



Inmate education on the rise

Joint NKU/Kenton County Program helps prisoners self-educate

By Sarah Loman

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Staring at the ceiling and pacing around the room loses its appeal after the first year or so—there isn't much to do in jail. But thanks to a partnership between Northern Kentucky University's Steely Library and the Kenton County Detention Center, that may soon change.

The partnership is called "Library Link: Bettering Life In, Life Out," and is the result of a grant. Through the program, the goal is to increase literacy and education among the center's inmates.

NKU professors and even a few students pile books onto carts and wheel them through the center, and passing them out to inmates. "In the jail, it's difficult," said Steely Library faculty member Theresa Wesley. "They have nothing to do. They're overcrowded. Anything you can do—like reading—it's probably pretty appealing."

Wesley said there is an indirect correlation between literacy and recidivism (the same person coming back to jail). Part of the research done by the faculty shows that the more education an individual has, the less likely it is for the person to be arrested again.

The books are on a variety of subjects, but the most emphasis is placed on non-fiction books that are available—namely self-help books.

The books cover topics such as learning to deal with finances, how to write a resume, deal with stress and GED preparation. "Most people (in the detention center) have had a life



Illustration designed by Stuart Mackenzie and Josh Jacob

situation they weren't prepared for," said Wesley. She also said personnel from the center have said there are fewer problems when the inmates are reading.

Colonel Rodney Ballard is the chief deputy of administration at the center. He's also an NKU graduate. Ballard believes that the self-help

books are what the inmates need. "It can teach them how to write a resume or how to fill out an application," Ballard said. "It's stuff we take for granted. Most people had parents to help them with that."

Ballard said that he's excited about the program and is proud of the efforts of the center in providing the

opportunities to the inmates that they have. "In the last two years, 109 people here got their GEDs," he said.

Ballard is also proud of NKU. "My university had the foresight to think outside the box. They taught me to think harder and do better—they're providing the same encouragement

for inmates here," he said. "We couldn't have gotten to first base without NKU."

Ballard hopes for the success of the program, but said that, "If we go to all this effort and it benefits only one person, it will be a success."

"If it's only one person who can now read a help wanted sign, it's still one less person in an unemployment line and one less person in need of public aid."

NKU President James Votrubia agrees. "This is another terrific example of NKU continuing to contribute to the well being of the region," he said. Votrubia said that 10 years ago a project like this would have been front and center because the amount of projects that the university was involved in was limited. "There's been a tremendous increase in projects," he said. "Regional stewardship has become a priority. And that's the way he wants it. 'Education is all about helping people move in whatever direction they choose,' he said. "Education today is a modern-day freedom train. It gives greater freedom to live life on your own terms."

Jennifer Pealer, assistant professor in the criminal justice department, believes that this program has the potential to make some big changes. "It could have a great impact for the entire state," she said. Pealer was referring to the other jails and prisons in Kentucky. The Kenton County Detention Center has agreed to help other prisons and jails implement this program should it prove to be a success, which Pealer said, depends. "It's all going to depend on whether or not the inmates buy into this."

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Satanism? Not quite



Amy Ehrreiter/Photographer

Professor Jill Shelley, along with her Criminal Investigation class, spent Nov. 29 with Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Lt. Gregg Shelley experiencing ballistics. Top photo: Shelley injects sheep's blood into the pig's head before a blood spatter analysis. Bottom photo: Lt. James Neill shoots a pig's head. The class studied the blood spatter left on two sheets of paper.

Forum faces student concerns on racism

Campus uses dialogue to address groups issues

By Amy Ehrreiter

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More than 100 students, faculty and guests filled the auditorium in BEP Nov. 17 for the 9th annual Dialogue Against Racism, sponsored by Students Together Against Racism.

"This is a coalition of students who want to work together for a common goal," said Alex Kindell, secretary of STAR. "There are no quick fixes for any of the issue discussed tonight."

Student organizations such as the NAACP, Women's Empowerment, Common Ground, African American Studies Club, Black United Nations, Student Government Association, Association of African American Charities, Black Men's Organization and Latino Student Union presented issues facing minorities at Northern Kentucky

University and recommendations to how to fix them.

Anesha Harper, president of the NAACP, suggested that the African American

Studies minor be a stronger track as well as moving it towards an option for a major. Harper outlined areas for diversity, such as an African Dance course that had been canceled due to lack of participation by students. She also encouraged students to support diversity classes so that they may continue at NKU.

Harper also discussed on behalf of the NAACP issues involving race and gender courses and suggested racial sensitivity courses for professors who teach the subject.

Redrafting the "Way Down East" sculpture was discussed at the dialogue. SGA President Jennifer Perry with Jesiah Brock, vice president of Student Involvement, said that there should be a collaborative effort between students and administration

in planning the future of the sculpture. The piece has been temporarily removed from campus for cleaning during the late project.

It was recommended that the faculty, staff administrators and students meet to arrange the future relocation of the piece and that students, faculty and administration work together to redraft the plaque representing the piece to include the conflict over removal or relocation of the piece from 1979 to the present.

Stephanie Vines represented Women's Empowerment at the dialogue. She addressed the fact that NKU does not offer courses to address feminism, Latino or black infant mortality rates, special topics class in psychology for blacks or courses in the criminal justice system which are offered for minorities.

Many presenters voiced concern of wanting to strengthen interdisciplinary courses such

as Women's Studies, African American studies, Social Justice and International Studies.

Courses students enroll in weren't the only major area of concern at the dialogue. Common Ground representative Mike Volmar brought attention to social attitudes at NKU.

"We need to address attitudes toward homosexuality at NKU," Volmar said. "There is a lack of course on gay, lesbian, bisexual and transsexual issues."

He recommended that homosexual issues be introduced into race and gender courses as well as having an ample outlet for information about clubs and organizations that support openly gay students.

Other issues presented at the dialogue include the advancement of American Pluralism, such as giving

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AIDS Day event promotes education

Speakers stress knowledge about the disease and its effects upon the world

By Justin Duke

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In Eva G. Farris' Auditorium, the message on World AIDS Day was education. "There are three keys to stopping AIDS: education, education, education," said Kimberly Luse, executive assistant to the president and secretary to the Board of Regents.

The Association of African Charities hosted the event, featuring speakers Kimberly Luse and Cheryl Hutchins from AIDS Volunteers of Cincinnati.

It kicked off with a story by Luse. She told of her favorite cousin as a child. Her cousin ran away and wasn't seen for years. When he returned, he had AIDS, and eventually lost his life.

Had awareness been higher during those "simpler times," Luse's cousin may not have run away, and he could have had support from family and this tragedy may have been avoided, Luse said.

Luse was saddened, but still has hope for the future. "I believe we will see a cure for in my lifetime," Luse said.

She said that universities are the best forums for AIDS

awareness because it's an environment of education.

Luse was followed by Hutchins. She spoke of the theme, "Stop AIDS: Keep the Promise," and how it will be worked toward for years.

Hutchins spent her time giving facts.

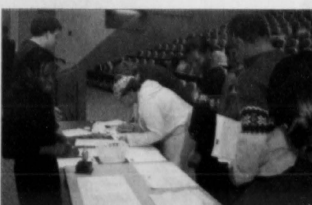
Hutchins said HIV is a virus like other viruses, such as the flu. It can't be treated the same way. It is usually left to run its course. People can be immunized from the flu by getting the flu shot which is a weak strain of the virus.

