They found that the volunteers' urine showed a "striking increase" in the amount of acid their kidneys had to handle.

On campus, Roth listens to students, faculty and staff talk about starting the Atkins diet all the time but still warns people to be cautious about trying the program.

"I've read the experts, (and) I haven't found anyone who said it was a good plan," she said.

For more information on the Atkins Diet or other diets visit www.asakille.columbia.edu.

To do or not to do?

The positives

- Lose more weight, faster
- Improved levels of HDL (good) cholesterol.

The negatives

- In the long run there was no significant difference between the Atkins diet and a low-calorie diet.
- People on the Atkins dropped off the diet the same as those on a low-calorie diet.
- There's concern in the medical community about the long term effect on the heart.
- The foods restricted on this diet, such as fruits, vegetables, and whole grains have vitamins that help in reducing the risk of diabetes, heart disease, some cancers and other conditions.

*Source: Mayoclinic.com

Fraternity provides 'balanced man plan'

Tea Time



with Susan

"It's one of the most diverse group of guys I've ever seen."

There are 35 founding fathers, and Shaun Erie is one of them.

The junior speech communications major is a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, a recently-chartered fraternity.

"I've been three weeks and I've met 34 guys that are so different from me," said Erie, who came to Northern Kentucky University to play baseball.

"It's one of the most diverse group of guys I've ever seen," Erie said. "We have varsity athletes, SGA senators, editor of the school paper, so many people involved with so many groups on campus."

The men make up a diverse group because of the recruiting process is different than most fraternities on campus, Erie said.

"Our recruitment process

goes through getting to know five people, instead of the person getting to know the members," he said.

Erie talked about how other ways Sigma Phi Epsilon is different from what many consider the typical party experience.

He said that it was not all about drinking and partying all the time, which is the way many people view fraternities.

Instead, Erie said, his fraternity deals with how to better men in their personal, as well as professional, development throughout their college years by using something the men of Sigma Phi Epsilon call the Balanced Man program.

"This program opened my eyes to completely new horizons and allowed me to see so much more is out there than what I'm already doing," Erie said.

The program, which consists of four challenges, is sold Erie on joining a fraternity.

The first challenge, the Sigma Challenge, forces a man to become aware of the community and campus around them and the fraternity itself.

Just being a member won't give you all the answers to being a balanced man, Erie said.

"We don't feel that just being a member of Sigma is going to give you the awareness and well-roundedness that other organizations will get you," he said.

Members are also challenged to get involved in another campus organizations and learn about personal and professional development, including resume and portfolio workshops.

The fourth challenge deals with being a mentor to others in

the fraternity and helping them through each of their challenges, Erie said.

"Each challenge you complete, you move through a rite of passage through the next challenge," Erie said.

"It's like a journey," he added. "You get out of it what you take out of it."

The men have already done several events over the past three weeks, Erie said, including going to see the Broadway show, Stomp, and taking ballroom and swing dancing lessons, which Erie said was a fun and different time.

Erie said he is happy he has had the chance to do this. "I've met so many great people that I would never have associated with outside of this," Erie said.

"I've finally been able to meet these people and realize it's not all about athletes - it's

not all about varsity baseball players - it's about everybody and seeing how many different people are in this group and how many different things they are involved with," he said.

Sigma Phi Epsilon holds meetings on Wednesday nights in BEP at 9:15 p.m. "I'm very glad that I did this. I've met so many great people," Erie said. "I've finally been able to meet these people and realize it's not all about athletes."

Erie said they have an open-door policy and anyone that's interested can stop by and see what the fraternity is all about.

Susan Nelmer is the Features Editor for The Northerner. You can e-mail Susan at nku_features@yahoo.com

northernlife

campuscalendar

wednesday

• There will be a Norse Visitation Day from 12:25 to 3 p.m. in the Steely Library Welcome Center. Reservations are required. Maribeth Carskadon at 572-1400.

• International Student Affairs is having an International Coffee Hour from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

• The African American Student Affairs is having a Kwanzaa Celebration from noon to 1 p.m. in the Budg Theater.

• Phi Sigma Sigma is having a drawing for a hand-made quilt in UC at 9 p.m.

• There will be Calvin Klein and the UC Lobby today and tomorrow.

• The Native American Student Organization will have a "Bring Cheer to a Native American Tribe" from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. until Nov. 12.

