

THE NORTHERNER

Volume 30, Number 9

Independent Student Publication of Northern Kentucky University

Wednesday, October 18, 2000

Snapshot:

NEWS

Apple for teacher:

Find out about the new program NKU is involved in to help alleviate the teaching shortage in Ky.

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FEATURES



Punch Drunk

Find out what happened when Pickle's dream of competing in the Meaneat Man contest came true.

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SPORTS



GLVC CHAMPS

The NKU women's tennis team rolled to its third straight conference Championship. Read about how the Norse wrapped up another undefeated year in the conference.

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VIEWPOINTS

DUBYA AND JESUS

Jesus went down to Texas the other day to meet with Gov. Bush to see if he could convince the Gov of his wisdom and authenticity. Most of it didn't take.

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WEBSITE OF THE WEEK



Ever wonder what happened on this day in history? Check out the history of Halloween, Civil War history, Old West history, Automotive history and much more on the History Channel's website. A comprehensive and easy-to-use search engine allows you to see what famous people you share a birthday with, or you can use it for that research paper you've been putting off starting.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Oct. 18, 1898 - U.S. takes control of Puerto Rico
Oct. 19, 1812 - Napoleon begins retreat from Russia
Oct. 21, 1962 - Cuban Missile Crisis begins

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Freshmen to receive midterm grades

By Douglas Dehner
Staff Writer

On October 23, for the first time ever at NKU, freshmen will receive midterm grades.

According to Director of First Year Programs Franz Zaniello, "Midterms will provide a type of a reality check to the freshmen students who usually tend to be unrealistic about their grades."

She added that the university extended the drop date this semester with the hope that it would give freshmen the time needed to receive their midterms and talk to their faculty and adviser before deciding if they need to drop a class.

"Students who have a grade of a D or an F will be contacted by mail with a letter from the Office of the Provost," Zaniello said.

According to Vice Provost Paul Reichardt, students will be able to access their grades through Norse Express by entering their login name and password.

"Adding to the importance of a freshman's midterm report will be an online form that will accompany the student's letter grade," Reichardt said. "This form will allow instructors to give advice and suggestions for the student to improve his or her grade."

Reichardt said that some of the comments that he expects instructors to make are the need for a particular student to attend class

more often, suggest that the student visit the writing center, or request a meeting with the student to discuss possible approaches to raising the student's grades.

"The hope of the university in giving freshmen midterm grades is that it will give the students the feedback they need half-way through the semester so that they will have enough time to either withdraw from a class or work harder on a specific aspect of their study," Reichardt said.

Zaniello said that two years ago the university tested a select group of students by giving them midterm grades. She said they received very positive feedback and high retention numbers for these students; and so through a collaboration of efforts from the

Registrar's Office, Information Technology, Office of First Year Programs and Enrollment Management, a plan was put into place to establish midterms for freshmen.

"I think that getting a midterm grade would be very beneficial to the student because it lets you know if and where you need to work harder at," said freshman Erin Hsieh.

Reichardt said the reasons upperclassmen will not be receiving midterm grades is because the faculty senate felt that upperclassmen were usually better prepared to know how they were doing in a class, and that the number of grades needed to be turned in would be nearly doubled.

NKU signs partnership with Russian university

By Forrest Berkshire
Editor in Chief

Students and faculty of Northern Kentucky University soon have the opportunity to travel to Russia in an exchange program being developed through the International Studies office.

NKU and The People's Friendship University of Russia (PFUR) signed into a partnership last week, which includes collaborating on common research topics and exchanging faculty and students in the future.

Evgeny Martynenko and Dr. Michael Klembura, director of International Programs, met with various departments and faculty last week determining just how the agreement will work out.

"We are seeing if our faculties have similar interests," Evgeny explained.

Though the details are still being worked out, the most likely collaboration will be on research in the sciences, but Klembura included that they will "Leave no stone unturned."

There is also mention in the contract agreement of the exchange both graduate and undergraduate students and professors from both universities. Klembura said they are currently discussing the exchanges among the law and business faculty, but there is still much to be worked out.