HIV can't be left to run its course as it'll weaken the immune system, which makes the person vulnerable to dis-

eases and eventual death. When HIV runs its course it becomes AIDS," Hutchins said.

"The only way to get immunized against AIDS is to get informed, get educated and get tested," Hutchins said.

The rest of her speech was devoted to spreading the seriousness of AIDS. Hutchins said according to UNAIDS estimates, 35.7 million adults, 2.1 million children had HIV at the end of 2003, and 4.8 million people were infected. Around half of people who become infected with HIV do so before 25 and die by 35.



Amy Ehrreiter/Photographer

Selina Olapado (left) shows AAC's accomplishments

Lecture addresses student action

Human Rights Activist speaks on how college students can take a stand

By Audrey Kunkel
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Teaching is 80-year-old Anne Braden's latest career. Nine years ago the human rights activist and labor leader became a civil rights instructor at Northern Kentucky University. Braden spoke at one of the last Diversity Week events on Nov. 18.

Her message: students need to stop talking about problems and start fixing them.

Braden has been a participant of the Civil Rights, Labor, Women's and Anti-War Movements.

Braden said she wants her students to be outspoken and

visible in their protests.

"If you get yourself in jail, I'll do everything I can to get you out," Braden said she tells them, "but I'm not going to give you a better grade for it."

Braden, a resident of Louisville, KY, knows what can happen when protesters defy a system. In the 1950s, she and her late husband Carl Braden were charged with sedition when they sold a Louisville home to a black couple. Sedition means that you resist lawful authority.

Although the case was eventually thrown out of court, her husband spent a year in jail for refusing to cooperate.

Born into a middle-class white family, Braden grew

up in Alabama in the midst of segregation. She said she gradually started to question the norm before she realized segregation was wrong. "I never met anyone who could say the truth came in a blazing flame of light," Braden said of people who joined the Civil Rights Movement. "We just always knew something was wrong."

Often accused of being a communist and a traitor who wanted to overthrow the government, Braden was told on many occasions to "go back to Russia." Since her ancestors were among America's first colonists, Braden said she would say, "you go back. I've been here longer than you."

After years of involve-

ment, Braden said she thinks the Civil Rights Movement never accomplished what it attempted. "Statistics show that blacks are worse off than before the Movement in many ways," she said.

She cited high poverty rates and low education levels as some of her main concerns. According to the Bureau of Labor, 30 to 40 percent of black males graduate from high school, although before the Brown v. Board of Education case, many all-black schools had test scores similar to or higher than those of their white counterparts.

In 1960, the black poverty rate was 47 percent, a 40 percent drop from the rate in 1940. Today the rate is about

22 percent, but it is improving at a slower rate than was seen pre-Civil Rights. An additional struggle is that today many blacks are raised in single-parent homes. In 1940, 19 percent of black births were out-of-wedlock compared to 70 percent today.

Braden said college students need to open their eyes to see what's wrong, even though it can be difficult to do something about it. "When you take on a different position on anything, you feel isolated," she said. "You start to wonder what's wrong with you and whether you might be crazy. You don't think that there are other people out there who feel the same way you do."

College students are realizing that a lot of things need to be fixed in our society, Braden told her audience, adding that she believes there may be a student movement. "It's always the young people that change things," she said. "In a way it doesn't matter who's in the White House because the people can change things."

Graduate student Alisha Brown said hearing Braden speak made her want to do something. "I want to get involved," she said. "I want to join an organization and do something. I'm sure racism exists on campus. Students need to unite together to do something about it."

DIALOGUE *Continued from page one*

students serving on a committee voting rights, students being informed on upcoming experimental American Pluralism courses before they are implemented and student inclusion in sub-committees on curriculum, renovation, student enrollment and retention issues, according to STAR.

Students also proposed that "Northern Kentucky University and The Northerner" (are) responsible for training students to uphold racist conjectures as opposed to challenging them," according to a statement released by STAR. They recommend that "Northern Kentucky University and The Northerner are accountable to the students it serves. That NKU and that (The) Northerner refrain from supporting the racist criminalization of African Americans...in

media; are trained in providing a non-hostile atmosphere that is not conducive to growth and challenge, but to stereotypes of status quo." They recommended The Northerner attend "January 13 through 15 Norse Commons 115-117 Undoing Racism Workshop."

Another area concentrated on was to strengthening relationships with the University Police and eliminating tension between the police and black male students.

Eric Smith, who represented BMO, said that black males at NKU "continuously feel as if they are treated differently by the University Police."

Other recommendations for the University Police would be that the officers attend "Undoing Racism Training" not as a punishment, but as

a relationship forming tactic, according to STAR.

While the BMO focused on tensions, Melissa Roman, president of LSU, focused on scholarship money for international students. STAR has made a recommendation of a campus-wide effort to acknowledge international students as well as having student organizations raise \$5,650 for scholarships that will be awarded to 10 international students.

Akousa Favors, president of STAR said in a statement, "We are asking that all staff, faculty and administration will address issues directed towards their office or department so no person feels attacked. The university as a whole is accountable for improving the many issues."

Hey Mrs. Wilson



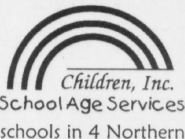
Nicole Jones/Photo Editor
Kathy Wilson speak to students in the University Center Ballroom during one NKU's Diversity Week events.

JAIL *Continued from page one*

she said. Pealer, along with other NKU faculty who are working on this project, receive a lighter course load for the semester in order to give them more time for research. "Myself and Dr. Moon are evaluators of the jail," Pealer said. "We use surveys to see how the library affects the jail environment." Those surveys are passed out to both center personnel and the inmates, but Pealer has a separate survey that is given only to inmates. The second survey checks the inmate reading level, self-esteem, depression and perception of the jail.

According to the research done by the faculty, "approximately 39 percent of all inmates did not have a diploma or GED upon intake into the center...almost 10 percent of the population had less than an eighth-grade education." Hopes are high for a positive impact, but as Ballard said, "The jury is still out."

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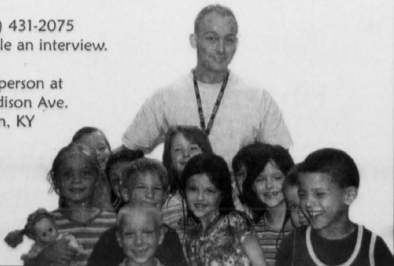
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policebeat

The following reports were filed with the NKU Police Department between Nov. 8 and Nov. 28

Tuesday, Nov. 8

7:25 a.m. Subject advised that a cellular telephone was found in the Landrum Building. Owner was contacted and advised.

Wednesday, Nov. 9

3:53 p.m. Erin Spaulding, 23, of Florence, KY was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Disregarding a Stop Sign.

4:25 p.m. Frank Pence, 22, of Independence, KY was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Disregarding a Stop Sign and No Proof of Insurance.

5:46 p.m. Amy Lee, 38, of Alexandria, KY was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Speeding.

Thursday, Nov. 10

2:35 p.m. Timothy Kyde, 22, of North Bend, OH, was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Possession of a Forged Instrument for possessing a forged parking permit.

8:30 p.m. Kevin Emerson, 22, of Ft. Wright, KY was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Failure to Maintain Insurance.

Friday, Nov. 11

1:06 a.m. Complainant advised that a male subject was acting suspiciously on Campbell Drive. Officers were advised that subject left a black case on the ground. Subject then walked towards two vehicles. Officers located the vehicles and stopped the driver. During investigation, officers determined that the case contained emergency repair items. Item

was logged and secured in the DPS Property/Evidence room. No charges were filed in the incident.