• Need a gift idea? Representatives from Liz Claiborne Fragrances will be in the University Center selling Liz Claiborne Holiday gift sets on today and tomorrow. The prices range from \$25-\$57.

• The Music Department will present the Spanish Sojourn: An Evening of Opera from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Budg Theater.

thursday

• A Musical, "Lucky Stiff," book and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, music by Stephen Flaherty will be held in the Corbett Theater at 8 p.m. Tuesday - Saturday with a Sunday show at 2 p.m. It runs until Dec. 14. General Admission is \$10, \$9 for NKU faculty/staff, \$8 for seniors and \$6 for students with ID (limit 2). No reservations required.

• A class on the "Secrets to Starting a Successful Small Business" will be from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in BEP 461.

• The Senior Art Exhibit will be displayed in the Fine Arts building rooms 322 and 325 from 5 to 8 p.m. until Dec. 12.

• The KY Board of Licensure for Occupational Therapy will have a conference in Landrum 110 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

• Transitions begins for incoming freshman in the University Center from 3 to 8:30 p.m.

friday

• Steel Drum Concert at 8 p.m. in Greaves Hall.

• SLC Holiday Party for the Boy's Home. Contact Student Life.

• African American Student Affairs Rocks Mentor meeting 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

saturday

• Multicultural Visitation Day

• The Northern Kentucky Youth Strings Program will have a Holiday Concert from 2 to 5:30 p.m. in Greaves Hall. The cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children under 12 and senior adults.

• Phi Sigma Sigma Bear Hug Date Parties, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

sunday

• A Junior Clarinet Recital will be held in Greaves Hall from 3 to 4 p.m.

• The Mayerson Student Philanthropy Award Ceremony UC Ballroom, 2 to 4 p.m. Cash awards will be handed out to the chosen non-profit organizations

monday

• The Chase Public Interest Group will have a snack and baked goods sale, third floor in Nunn Hall, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

• Deadline to nominate for Homecoming king/queen (a senior or junior), prince/princess (sophomore), and duke/duchess (freshman).



Tony Redell Photographer

The Native American Student Organization is looking for toys and clothes to give as Christmas presents.

Gifts sought for tribes

The Native American Student Organization (NASO) will hold a holiday event, "Bring Cheer to a Native American Tribe," from Dec. 3-12, announced Sarah Montgomery, founder of the organization. NASO is collecting clothes of all sizes and toys to give to less fortunate Native American tribes. "We'll have barrels in four locations (on campus)," said Montgomery. The barrels will be located on Landrum

Hall's third floor, BEP on the second floor, in the Nunn Hall lobby and in the UC plaza. They will also have tables set up from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the UC plaza to collect monetary donations for the tribes, Montgomery said. Montgomery's contact, which will help disperse the donations, is Sony Kaessler, the leader for a Native American organization located in Covington. He will discuss Native

American culture on Dec. 12 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Budg Theater. Montgomery started NASO in September and there are now 12 active members. "We are trying to get the students to know we are now around," said Montgomery. "I started it to have an organization for Native American students to call their own." For more information, contact Montgomery at whitevol99.98@yahoo.com.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

PRC offers atmosphere, gravy fries



Photo by Angie Hull

Pleasant Ridge Chili is located in Cincinnati and stays open until 4 a.m., offering a wide variety of home-style meals at cheap prices that anyone can afford.

By ANGIE HULL
Contributor
northerner@nku.edu

Being a poor college student makes it hard to go out and have good meal most of the time. It's also hard to find somewhere to eat late at night, when it seems the only possibility is White Castle.

Now students can have a cheap, home-style meal at almost any time of the day. Located at 6082 Montgomery Road in Cincinnati, Pleasant Ridge Chili (PRC) is the perfect place to grab a bite to eat.

PRC is open from 9 a.m. until 4:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday, which means students can avoid the late night scramble for food and eat some good old fashion home cooking.

The restaurant's atmosphere is like a flashback from the 50s. Above all of the booths and tables are little canopies, the front counter is lowered, and by the door there is a jukebox. Although the jukebox does not have all the latest songs, it does have all of the classics, such as "Turn the Page" by Bob

Seger. Not only is the atmosphere amazing at PRC, but the menu is, as well. It's filled with breakfast, lunch and dinner meals that can be served at any

"Now students can have a cheap, home-style meal at almost any time of the day."

time of the day. On the menu, there are 20 kinds of breakfast foods, ranging anywhere from 70 cents for toast to \$4.80 for an omelet. Also on the menu are seven dinner choices, seven different salads, 25 single sandwich choices, priced anywhere from

\$1.50 to \$3.40, and 31 double sandwiches to choose from, ranging from \$2.40 to \$5.70. Of course if those aren't enough options for you, PRC offers the choice of some Cincinnati chili with their 3-ways, 4-ways, 5-ways and cheese cones.