2:48 p.m. A smoke alarm was received from the University Suites. On investigation, it was determined that the steam from a shower caused the alarm.

6:29 p.m. Justin Jablonski, 28, of Cold Spring, KY was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Disregarding a Stop Sign.

Saturday, Nov. 12

12:19 p.m. Jennifer Hilvert, 34, of Highland Heights, KY was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Speeding.

7:57 p.m. Jessica Clark, 18, of Lexington, KY was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Speeding.

Sunday, Nov. 13

9:09 p.m. Subject reported various items taken from the University Suites over the course of the last four weeks.

Monday, Nov. 14

2:14 p.m. Andrew Lambert, 18, of Loveland, OH was issued Kentucky State Citations for Possession of marijuana, Possession of drug paraphernalia, and Possession of alcohol by a minor. Jonathan Ruffner, 18, of Hamilton, OH was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Possession of alcohol by a minor.

6:42 p.m. Subject reported a textbook stolen from Commonwealth Hall.

Tuesday, Nov. 15

10:45 a.m. Subject reported that her purse and textbook were stolen from her parked vehicle.

8:34 p.m. Medical Response was requested for a subject in the Fine Arts Building. Officer found a subject who had fallen, injuring her lower back. Subject declined a squad and was transported to St. Luke East.

Wednesday, Nov. 16

12:01 p.m. Subject reported that a textbook was stolen from her parked vehicle.

3:48 p.m. A fire alarm was received from the Landrum Building. On investigation, it was determined that the smell was coming from an electrical motor that had burned up.

Thursday, Nov. 17

7:36 a.m. Subject reported that his 2006 NKU Parking Permit was stolen from his parked vehicle.

1:21 p.m. Subject reported his 2006 NKU Parking Permit was stolen from his vehicle while off-campus.

6:00 p.m. A minor non-injury accident involving two vehicles occurred on Kenton Drive.

Saturday, Nov. 19

3:12 a.m. A smoke alarm was received from the Steely Library. On investigation, it was determined the alarm was caused by a water leak.

3:09 p.m. Sarah Gascon, 18, of Aurora, IN was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Speeding.

Sunday, Nov. 20

2:54 a.m. A fire alarm was received from the dorms at Commonwealth Hall. On investigation, it was determined that the alarm was caused by burnt food in a microwave oven.

8:35 a.m. Subject reported being stuck in an elevator in the Fine Arts Building. Subject was free before officer arrived. Elevator was closed until maintenance could check the elevator.

8:05 p.m. Officers found a door unsecured on Johns Hill Road. Officers searched the building, and everything was found to be normal.

8:22 p.m. Subject requested Officers respond to the dorms at Norse Hall. On arrival, officers were advised that several visitors had been asked to leave campus and were refusing to do so. Officers were also advised that the subjects were believed to have been involved in campus vandalism. Officers advised the subjects not to return to campus without prior approval.

Monday, Nov. 21

12:14 p.m. Subject reported that an item was missing from a backpack in the Science Center.

3:24 p.m. Subject reported the receipt of harassing communications.

4:39 p.m. Danielle Bolender, 23, of Sardinia, OH was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument for having a forged 2006 Parking Permit.

10:54 p.m. Subject reported the theft of a cell phone from the dorms at Commonwealth Hall.

Tuesday, Nov. 22

8:57 a.m. Subject reported the theft of a Laptop Computer from the Administration Center.

9:40 p.m. Subject reported that her vehicle had been struck while parked in Parking Lot V.

Wednesday, Nov. 23

10:24 a.m. Subject reported the theft of a textbook from the Steely Library.

11:46 a.m. Medical assistance was requested for a subject in seizures at the Welcome Center. Subject was transported to St. Luke East.

12:17 p.m. Subject reported that she was stuck in the elevator in Nunn Hall. Officers and Maintenance personnel were able to free the subject. The elevator was closed until maintenance was able to run a maintenance check on the elevator.

2:21 p.m. Subject reported that a video game player and game were taken from the dorms at Commonwealth Hall.

3:28 p.m. Subject reported that her vehicle had been struck while parked in Parking Lot A.

Saturday, Nov. 26

2:22 a.m. Trey Bramble, 18, of Cold Spring, KY was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Disregarding a Stop Sign.

Monday, Nov. 28

12:42 p.m. Subject advised that a minor non-injury auto accident occurred at the dorms.

1:07 p.m. Subject reported that his 2006 NKU Parking Permit was taken from his vehicle while parked at the Dorms in Norse Circle.

3:11 p.m. Subject advised that a video game player and games were taken from the dorms at Commonwealth Hall.

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4 Wednesday
Nov. 30, 2005
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SPORTSCENE

with Matt Steffen

ESPN should punish Irvin

Over the holiday former Dallas Cowboys wide receiver and current ESPN studio analyst Michael Irvin was being taken in by police in Plano, Texas, a suburb of Dallas for an outstanding warrant because of an unpaid speeding ticket.

However, as the police were in the process of questioning him, they searched his car and found drug paraphernalia in his car. Irvin was a superstar player on the field during his playing career with the Cowboys.

However, this isn't the first time he has been taken in by police. His past is checked. One of his biggest charges occurred back in 1996 when he was charged with cocaine possession and had to pay a \$10,000 dollar fine because of it. He also had to go through four years of probation as part of his punishment.

Leon Lett, another former Cowboys failed a drug test and had to sit out the entire NFL season back in 1998. Lett is also famous for letting other NFL players not to start their touchdown celebrations early. In Super Bowl XXVII, he was about to score on a fumble return but Buffalo Bills' receiver Don Beebe knocked the ball out of his hands.

ESPN, as we all know, prides itself on being the worldwide leaders in sports and does an excellent job of trying to bring its viewers to as many sporting events as possible.

As the NFL season goes on, fans of the NFL will have to see how this plays out and watch if it will evolve into something big or just goes away entirely.

norsports

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NKU Women undefeated

By Seth Millhoun
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If the defense keeps up their level of play, then the NKU's Lady Norse will be right in the thick of things when March arrives.

NKU (2-0) held victory over Northwest University (1-2) to just 32.3 percent shooting and forced 21 turnovers as they defeated the Timberwolves 81-55. For the second straight game, NKU's women's basketball team held its opponents to under 35 percent shooting.

"We preach defense in practice and that's where everything starts for our team," said NKU coach Nancy Winstel. "Without (defense) we're nothing."

NKU struggled to capitalize early until Junior Katie Butler stepped up. With limited minutes, Butler had a few key blocks and hit a few long three-pointers to get the Norse motivated in the first half. She finished with eight points.

"That kind of play equals playing time, Katie," Winstel said as Butler walked by.

Nicole Chiodi, sophomore point guard and Highland Heights native, led the Norse. Chiodi scored 10 points and had 10 rebounds in 28 minutes of play. She also added eight assists, finishing only two short of a triple-double.

"Nicole is motivated this year. She did some bench sitting last year and I don't think

she liked that too much," Winstel remarked.

"Nicole really pumps us up," added guard Keaton Creeger. "She really drives us and she uses the court really well."

Creeger did some damage herself by knocking down six of eight shots and going perfect on all three attempts from three-point territory. She finished with 17 points. Angela Healy was the second leading scorer with 14 points of her own, 12 of those coming in the first half.

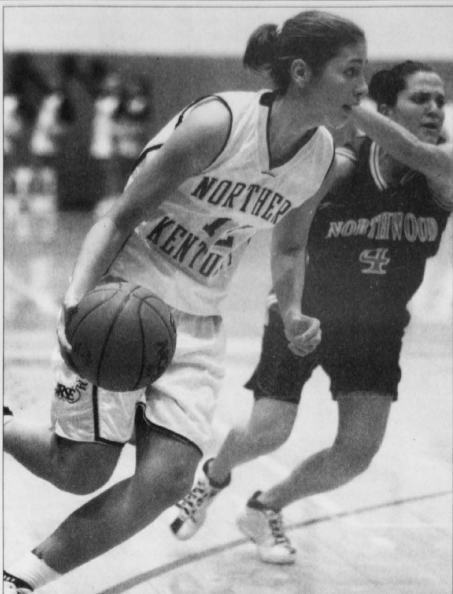
When asked about the struggles his team encountered on defense, Northwest Head Coach Jeff Curtis admitted he thought his team was overmatched.

"On offense, NKU spreads the ball out so well. That's tough to defend," Curtis said. "We're not a huge team, but we're athletic. They were so effective because they kept kicking the ball out and kept finding people who were open."

On the Norse defense Curtis added, "They are really big underneath and that was tough for us because we are somewhat smaller than they are."

The Norse went a combined 31 for 52, a 56 percent ratio, shooting the ball. The Norse were also incredible from 3-point land, shooting 8 for 11.

Bench play was also a key factor in the game. Players from the sixth man down scored a total of 26 points led by Butler.



Tim Downer/Photographer

Sophomore guard Nicole Chiodi recorded a double-double (10 points and 10 rebounds) in the win against Northwest (Mich.) University.

NKU men push record to 3-0

Defeat Grand Valley State 73-63, sit third in GLVC East

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, Ky.

The NKU men's basketball team was victorious over Grand Valley State by a score of 73-63 on Nov. 23.

NKU built a 16-point halftime lead by limiting the Lakers to 28 percent shooting from the field and held off a late rally to improve to 3-0.

"If we had lost, it would have put a sour taste in our mouths and we would have went home and everyone would have been in a bad mood and not had a good Thanksgiving," Kevin Schappell said.

Schappell, a junior wing player and a graduate of Loveland High School, finished with 12 points, three steals and two assists off the bench.

He also made a pair of key 3-point shots in the second half as NKU won its third straight game against a school from the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

The GLIAC and the Great Lakes Valley Conference compete for bids in the NCAA Division II Great Lakes Region at the end of the regular season.

The winners of the GLIAC and GLVC Tournaments receive automatic berths in the NCAA Tournament, and six more teams get at-large berths.

That makes the 3-0 record against the GLIAC even more important for NKU, a member of the GLVC.

"It's a regional win, and they (Grand Valley State) are a pretty good team in our region, so they are going to knock some other teams off in their conference," Schappell said.

"I thought we played great defensively, and it's just something we need to keep building on."

NKU used a 15-2 run to tie in the first half and take a 38-22 lead at the break. Norse freshman guard Mike Kimmyne drained a pair of 3-pointers to spark the Norse spurt.

Billy Finnell added five points during the run, including a jumper with one second remaining to end the half.

Finnell, who was named NKU's most outstanding player during the John L. Griffin Lions Club Classic last week, finished with 16 points, four steals and three assists Wednesday night against Grand Valley State.

The NKU bench, led by

Schappell and Finnell, outscored Grand Valley State by a 42-16 margin.

"Each time we went to the bench, they responded. They actually helped jump-start us a little bit and gave us some freshness and some new life," NKU head coach Dave Bezold said.

"If you can get that lead, then you can have a cushion to work with. We were fortunate enough to have that cushion."

Kevin Reinhardt finished with 16 points and five rebounds for NKU. The Norse used 9-for-19 shooting from 3-point range to offset Grand Valley State's 36-27 edge in rebounding.

NKU also committed just nine turnovers and that statistic made Bezold happy.

"That's a heck of a job," Bezold said of the nine turnovers. "We have really been focusing on and talking about (turnovers) since the first day of practice because we were careless with the basketball in October, and they have really made a conscious effort to take care of the basketball. It's something we have to do night in and night out to give ourselves a chance to win."

Bezold also praised Schappell's performance and versatility.

"It wasn't just his points. He does a much more defensively, being in the right spots. He guards guys 6-foot-5, 6-foot-10, and he is always in the right spots," Bezold said.

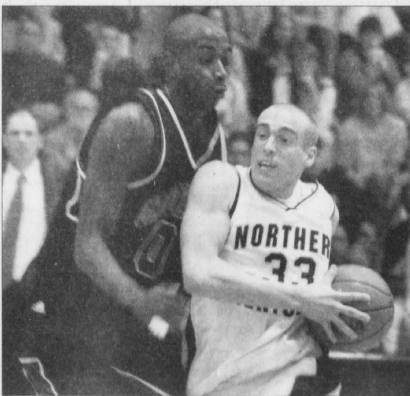
"If we could get a few more people moving like he does, then we will be something. We'll turn into a much better team as the year goes on."

Going into the game, Eziukwu was averaging 13.5 points and 10.0 rebounds per game.

"This is team win because we all played well together," Reinhardt said. "We all enjoy playing together, and that helps us out a lot. We just have to keep it up."

NKU will begin GLVC play at 7:45 p.m. Dec. 1 against Rockhurst in Regents Hall. The Norse were picked second in the GLVC East in the preseason poll.

* Article by Sports Information



Tim Downer/Photographer

Guard Kevin Schappell had 12 points, including a pair of key three point shots in the win over Grand Valley State.

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Trip includes:

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- 3 days of skiing / snowboarding including Night Skiing!
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- Lift tickets for 3 days

Registration Deadline: January 31, 2006

Register at the Campus Recreation Center (located on the 1st floor of the Albright Health Center)

Cost: \$199 per person

(sk. snowboard rental not included)

All NKU students, faculty & staff are welcome and encouraged to bring family & friends!

Norse hockey defeats Bearcats

By Craig Pace
Reporter
northerner@nku.edu

Norse Hockey packed over 350 people into the Northern Kentucky Ice Center on Nov. 18th when they faced off against University of Cincinnati.

The Norse struck first in the 6-5 victory over the Bearcats. Kari Mueller scored the first two goals of the game for NKU inside four minutes before UC's John Puhl scored in the 10th minute.

Mueller's first goal came off a quick pass across center from Drew Toles. His second was 30 seconds into a power play prompted by a head shot from UC's Adam Korzin. This gave the Norse a 2-1 lead going into the second period.

The Norse answered quickly with another goal by Mueller with 47 seconds left in the period on UC goalie Brian Hughes, giving him a hat trick. Mueller's goal came during a power play, which tied the game at three.

The Norse and Bearcats went down a man each. UC's Spencer Traflet was sent to the box for interference. With 28 seconds left on the power play Toles was called for tripping. During the four on four, Norse center Eric Thuemmen struck on an assist, courtesy of Scott Hicks.

UC tied the game with less than eight minutes to go on a power play after Thuemmen was penalized for a head shot. As soon as Thuemmen exited the box, the puck came to him. With a quick wrist shot, he went top shelf stick side and redebated himself by once again, giving the Norse the lead.

The Norse penalty kill matched up well against UC's power play. Between shots, kick saves, open ice hits and screaming fans, the Norse pulled together and shut down UC's attack and giving the Norse the victory. The Norse beat the Bearcats again Saturday night 5-2, giving the Norse an 8-7 record going into winter break.