PRC also offers different types of fries and chips, and three different soups, which are only \$1.40 each. For desert, PRC is always stocked with different types of homemade pies, such as cherry and apple.

Drinks are the standard, soft drinks, tea, coffee or hot chocolate. Personally, I recommend trying the gravy cheese fries, which are made with home-made gravy, placed on top of fries and then topped with an enormous pile of cheese.

Gravy cheese fries are only \$3.40 for a full order or \$1.70 for a half order. Although I'm not usually a fan of gravy I order the fries every time I go.

Carry out is available and an order can be called in ahead of time until 1 a.m.

Save money with nice, cheap Christmas presents

By MICHELLE MORENO-BERRY
Staff Writer
moreno_berry@yahoo.com



Photo courtesy of ae.com

The crocheted skullcap from American Eagle starts at \$12.95.

Black Friday, the name used by stores for the day after Thanksgiving, is the biggest shopping day of the year, when the mad dash for Christmas shopping begins.

Many college students are strapped for cash, and it is hard to find inexpensive, yet nice, presents for those special someone.

Here are a few solutions to this money dilemma, with gifts under \$30.

Clothing

Everyone needs to have them, so giving someone a sweater is a great idea. Many places in the mall have holiday sales, so it is not hard to find the perfect match.

A hoodie from American Eagle comes in a variety of colors and styles, starting at \$29.95.

Or pick up a crocheted skullcap, which starts at \$12.95. These gifts can be found at American Eagle Outfitters at the malls and online at www.ae.com.

Old Navy has performance fleece scarves and caps beginning at \$7.50 each.

Abercrombie & Fitch offers winter necklaces that are available in many styles, starting at \$14.50.

To add a little romance in your life, Bloomingdale's online at www.bloomingdales.com offer a pair of monogrammed things for \$19.

Accessories

Accessories accent clothing and are a great present by themselves.

Old Navy's sherpa messenger bag has stylish embroidery, a soft texture and cost \$19.50.

Chain of Love is a sterling-silver, floating heart pendant is available online for \$20 at www.amazon.com. It is a gift many a loved one will appreciate.

Something Different

If purchasing clothing and bags makes you cringe, try something different with a Whoopie Pie.

The Oprah Winfrey show recently featured this freshly baked chocolate pie with crème in the middle as a great gift for the holidays.

They are made at Isamax Snacks Bakery in Richmond, Maine.

If you enter a batch online at www.isamaxsnacks.com, they will send out a dozen to the designated recipients for \$20.

Another simple solution is to make something with

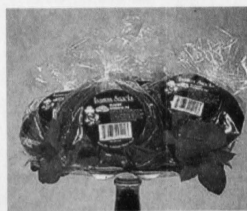


Photo courtesy of www.isamaxsnacks.com

Whoopie Pies come delivered to your house for \$20 a dozen

things you have around the house.

Take a picture with you and whoever you are giving the gift to and place it in a frame.

Around the frame you can cut out words from magazines describing your relationship with that person.

Hot glue those words onto the frame and you have a gift that is unique, personalized and cheap in one wrapped up package.

CD REVIEW

Results mixed in funk forays

Modern electronic production techniques give Galactic's throwback R&B sound an update

By JONATHAN DEVITO
Contributor
northerner@nku.edu

Fans of the neo-soul movement take note: New Orleans supergroup Galactic's latest release, *Ruckus*, is a highly produced electronic foray into some modern elements of popular music.

Drawing on their city's great musical history, the members of Galactic have been crafting a blend of soul, jazz and rock elements for nearly a decade. Their earlier releases were based around funky grooves in the tradition of another New Orleans supergroup.

The Meters. Galactic's throwback style attracted a large fan base that has spread across the world thanks largely to their constant touring.

On *Ruckus*, that throwback sound is still present, but has received a modern update thanks to prolific producer Dan the Automator.

The Automator's previous work ranges from albums with Eels to Jon Spencer Blues Explosion to the Dust Brothers. He's considered one of the

most innovative producers in the industry.