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staffeditorials

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

writes

Write a letter to the editor at northerner@nku.edu. Please limit it to 400 words or less. The Northerner holds the right to edit for content and space. All letters must be received by the Friday before publication to be printed.

viewpoints

inmyopinion: Shopping for Survival

Del Weldon

If you have had the distinct pleasure of having been run over by a shopping cart piloted by a madwoman on a mission for the last \$50 DVD player at Target, you realize that the holiday shopping season is upon us. Now being a battle-hardened survivor of 26 of these seasons, I have developed some survival tips that I will share with you in the hopes that you too may learn to survive the shopping season (or at least come out with nine of 10 fingers intact).

Rule 1: DO NOT GO SHOPPING. Stay indoors and look sheepishly out the curtains every now and then.

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When Christmas morning comes, run into the living room in a Dracula costume and act surprised when you are told it isn't Halloween.

Rule 2: If you must shop, buy things like "Black Friday" or the like. "Black Friday" is an actual term used by the media to describe the day after Thanksgiving. However, even the term "Black Friday" was not enough to keep even one person home and there were approximately 12 people BURIED IN THE LINOLEUM at the J.C. Penney in Florence because support hose were 10 percent off.

Rule 3: Buy CRAPPY GIFTS. Do not go for the most popular items. They will either be sold out or you will have to fight a large woman with seven children attached to various parts of her for them. Instead, go straight to aisle 17B and buy your wife or girlfriend that shiny putty knife she's always wanted (hey, she doesn't want a putty knife!).

Rule 4: This is for those who absolutely, positively must participate fully in holiday shopping during peak business hours, going toe-to-toe for the best gifts in the store.

I like these people to the Hun. The Hun would travel from town to town, burning a swath through the land causing massive destruction, and then stab each other for the last "Tickle Me Elmo." If you choose to go into battle, be sure to stretch thoroughly, wear comfortable shoes, and use your purse as a weapon of mass destruction.

All right, there it is. Good luck and happy holiday shopping. If you follow my advice, you just might come out of the shopping season OK. Me, I'll be hiding indoors, getting my Dracula costume ready.

one love his neighbor? Through justifying his wicked behavior?

I do not support or condone violence of any sort, against anyone, at anytime—except to preserve self and family. I am an American. I am a sinner. I love my neighbor and, in doing so, rebuke him "frankly." Leviticus 19:17. I suggest that people arm themselves with the "sword of the Spirit," thus possessing the ultimate weapon in battling "the father of lies." Ephesians 6:17 and John 8:44. Through God's strength, His grace manifested in Jesus and honest fellowship with thy neighbor, you can experience victory. John 5:8. To God be the glory!

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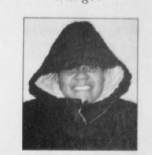
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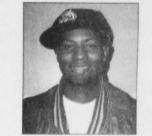
Compiled by
Nicole Jones

How far do you think the Cincinnati Bengals will go?



Brittany Williams
Senior, Pre Med

"I know nothing about the Bengals. I've heard they're not that great. With faith they will do well, with facts that's another story."



Terry Reed
Senior, Speech

"I think they'll go to the playoffs. I think they'll beat Pittsburgh and go undefeated for the rest of the season."



Josh Grimm
Junior, Biology

"We're definitely going to the playoffs, but I think we'll lose in the WC championship because the Colts are amazing."



Jimmy Liming
Freshman, English

"I don't think they'll make it to the playoffs, but they'll get close."



Anna Sysson
Liberal Arts

"I don't know anything about the Bengals."



Rensha Reeder
Senior, Management & Marketing

"I don't think they'll go that far. I'm not a Bengals fan. I do wish them a little success."

Carification needed

Previous letter 'was not' a call of violence to gays

May it please the court of public opinion, I, the state that I retract nothing from my previous letter. However, it has been relayed to me that some have taken it to see me dismissed from the university because they misinterpreted my use of Jesus' words in Luke 17:2 as a call to violence against homosexuals. It was not.

Considering my choice to attend a public university, I should have anticipated the "liberal thought police" to be on patrol, squelching any opinion that differs from their own. But isn't a public university located in the United States of America, the most correct setting to have unedited dialogue without fear of reprisal? If it had been "Coming Out to Take the Lord's Name in Vain Day," I had declared it sin, would reaction have been

the same? I digress. My letter was intended as a "heads up" to those who promote sin through misrepresenting God and to warn them through Jesus' own words, the lens through which they may be cast on judgement day.

Please permit me to respond. The moral relativism prevalent in the world today is a direction, which encourages citizens to define for themselves right and wrong; the cost of which is a loss of moral absolutes.

People are lost in a wilderness of immediate gratification. Between the media, music, friends and even family, young men and women are expertly trained in feeding hungers of the flesh. But what of the soul and the nourishment it requires?

Of the two, which contributes most to one's loss of life, liberty and happiness? I propose it is the soul.

For those seeking internal change and an alternate view to the one offered by the morally bankrupt, I humbly propose the Bible.

The aforementioned "dogma" of moral relativism has had an adverse affect on me and those I love. Rather than continue in silence, I choose to offer an alternate "established opinion" to those like me: Sinners.

I find only two Christian laws at work. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind," and "Love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:37-39. Notice which one Jesus spoke first.

However, for those who cited the second, how does

one love his neighbor? Through justifying his wicked behavior?

I do not support or condone violence of any sort, against anyone, at anytime—except to preserve self and family. I am an American. I am a sinner. I love my neighbor and, in doing so, rebuke him "frankly." Leviticus 19:17. I suggest that people arm themselves with the "sword of the Spirit," thus possessing the ultimate weapon in battling "the father of lies." Ephesians 6:17 and John 8:44. Through God's strength, His grace manifested in Jesus and honest fellowship with thy neighbor, you can experience victory. John 5:8. To God be the glory!

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Some use Bible for benefit

Homosexuality gets special attention, but all sins are equal?

I, too, feel compelled to respond to the various letters regarding Coming Out Day on campus. I received the letter written by Joshua Grooms.

I read the chalk writings that day as I walked from class to class as well. I do agree that some of them were crass and/or ineffective at making a point. I was not so bothered that I felt the need to use words like "disgust" to describe my feelings. I thought some of them were humorous, but others they lacked intellect and didn't offer insight. Grooms' response, however, seems to come from being "disgusted" by the group of people who

wrote the messages because he disagrees with their lifestyle.

I have read passages in the Bible. The passage that sticks out to me and people often cite as condemning homosexuality is 1 Corinthians 6:9-10. "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God." If these sins are all considered equal, then why is homosexuality paid special attention?

Why aren't there outcries against the man who is getting married for the third time, as his first two marriages ended as a result of his adultery? Why aren't people who have pre-marital sex prohibited from entering into matrimony?

It seems to me that some are using only the parts of the Bible that benefit their moral arguments (and are disrespectful). Perhaps those who speak righteously should learn to be consistent first. The unscriptural teachings of the Bible are never given the proper attention. Care for others. Be compassionate. Be kind. Don't judge. And what's sad is not

very many people of faith can be bothered to follow them. I will end this letter by saying I am not religious, but I am a very spiritual person. I love God and as a person who has a personal relationship with Him, I am offended that Grooms is naughty enough to think he can speak for Him. If it seems to you a person isn't living a moral life, it isn't your business to tell them. God thinks of them. That is a private matter between Him and that person.

Brandi Dalthover
Freshmen
Undeclared/Pre-Nursing

Brandi Dalthover
Freshmen
Undeclared/Pre-Nursing

Brandi Dalthover
Freshmen
Undeclared/Pre-Nursing

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Undeclared/Pre-Nursing

Smoking should be restricted

Smoking is an activity that all should be free to participate in if they so choose. The market has determined there to be sufficient amounts of individuals willing to assume this habit to sustain it.

Not a champion of tobacco, I wouldn't want to withdraw the right of anyone choosing to purchase and use—err, consume these cigarettes. But why a non-smoker to do?

I mean, what does not smoking do to infringe on the health of others, specifically smokers, as a group? Does

our not smoking lead to cancer, or systematically increase the rates of chronic respiratory problems, heart disease, or the like? Can anyone tell me what health problems the non-smoking group causes smokers?

I'd be surprised to hear of anything. So here's a plea to you smokers: Why not accept that your activity is not one that should be forced upon those that don't smoke, and gather in an area designated for you? We designate areas for all sorts of activities, don't we?

There are two: "Straight is cool" and "man + woman marriage." These statements on the heels of Coming Out Day may not have been desired, but were simply someone else's opinion.

Secondly, I would like to address the letter to the editor written by Kenneth Rivera in response to Mr. Shiver's article. In Rivera's article published on the 16th, he states, "If any type of speech causes a single person or group for that matter to feel any type of emotional distress because of a few words of 'free speech,' then it is not

we? We aren't allowed to urinate in public (though some of us certainly do occasionally).

We aren't legally allowed to choose which side of the road we drive on, or that we drive on a road at all instead of on a highway, or that we drive on sidewalks and through playgrounds. That would be dangerous, right?

So instead we have designated areas where we know those activities take place. So most rational people accept that their activity is confined to certain areas, and should

be for the safety of all. Why should smoking be different? Why should I be "safe" from being struck by a car or urinated on in front of NKU's buildings, but not from inhaling toxic smoke?

I'm just curious why this perfectly rational argument is so used, tactic has to be implemented?

Free speech is supposed to be constitutionally protected, and was undercut by Shiver's letter. In my article, applauding the efforts of people censoring the counterpart; even those rabidly supportive of free speech can be censors themselves.

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Senior
Graphic Design

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Diviners to open

By Katie Walker
Staff Writer
walker1@nku.edu

Northern Kentucky University's Department of Theater and Dance will end the fall semester with a drama about the value of faith and friendship when it presents "The Diviners" Dec. 1 through 11.

Jim Leonard Jr. wrote the show and Lisa Bodolio, theater chair at Mother of Mercy High School in Cincinnati, guest directed it. The story takes place in the 1930s in the fictional, drought-ridden and Depression-era town of Zion, Ind. It focuses on a mentally handicapped teenager named Buddy (Adam Bass) who has the power of "divining," or finding water.

Ironically, Buddy's mother died while saving him from drowning as a young child. The experience leaves the boy deathly afraid of the water. When a drifting and disillusioned preacher C.C. Showers (Jeffrey K. Miller) comes to town and befriends Buddy, the two discover the lessons of love and friendship.

"The Diviners" summons us to challenge our own views of life and death, our frailties and human inadequacies," said Bodolio in a statement. "We all search for our own Zion, the Promised Land, but are we taking the appropriate path?" "The Diviners" will be performed in the Corbett Theater. Performances will begin at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and at 3 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$6 for students.



Jeffrey K. Miller (left) stars as preacher C.C. Showers and Adam Bass (right) plays Buddy in "The Diviners."

Photo courtesy of the NKU Department of Theater and Dance

Students find alternate ways to spend holiday

By Staff Report
The Northerner
northernr@nku.edu

Northern Kentucky University students proved that traditional Thanksgiving celebrations are going out of style. From eating out at restaurants, feeding the poor to celebrating culturally, this year students shared new experiences and showed that they understand the meaning of the holiday without having to hold on to traditions.

Sophomore nursing major Hannah Reichtin celebrated Thanksgiving with her mom. They went to National Bridge to feed the less fortunate.

"There were tons of people there and we ended up staying the entire day with them," Reichtin said.

She wasn't the only person who dedicated the holiday to a cause. Undeclared sophomore Kaitlin Brandt said her family didn't really get together for Thanksgiving this year.

"My dad is a doctor at a children's hospital, so we went there," Brandt said. "It was really cool because we just played games with the kids and ate a bunch of pie. It was fun."

Students who are not originally from the United States celebrated the holiday a little differently.

Melisa Roman, who moved to the United States from Peru in December 2001, said she didn't celebrate Thanksgiving in her home country. The junior education major said in Peru, "we actually think Christmas is more important than Thanksgiving."

"She invited many international students," Gonzalez said. "I think it's just the way we are. We aren't a very big family."



Photo illustration by Josh Jacob and Stuart MacKenzie

celebrate it "because the story of Thanksgiving is American," Gonzalez said. She spent the holiday in an American home of a woman who is from the Philippines, and her husband is from America.

"She invited many international students," Gonzalez said.

Adrian Beiting said his family didn't go over the top with the holiday. The senior English major went out to eat instead of having the traditional home cooked meal.

"I think it's just the way we are. We aren't a very big family."

ily, so we don't feel the need to do something big."

He ate at Chez Nora in Covington on Thanksgiving, where he said the bill was almost \$100 for three people. The restaurant was crowded and it was running out of drinking glasses, according to Beiting. To top it off, Beiting said the restaurant only had two kinds of pie, neither of which he liked.

Freshman Loliana Talbott also had a less than satisfying Thanksgiving. Talbott, whose family lives overseas in her home country of Albania, worked from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the holiday. She ordered Thanksgiving dinner from Kroger - which didn't give her the green beans she ordered she said.

"I just spent the day (with a friend) because we don't have any other family," she said. "It was like the worst Thanksgiving ever."

Cuban native Adalya Garcia said Thanksgiving is looked at differently by Christian Hispanics and non-Christian Hispanics.

She said that, in general, the non-Christian Hispanics prepare a party at their homes and the Christians go to church to celebrate Thanksgiving. At the homes, relatives and friends come together to play Latin music, dance and play games. She said that at 9 p.m. they all come together and eat the meal. After that, the party continues until 4 or 5 a.m.

"Of course we eat turkey, which is an American tradition, but we add Latin foods like Congris, tostitos and tortillas," Garcia said.

Editor's Note: This story is a compilation by Amy Ehrnreiter, Rick Muever, Melissa Chinn and Kelli Schultz.

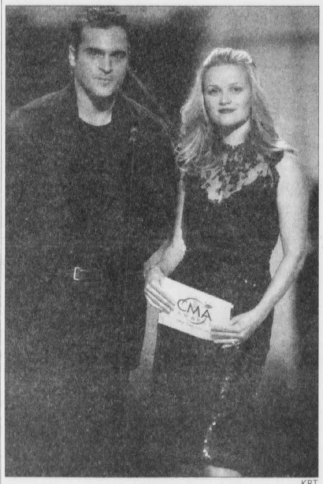
according to a release.

During this same time, Warner remained active in the U.S. Army Reserve. He has served as company commander, as battalion commander, in several staff positions and as group commander in his 26 years in the Reserves.

Using slide pictures and his personal experience, Warner will translate his experience in Vietnam for the audience.

The speech is open to the public and refreshments will be available after the program. For more information call 572-5461.

movie review



Joaquin Phoenix stars as Johnny Cash and Reese Witherspoon plays June Carter in "Walk the Line."