The hard electronic edge throughout this album is undoubtedly characteristic of Dan the Automator's work.

The opening track, "Bittersweet," is driven by Robert Mercurio's mutated bass vamp and the synthesizer work of keyboardist Rich Vogel.

The use of drum loops fused with the electronic textures creates an almost organic hip-hop feel on tracks like "Mercanoni" and the ethereal "Kid Kenner."

Notably missing at times is Ben Ellman's amazing saxophone work.

Ellman seems to have abandoned the sax for harmonica and some heavy electronic effects on most of the album.

There's nothing wrong with the harmonica, but Ellman's sax was always a highlight of Galactic's sound.

Theryl de'Clouet's gritty vocals add a great deal of soul and emotion to a handful of tracks. "Paint" and "Gypsy Fade" are two perfect examples of his up-tempo style.

The band backs away from the electronic future to focus

more on their musical roots when de'Clouet is out in front.

The up-tempo bounce of "Uptown Odyssey" is rich in rhythmic jazz elements and finally a little bit of Ellman's saxophone.

There are several other tracks that focus less on the electronics and more on the Old School grooves that made Galactic popular.

"Never Called You Crazy" is built around the slick drumming of Stanton Moore with Vogel's growling Hammond organ and Ellman on a rather distorted harmonica.

And "The Beast" is a soul-filled track based around some solid, funky riffs from guitarist Jeff Raine.

Galactic's attempt to incorporate the electronic and hip-hop elements is commendable. There's no denying the fact that the artists achieve growth through musical exploration.

On this album some of it works, but some of it gets a little stale after a few listens.

Until Galactic gets their groove back, go find some records by The Meters for the real New Orleans funky soul music.

THEATRE PREVIEW



Photo courtesy of the theatre and dance department

Roderick Douglas and Sarah Peak star in the theatre and dance departments third play, but first musical, of the year, "Lucky Stiff." It's a zany musical that follows a shoe salesman, Harry Witherspoon (Douglas) on an adventure to Monte Carlo. Witherspoon has just been bequeathed \$6 million. But, there is a catch. In order to receive his money Witherspoon has to go on a vacation with a corpse. The musical runs from Thursday, Dec. 4, through Sunday, Dec. 14, in the Corbett Theatre. Tickets can be purchased at the Corbett Theatre box office for \$6 for students and \$10 for general admission.

We're looking for

ARTSY people, NOSY people and

METICULOUS people

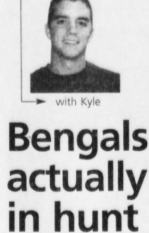
for LAYOUT AND DESIGN, REPORTING and COPY EDITING opportunities

People,
Pick up an
application
in UC 209
today.

northerner@nku.edu



Sports Scene



Bengals actually in hunt

Did you say "Bengals" and "seven wins" in the same sentence? Did I also catch the phrase "first-place team" when describing the Bengals? You must be joking right? I can't believe this.

Watching Matt Schobel reel in an 18-yard pass from Jon Kitna, concluding a 52-yard drive to give the Bengals their seventh victory of the season, ghosts of Boomer Esiason and David Fulcher entered my mind. Clearly this team has a long way to go before it matches up with the prowess of that 1988 Super Bowl team, but we deserve to think it can happen.

Just last season Bengals fans were dreaming of the days of Esiason hitting wide receiver Tim McGee for a long touchdown completion. Or when Icey Woods would perform his "Icicle Shuffle" in the back of the endzone after scoring from five yards out. Can this team be that good?

Instead of Boomer, we now have Jon Kitna. Instead of the tandem of Eddie Brown and McGee, we now have Chad Johnson and Peter Warrick catching passes. Instead of Icey doing his shuffle, we now have Kelley Washington and his "Squirrel Dance," which made its debut after his breakout game in San Diego, and could be seen on "The Best Damn Sports Show Period," Tuesday night.

That team was fun to watch and this team is doing many of the same things.

Thank you, Marvin Lewis. Cincinnati has been waiting for 14 years for this to come, and now that it is finally here, expect Bengal fans to take full advantage of it.

We suffered through some horrible team with the likes of David Klingler, David Shula, Akili Smith, Neil O'Donnell and Ki-Jana Carter. Does anyone remember James Hanning? If not, you can catch up with him playing in the Arena Football League. We deserve at least one season of success, don't we?