Moviegoers 'love' new Cash movie

By Ashley Wallace
Reporter
northernr@nku.edu

"Walk the Line," starring Joaquin Phoenix and Reese Witherspoon, is truly the movie of the year. Phoenix and Witherspoon both provide viewers with award-winning performances.

Phoenix becomes Johnny Cash as he and Witherspoon both lend their own vocals for the film. Making her singing debut, Witherspoon captures the spotlight as June Carter beautifully.

Ebert and Roper give the film two thumbs up and say "Walk the Line" is "a definitive portrait of one of the most influential figures in modern American music."

Produced by Cathy Konrad and James Keach and directed by James Mangold, this story of a music legend is absolutely breathtaking. Whether you are a Johnny Cash fan or not, the film will capture your heart and inspire your soul!

The film begins in a depression era with Cash on a southern cotton farm. The film

follows him as he rises from a poor boy to become a rock 'n' roll legend. The movie features songs such as "Walk the Line" and "A Boy Named Sue," as well as the infamous 1968 concert at Folsom Prison.

Along with his rise to fame, we also view the inside story on Cash's battle with drug addiction and his romance with Carter. The film is a perfect portrayal of Cash "facing down his demons, fighting for the love that would raise him and learning how to walk a razor-thin line between destruction and redemption," according to the official Web site, walkthelinehome.com.

Based on "Man in Black" and "Cash the Autobiography," the film was written over the course of seven years with help from Cash and his wife before their deaths in 2003. "Walk the Line" is not only a wonderful movie but a wonderful autobiography as well.

Moviegoers can't help but fall in love with Cash all over again. You will definitely leave the show laughing, crying and wanting to listen to more of the legendary Johnny Cash albums.

Professor to speak about Vietnam

By Staff Report
The Northerner
northernr@nku.edu

To students at Northern Kentucky University, Jerry Warner, Ph.D. may just be their biology professor. Warner will show students a deeper side with his presentation "The Vietnam War: On Soldier's Experience." He will speak at 3 p.m., Dec. 1 in the Otto M. Budig Theater as part of NKU's Military History Lecture Series.

After graduating from the University of Louisville State College with a Bachelor's of

Science in Biology, Warner was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Corps of Engineers, according to a release. After serving as a training officer in Missouri, in 1966, Warner was assigned to the 86th Engineer Battalion in Fort Dix, New Jersey, which would soon be deployed to Vietnam.

Warner and his platoon arrived in Cu Chi, Vietnam in Sept. 1966. While in Vietnam, Warner served as a Platoon Leader and Company Executive Officer in the B Company of the 588th Engineer Battalion.

After returning from the war, Warner achieved a Masters in Biology from the Northeast Louisiana State College and later pursued a Ph.D. in Zoology. After achieving his doctorate, he taught at two schools before arriving at NKU, where he was employed as assistant professor of biology in 1976.

In Warner's 30 years at NKU he has been a member of the faculty, Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Director of University 101, Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences and Interim Vice President and Provost,

Section Editors
 Amy Ehrenreiter &
 Stuart MacKenzie
 859.572.5859

 Top Five
 o o o o o


5. The dead sexy Charize Theron makes her debut as "Aeon Flux" Friday, Dec. 2. If you're heading to the Levee to see it, tickets are \$6 for students.

4. Randy Pennington, Ph.D. and Charles Wells are conducting the Winter Choral Concert at Greaves Hall Thursday, Dec. 1. The concert begins at 8 p.m. and tickets are \$3 for students.

3. Suffocate Faster, Before Mourning Comes, and a few other hard-core bands thrash the Holy Grail in Clifton on Friday, Dec. 2. It should be interesting, since the place is pretty small. Tickets are \$8 if you're under 21, or \$6 if you're over.

2. "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens opens at the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park Thursday, Dec. 1. Tickets are between \$38 and \$51. Check out www.cincyplay.com.

1. Experience everything indie – be it music, art, comedy – at the Independent Media Fest at the Southgate Media Fest on Saturday, Dec. 3. Tickets are \$5. All proceeds benefit independent media.

arts&entertainment

Student cellular usage increases

 By Lindsey Williams
 Reporter
northerner@nku.edu

At Northern Kentucky University, it is almost guaranteed that at any given time, someone somewhere is talking on a cell phone. According to a 2005 survey by Student Monitor, a company that regularly surveys college students, 90 percent of college students have cell phones. This number has increased drastically since 2000, when only 34 percent of students owned cell phones.

NKU students use their phones for a variety of tasks besides making calls. Brittni Fisk, an art major, who can't seem to live without her cell phone down, said she uses her phone not only to make calls, but she also to send text and picture messages to her friends and download ring tones. "My bill is always high, and I always go over the allowed minutes on my plan," she said. ITracks, a monthly survey that collects information from a sample of mobile phone subscribers, polled 1,000 teens across North America from July 30 to Aug. 9 of this year. The study found that 37.3 percent of these students text message, 13.4 percent retrieved news and information via browser and 11.3 percent used personal e-mail on their cell phones. Fisk says a lot of times she will send a quick text message to a friend if she wants to let them something brief, rather than actually calling them.

Text messaging may be an advantage to students with cell phones, but professors may think otherwise. According to some, text messaging has opened the door for another option of cheating while at school. Students can do so by storing answers in their phones or receiving information via text message from someone outside the class.

Not only can students cheat with cell phones, but to some people they have become a distraction in the classroom. Ann Taylor, a communications professor at NKU, said in an e-mail, "When a cell phone rings, it disrupts the flow of class. Either a student is presenting or I am presenting course materials."

That is why she deducts 10 points from total grade points each time a student's cell phone rings during class. Taylor also said if a student might have an emergency and may need to be



KRT

notified, the phone should be set on vibrate.

Eric Garrison, a secondary education of mathematics major, feels the same way. "I think cell phones are so annoying going off in class," he said. "They are so simple to just turn off or turn on vibrate." He also finds it annoying when students talk on their phones right outside of a classroom, and you can hear their entire conversation.

Not only do most students have them, but they seem to be replacing landline phones as well. Garrison said he doesn't use his dorm phone. He uses his cell phone instead. Some families are doing away with a house phone and investing in family plans, which have free mobile to mobile calling. Cell phones are a necessity for most students these days. If the rest of NKU students are anything like Fisk, when it comes to their cell phone, they may feel naked without it.

The FIX

 Regan Coomer Satisfying
 Your Celebrity-Gossip Craving
 One Paragraph at a Time.


East meets West: Chinese movie star **Bai Ling** and former Backstreet Boy **Nick Carter** are dating, and some say considering marriage. A friend close to the couple told Star Magazine that the odd duo isn't just having fun: "They're serious." In fact, Ling, 35, is heading to Europe soon to join the 25-year-old Carter on tour. The friend of the couple denied the marriage rumors, saying, "They're not even close to talking about marriage, but he's really into her." Apparently, because Carter, normally a party boy, has chosen to follow Ling's healthier lifestyle: "Because of Bai, he's a huge health nut now, drinking soy milk," the source said. Star Magazine asked Ling herself about the marriage rumors, who responded, "I am very fond of Nick, and we are dating, but that's it." Let's hope so, because their kids would be hideous.