For the past 12 years there has been parity in the NFL, everywhere except Cincinnati. While the Bengals were immersed in two-win seasons, the rest of the NFL has had 10 different champions, every other team (except for the Texans) has made at least one playoff appearance and, besides one playoff showing in 1990, the Bengals have yet to finish a season with a winning record.

The fans rewarded the franchise by passing a tax, enabling Hamilton County to construct a brand new stadium for our not-so-loyal fans.

So far the new digs haven't stopped the Bengals from failing, until now. Lewis has shipped his team into something this city hasn't witnessed since the days of Sam Wyche. A team gamering (positive) national attention for its play on the field.

So bring back the days of James Brooks, Rodney Holman, Lewis Billups and Chris Collinsworth. Bring back the jungle and all of the craziness that goes with it. Find ways to put the last 10 years behind us, no more of Chris Bernman calling them the "Bungles," no more criticism of our perennial top-five draft pick, just good, competitive football.

Don't I blame me if I look at this four game winning streak with a eye of skepticism. After all, I am a Bengals fan, and I know how miserably the Bengals can fail. I would like to think this city has changed however. Hopefully it finally has.

The Bengals are just two wins away from a playoff appearance. Can this be true?

Kyle Burch is the Sports Editor for The Northerner. You can email Kyle at kylab@norsports.com.

Men and women take conference openers

Lewin leads NKU to win



Brian Lewin had his break-out game scoring 29 points and grabbing eight rebounds against UMSL.

By MICHELLE MORENO-BERRY
Staff Writer
moreno_berry@yahoo.com

The men's basketball team matched the women by winning their Great Lakes Valley Conference opener against Missouri-St. Louis 88-85.

Freshman Brian Lewin was on fire, shooting nine-of-12 from the field and hitting five-of-six three-pointers.

Lewin finished with a game-high with 29 points and 8 rebounds.

"Today I had the hot hand," Lewin said.

The Norse were able to come away with the victory even though UMSL shot 46 percent from the field, including 11-of-22 from behind the three-point line.

The Norse looked good for most of the game, but had some trouble with Jonathan Griffin and Ronnie Banks of the Rivermen.

Griffin had a team-high 24 points and Banks had 19 points.

At the half the score was 42-36 in NKU's favor.

NKU grabbed its biggest lead of the night, with 9:07 remaining in the second half, when Steve Purdon converted on a three-point play to push the lead to 72-57. This sparked the UMSL comeback.

The Rivermen were able to outscore the Norse in the second half by a 49-46 margin, but the Norse still found a way to prevail.

With 4:24 left in the game the Rivermen attempted a comeback and brought the score to 79-78 but it wasn't enough to stop the Norse momentum.

Lewin converted a layup in the last minute of the game extending the Norse lead to 84-80 leading to the victory.

Junior Sean Rowland contributed six rebounds and nine assists.

Steve Purdon, Mike Kelsey and Pat Cary were also big in the win each scoring in double figures, with 16, 14 and 11 points respectively.

NKU shot 60.8 percent from the field on the night.

Head Coach Ken Shields was happy with the win. "Brian Lewin came up very big for us," he said. "We hung in and won this one."

This win puts the Norse overall record at 4-3 and their GLVC record at 1-0. The Rivermen have never beaten NKU at Regents Hall.

With the victory, Shields, who is in his 16th and final season at the helm, needs just six more victories to achieve 300 wins.

If he does so, he will be one of 37 coaches to reach the mark in the history of NCAA Division II basketball.

NKU was outscored and had more turnovers than UMSL, however the game ended in favor of the Norse.

After meeting up with Quincy on Monday evening, NKU travels next week to play conference foes Lewis and Wisconsin-Parkside.

Women boost record to 3-1

Snardon tallies double-double in first GLVC game and team is ranked No. 10 in national poll

By MICHELLE MORENO-BERRY
Staff Writer
moreno_berry@yahoo.com

The Norse won their Great Lakes Valley Conference opener 71-64 at home Saturday against the Riverwomen of Missouri-St. Louis.

NKU started off with a 10-point lead at the 14:55 mark in the first half. That lead didn't last long because of the scoring of Missouri-St. Louis's Katie Birkey and Crystal Lambert. Near the end of the first half, the Norse led by only two points, making the score 36-34 NKU.

In the second half, NKU and UMSL went back and forth, with eight different lead changes. Sophomore Sharell Snardon led the Norse with a double-double, scoring 20

points and grabbing 10 rebounds. Karyn Creager scored 11 of her career high 16 points in the second half, helping NKU to the victory.

In the last minute of the game Creager blocked a three-pointer and Connie Myers grabbed the rebound ending the Riverwomen's comeback attempt. NKU was able to secure the victory by making four free throws in the final seconds of regulation.

Myers contributed to the victory, scoring 14 points and dishing out six assists. Although the Norse came away with the victory, Myers believes they didn't play up to their potential.

"I know we can play better as a team," Myers said. "We won the game, but it wasn't the best performance."

Junior Nikki Perkins pitched in, scoring 10 points

with six assists in a "what Snardon described as an ugly win."

The win pushed NKU's record to 3-1 on the season and should hold them steady at their No. 10 ranking in the NCAA Division II national poll.

Both teams finished the night shooting 44 percent from the field. The Norse forced 17 UMSL turnovers, while they committed just eight of their own.

After meeting up with No. 8-ranked Quincy on Monday night, the Norse will travel to Lewis and Wisconsin-Parkside before hosting the Community Recorder Classic, at Regents Hall Dec. 12-13.

The tournament will include University of Missouri at Rolla, Fayetteville State University and Kendall University.



Jessica Brock battles for a rebound in the Quincy game. Brock had five rebounds against UMSL in the Norse's first GLVC win.

Soccer, Volleyball lose in tournaments



Senior Nicole Salisbury played her last game in NKU uniform in the loss to Grand Valley State.

Soccer team falls to Nebraska-Omaha in Elite Eight; Volleyball team can't come up with enough to knock off Grand Valley State

By KYLE BURCH
Sports Editor
kylab@norsports.com

Both the Women's Soccer and Volleyball teams ended their seasons last week with defeats in the NCAA tournament.

The volleyball team fell to Grand Valley State University 3-0 (30-20, 30-27, 30-25) in the regional final. It marked the third time in four years the Norse have been knocked out by the Lakers. The win gives GVSU its fourth straight regional championship.

Junior Kristin Koralewski led NKU, collecting 14 kills, with senior Nicole Salisbury pitching in with six kills and 11 digs.

The Lakers were led by Great Lakes Intercollegiate Conference player of the year Sabrina Bird, who finished with 14 kills, four blocks and a 684 hitting percentage.

The Norse finish the season at 26-12, winning the Great Lakes Valley Conference regular-season title and advancing to their seventh straight NCAA tournament appearance.

The Norse graduate three key seniors (Sara Taylor, Cammi Welter, and Salisbury).

But the team will return with Great Lakes Valley Conference player of the year Koralewski and a strong supporting cast that should be able to repeat on this season's success.

The Lady Norse soccer team fell in overtime to Nebraska-Omaha in the NCAA Division II national quarterfinals.

Megan Pile headed a corner kick into the net at the 96:13 mark to give the Mavericks the win and a berth in the NCAA Final Four. Any Low, Amy Martini and Laurel Chalk attempted two goals a piece for the Norse but all were denied by Mavericks goalie, Amy Price, who collected her twelfth shutout of the season.

The loss ended an impressive tournament run, which did not travel to Ashland in a shootout, and top-seeded Grand Valley State in round number two in order to advance to the Elite Eight for the fourth year in a row.

Senior Kendra Zinser finished with three of the Norse' four goals in the 4-3 second round victory.

NKU finishes the season with a 17-3-4 record, winning the Great Lakes Valley Conference regular season championship and advancing to its sixth NCAA tournament in six tries.

NKU graduates five seniors (Kristen Ponder, Megan Zalla, Aisling O'Callaghan, Becky Schneider, and Zinser), but returns GLVC Freshman of the Year, Amy Law along with goalie Sam Westering, and should better on the programs 125-25 11 all-time record.

Kyle Burch is the Sports Editor for The Northerner. You can email Kyle at kylab@norsports.com.

hotseat



with Elias Hajjar

This week Elias sits down with the NKU mascot, Hey-U.

Elias Hajjar: If you could change anything you wanted about your costume, what would it be?

Hey-U: I might give him a bigger head. I'd also give him a jersey that looks like what the basketball teams' looks like.

EH: What's the hardest thing you've had to deal with when wearing the costume?

Hey-U: One time I was walking down the aisle where the other team's fans were sitting, and this lady put her foot out and tried to trip me, but I didn't fall.

EH: How do you handle the heat inside the costume?