The Material Girl's had a hard time lately dealing with **Sharon Osbourne**, the wife of rocker **Ozzy**, who's been shooting zinger after zinger at her, so she's chosen to retaliate on innocent bystander and fellow singer **Gwen Stefani**, of whom **Madonna** claims, "She ripped me off." According to Star Magazine, Madonna, 47, recently said of Stefani, "We work with a lot of the same people. She married a Brit [former Bush front man Gavin Rossdale], she's got long hair, and she likes fashion." I guess the hundreds of thousands of other people who like fashion and have long hair are ripping off of Madonna, too.

As for Stefani, she chose to take the high road when she responded, "Show me one girl my age who has not been influenced by her."



Barton

Star of the OC **Mischa Barton** thinks that when it comes to her and Marissa Cooper, the character she portrays on the hit show, art doesn't imitate life. Or it is life imitates art? Anyway, the actress and former model told Harpers and Queen magazine that the rich girl she plays is a drama queen: "She's the wildcard of the show. Marissa epitomizes all that is wrong with youth these days. She is purposely overwritten and sensationalized." Aw, lighten up, Mischa. You're starting to sound like you're middle aged, you wipernapper.

Quote of the week:

"She and I fell in love like a couple of school kids. I'm glad to know that happens, that that exists."

Kenny Chesney on his whirlwind marriage, and divorce, to **Renee Zellweger**.

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Wednesday

- Up 'Til Dawn letter writing party at 7 p.m. in the lower UG Cafe for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.
- 8th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting at 10 a.m. on the third floor of Stealy Library.

Thursday

- Kwanzaa Celebration at 11 a.m. in Budig Theatre.
- Military History Lecture Series: "The Vietnam War: One Soldier's Experience" at 3 p.m. in Budig Theatre.
- Senior Art Exhibition at 5 p.m. in FA Main Gallery.
- Lecture: "Representing the Serial Killer" at 5 p.m. in Budig Theatre, presentation of "The Diviners" at 8 p.m. in the Corbett Theatre.
- Women's basketball game vs. Rockhurst at 5:30 p.m. in Regents Hall.
- Men's basketball game vs. Rockhurst at 7:45 p.m. in Regents Hall.
- Northern Choral and Concert Band at 8 p.m. in Greaves Hall.
- NKU Faculty, staff, students, and seniors.
- First show of "The Diviners" at 8 p.m. in Corbett Theatre. Tickets: General Admission \$10 Adults \$9 NKU Faculty/Staff \$8 Senior Citizens \$6 and older \$6 Students.

To include the event you're planning in the calendar, contact Regan Coomer at coomer@nku.edu, or call The Northerner at 572.5859.

Friday

- Seminar: "Backpack to Briefcase: Transition from College to Work and Life" at 1 p.m. in Budig Theatre.
- Holiday Piano Collage featuring students of Sergei Polusniak at 7:30 p.m. in Greaves Hall.
- WE: Movie Night, "Miss Congeniality" at 8 p.m. in University Suites 228.

Saturday

- NKU Chamber Orchestra Holiday Concert at 8 p.m. in Greaves Hall.
- Women's basketball game v. Drury at 1 p.m. in Regents Hall.
- Men's basketball game v. Drury at 3:15 p.m. in Regents Hall.

Sunday

- Mayerson Student Philanthropy Project Awards at 2 p.m. in the UC Ballroom.

Monday

- NKU Steel Drum Concert at 8 p.m. in Greaves Hall.

Tuesday

- Norse Visitation Day at 12:45 p.m. in the Stealy Library Welcome Center.

The Fellas

by Alex Campbell



Sudoku

© Puzzles by Pappocorn

No math skills required. Neurons a plus!

Here's a puzzle with numbers. Nothing has to add up to anything else. Yippie! Instead, you solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Where do you start solving a Sudoku puzzle? You can begin in any square, but one mistake early in the game and you'll be in a mess later.

In each row, fill in the numbers one through nine (1-9) in any order without repeating any number. In each column do the same. Using the given numbers, fill in each three-by-three box with the correct answer. No number should be repeated in any row, column, or three-by-three box.

There is only one solution, and it can be reached

using logic. Guessing is not necessary!

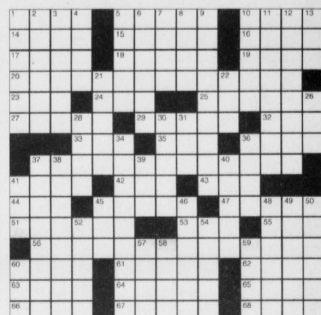
An EASY puzzle (Neural Numbing May Occur) might take you half an hour the first time, but practice should lower your time. MEDIUM difficulty (Migraines Likely) will probably give you a headache.

On the other hand, if you were on death row, scheduled for execution in the morning, and the guard told you that if you solved a HARD puzzle (Risk of Brain Aneurism) your life would be spared - you'd probably die.

Solutions, tips, and computer program at www.sudoku.com. You can visit this Web site to practice, learn strategies, and improve your time.

Crossword

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



Across

- 1 Air problem
- 5 Century starter
- 10 Jessica of "Dark Angel"
- 14 Traditional bar mitzvah dance
- 15 Mild cigar
- 16 Natterjack
- 17 Angry states
- 18 Aldrin or Meese
- 19 Minute parasites
- 20 See 68A
- 23 Of the car: pref.
- 24 Nice summer?
- 25 Ballerina Collier
- 27 "Polar Express" star
- 29 Tentacled mollusk
- 32 Ginger
- 33 European peak
- 35 Vert. bars on goods
- 36 Misdread: slang
- 37 See 68A
- 41 Half a 1987 Billy Idol hit
- 42 Telecast
- 43 P. Hearst's kidnappers
- 44 Banned insecticide
- 45 Examples of beefcake
- 47 Stravinsky and Sikorsky
- 51 Dog Star
- 53 1040/EZ whiz
- 55 -noir
- 56 See 68A
- 60 Photos
- 61 Market town
- 62 Rod's partner
- 63 -noir
- 64 French river
- 65 Taking it easy
- 66 Yemen port city
- 67 Annual sports awards
- 68 Clue for 20A, 37A and 56A

Down

- 1 1862 battle site
- 2 "The Karate Kid" star
- 3 Crater Lake location
- 4 Deep cut
- 5 Bouquet
- 6 Blasts from the past
- 7 Young deer
- 8 Math class
- 9 Disharmony
- 10 "Shrugged"
- 11 Daily Planet employee
- 12 Unmarried man
- 13 Humorist writer
- George
- 21 Magnetic unit
- 22 Zeppelin
- 26 Evergreen
- 28 Actress Jarardo
- 29 Hadron constituent
- 31 "What can Brown do for you?" co.
- 34 Credible
- 36 Obstacle
- 37 Changed
- 38 Dramatic
- 39 intermission
- 40 Half a sawbuck
- 41 Controversial 2000 refugee
- 42 ER personnel
- 43 "Ben—"
- 46 Move in haste
- 48 City north of Leon
- 49 Explain again
- 50 Surgical tool
- 52 "Ghosts" playwright
- 53 Congress staffers
- 57 Pigeon sounds
- 58 Clever remark
- 59 Chi-town paper
- 60 Earl Anthony org.

Answers to this week's crossword puzzle will be posted on The Northerner Web site at www.thenortherner.com.

Classifieds

To place a classified go to www.thenortherner.com

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Neural Numbing May Occur

	8	5	1	4	
	1	6		4	8
4					7
8	3		7		4
2	9		5		6
1					5
	8	4	1	2	9
	2	3	7	6	

Answers to this week's crossword puzzle will be posted on The Northerner Web site at www.thenortherner.com.

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