Hey-U: I usually stay in it for the whole first half and some of halftime. I get out of it for the rest of halftime and the first part of the second half. I just stay really hydrated and everything. It gets really hot in there. When I come out of it my shirt is soaking wet, and when people undo it they feel the heat bursting out.

EH: How smelly does it get in there?

Hey-U: It doesn't really smell too bad. It's pretty well ventilated. I get air through the little area I can see through.

EH: Are kids scared of you because you're a big dragon?

Hey-U: Most kids run up and give me a big hug, but the babies are usually scared. I'll try to reach out my hand and sometimes they'll scream and cry.

EH: Do you wish that you could breathe fire? Be honest now.

Hey-U: Yeah, that would be

pretty cool. I'd be afraid I would hurt someone, though.

EH: Do you get any perks for being Hey-U?

Hey-U: I like being able to make people laugh. That's a good thing that comes along with it, plus I can dance and look stupid, because no one knows who is in the costume. I can act as stupid as I want and no one will care.

Fact or Fiction:

EH: There isn't a better mascot than Hey-U in the country?

Hey-U: Fact. Hey-U knows how to dance, he knows the dance moves and the team Hey-U represents is the best in the country.

EH: You sometimes feel like a dork while dressed up as Hey-U?

Hey-U: Sometimes when I'm walking by kids my age and they kind of look at me weird. I feel really stupid, but that doesn't really bother me, because then they'll give me high fives and go along with it and have fun.



Photo courtesy of APB website
HEY-U, mascot for NKU athletics.

sportscalendar

Men's Basketball

Thursday, Dec. 4 at Lewis University @ 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 6 at Wisconsin-Parkside @ 4 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 10 vs. Central State University @ 7:45 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 20 vs. Saginaw Valley State @ 3:15 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 22 at Wayne St. University @ 7:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Thursday, Dec. 4 at Lewis University @ 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 6 at Wisconsin-Parkside @ 2 p.m.

Community Recorder Classic at Regents Hall

-Friday, Dec. 12 vs. Kendall @ 7:30 p.m.

-Friday, Dec. 12 UM-Rolla vs. Fayetteville State @ 5:30pm.

-Saturday, Dec. 13 NKU vs. TBA @ TBA

-Saturday, Dec. 13 UM-Rolla vs. TBA @ TBA

Monday, Dec. 29 at Wayne St. University @ 5:30 p.m.

Eagles and Bengals look for victories in week 14

Football Picks



with Dominick Wise

Dallas Cowboys at Philadelphia Eagles

At the beginning of the season no one expected the Cowboys to be tied with the Eagles for the division crown. It's usually the Giants and the Eagles fighting it out. The Boys are back and will be for quite awhile with Bill Parcells at the helm. The Eagles are back as well.

After the first two weeks of the season everyone criticized Donovan McNabb for his poor play, but now he is on fire and has the Eagles soaring. Could this game be the preview of the NFC championship? We will

see this Sunday. In Week 6, the Cowboys beat the Eagles at home. They are one of few teams that have held McNabb in check. It's hard to believe this trend will continue this Sunday afternoon.

In their first meeting, the Eagles were missing most of their secondary due to injuries. Now the big three Pro Bowlers (Brian Dawkins, Bobby Taylor and Troy Vincent) are healthy and seeking revenge. This game will be a low scoring affair. McNabb is doing it not only with his arm but with his feet as well. Can Dallas contain him again is the big question? I don't think they will this time around.

but expect Parcells to send the Boys after him all game.

The Eagles to pull this game out in the end. If the Eagles win this game and their next four, the road to the NFC championship will have to go through Philly.

Prediction:
Eagles 17 Cowboys 10

Cincinnati Bengals at the Baltimore Ravens

"Who dey, who dey, who dey think goin' to beat those Bengals?" Fans haven't heard this phrase in 13 years since the Bengals' last playoff appearance. This game could be the

deciding game for the AFC North division. Earlier this season the Bengals hung 33 points on the Ravens defense. I think Cincy can do it again.

The Ravens defense is overrated. Seattle torched them for 41 points two weeks ago and the Rams scored 33 points on them the week before. The Ravens front seven is very solid, but it's their secondary that hasn't played well. Keep an eye on the matchup of the day between Chad Johnson and Chris McAlister. I think Johnson will have a big game against McAlister.

Kittina needs to stay away from the turnovers and throw away

from Ray Lewis. The tackling machine, Lewis, will be fired up for this one and will want revenge. The Bengals will need to get the running game going, as well, if they want to have a chance. Bengals must be aware of Anthony Wright; he resurrected his career with a 300-yard passing game a couple weeks ago. If the Bengals can spy him and shut down Jamal Lewis, then they should win. Lewis will get his usual 100-yard game. This game will be decided in the fourth quarter. Kittina and the Bengals will upset the Ravens at home on a last-minute field goal. **Prediction:**
Bengals 27 Ravens 24

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR EMAIL EDITION



NOW MORE USEFUL THAN MILK CRATES!

www.thenortherner.com

get your holiday shopping done.
cheap.

All NKU Apparel on sale
November 28 - December 31.

Holiday gifts. Cheap.

Campus Book and Supply

slimbone

by mike maydak



classifieds

To place a classified ad: contact Brittany Contois at 859-572-5232.

Holiday Help

\$ \$
Local Victor offices are looking to fill many positions in the Cincy-NKY areas. Customer sales/service with flexible sched. \$11.25 base appointment. 513.231.5614 / 859.341.6590
www.winterbreakwork.com

Jons

Make money taking online surveys.
Earn \$10-\$125 for surveys.
Earn \$25-\$250 for focus groups.
Visit:
www.cash4students.com

Events Coordinator /Marketing Assistant

Position available for an experienced, enthused, creative-minded, marketing-oriented events coordinator and marketing assistant. Send resume, cover letter and salary requirements to: P.O. Box 72992, Newport, KY 41072-0992

Local furniture store needs part-time worker to help in warehouse and with deliveries. Must be organized and able to move furniture.

Call 859-282-8019. Ask for John.

Need an extra \$36,000.00 a year? Vending route for

sale, 50 high traffic locations. Cost: \$5,000 1-800-568-1392 or www.vendingthatworks.com

WINTER AND SPRING BREAK

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

A "Reality" Spring Break 2004
Sunsplash Tours
Featured in "The Real Cancun" movie
Lowest Prices before Nov. 6.
2 Free Trips for Groups
www.sunsplashes.com
1-800-426-7710

WINTER AND SPRING BREAK

Ski & Beach Trips on sale now!
www.sunchase.com or call 1-800-SUNCHASE today

FOR SALE

A Bed-\$150 Dbl. Pillow top set, new in plastic, warranty. Can deliver 859-991-1073

Mattress Set- \$120. Full Pillow top,

New in plastic, with warranty. Can deliver 859-991-1073

Leather Sofa- \$400 matching loveseat \$350, Brand New, in plastic, Can deliver 859-743-6182

FOR RENT

Move in over holiday break and receive a great gift! Lovely condo for rent in Woodland Hills. Fireplace, cathedral ceilings, pool, tennis courts. Grab your roommate and get out of the dorms! \$700/mo. + utilities. Call 513-675-0891 ask for Wendy.



FUNDRAISING

Fraternities - Sororities Clubs - Student Groups

Earn \$1,000 this semester with a proven campus fundraiser 3-hour fund-raising event.

Our free programs make fund-raising easy with no risks.

Fund-raising dates are filling quickly, so get with the program! It works.

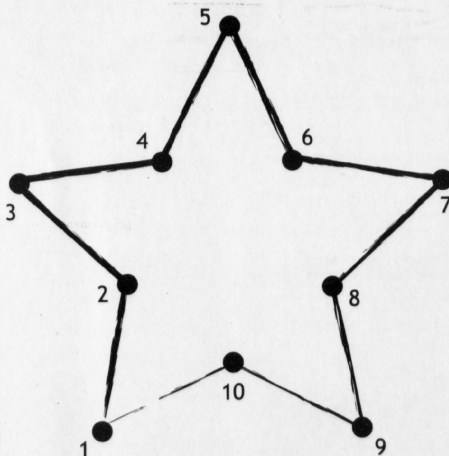
Contact Campus Fundraiser at 1-888-923-3238 or visit the company web site at www.campusfundraiser.com

Need Cash?

The semester is almost over and the holidays are around the corner. Get some cash back for your textbooks at Campus Book and Supply.

Bring your textbooks in starting in December and sell them back.
If you don't want 'em, don't keep 'em.

Campus Book and Supply



Finding cash for college is child's play.

Register now and search thousands of scholarships worth over \$3 billion

www.thenortherner.com/scholarships