"This is an exciting new development for [NKU] as we are working to become an internationalized campus that has both a larger percentage of students studying abroad and a larger number of international students and faculty becoming part of our campus," NKU President Dr. James Votruba said. "This program provides opportunities for students and faculty alike."

Evgeny explained that PFUR is the third highest rated university in Russia, and is located in the capital Moscow. He said NKU and PFUR are similar in many ways.

PFUR was founded in 1960, and is roughly the same size as NKU with 12,000 students, both graduates and

See RUSSIANS, Page 10



Dan Mecher/The Northerner

Communications Dept. Chairman Pat Moynahan holds a joint lecture on ethics in on-line media with his Ethics in Journalism class and a group of visiting Russian journalists who are touring the U. S.

Russian journalists visit NKU as part of national exchange

By Dan Mecher
News Editor

An ensemble of Russian journalists and media owners stopped at Northern Kentucky University last Thursday as part of an international program funded by the U.S. Department of State.

During a three-hour visit, the 11 guests observed a journalism ethics class and met with representatives of *The Northerner* to learn about the training of American journalists.

"It's viewed as a bilateral exchange," said Mark Restock, assistant executive director of the International Visitors Council (IVC) of Greater Cincinnati. "The Russian visitors will gain knowledge of the role journalism has in American society, and students will learn about the state of journalism in Russia for comparison's sake."

Restock said the IVC coordinated the Cincinnati portion of a national agenda paid for by federal government dollars. Under the International Visitor Program, Restock explained, various professionals of different fields from all over the world are brought to the U.S. every year to increase mutual understanding of culture.

According to participant Petr Godlevskiy, editor of Russia's "Pressing" Online magazine, reporters in his society are moderately but not overwhelmingly challenged. State Department Seminar Interpreter Igor Leybova translated Godlevskiy's comments. "It's easier to be a journalist in the U.S.," he said. "But it's a lot more difficult to be a journalist in Columbia, say, than in Russia."

Godlevskiy, 34, said the history of his country led him to

become a reporter. He graduated from Leningrad Educational Institute 10 years ago, during what he described as an exciting period of perestroika. "I became a journalist because I wanted to analyze what was going on around me," he said. "I wanted to present my views for the people."

Aside from his position at "Pressing," Godlevskiy also works as an anchor for one of Russia's top networks, the NTV independent television company. Taking into account President Vladimir Putin's recent controversial road on Media-Most, the media holding group that owns NTV, Godlevskiy said it's too early to tell what lies in store for the nation's news industry.

"(Putin) has managed to inflict some pain, but it's still premature to say that Russian journalism is dead," he said. "Nothing really terrible has happened so far." Godlevskiy added that he is not about to change professions.

The visitors began their tour in Washington, D.C. Oct. 2, and then traveled to CNNcom headquarters in Atlanta before coming to NKU at about 1:45 on Thursday. After meeting with *The Northerner* staff, the group continued on to Landrum where they discussed advertising ethics with journalism students in a class taught by Pat Moynahan, chairman of the communications department.

With help from the interpreters, the Russian guests shared their viewpoints toward advertising on Web-based news organizations, and toward tabloid-style reporting. Before closing the session, Moynahan thanked all of the participants for their visit. "I really appreciate your input," he said, "because you have given us a perspective."

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Pat W. Zabala/The Northerner

The Russian journalist group stopped by the offices of *The Northerner* Thursday to compare and contrast the styles between the two countries.

Charges of possession against Clark dropped

By Jason R. Crisler
Production Manager

The U.S. District Court of Covington has dropped charges from a complaint accusing former Northern Kentucky University basketball player Todd Clark of possession with intent to distribute the drug Ecstasy.

Burr Travis, Clark's attorney, said the government filed a motion to dismiss the charges

from the complaint.

On Oct. 12 the complaint was officially dismissed, according to an order from the U.S. District Court of Covington.

Police arrested Clark, his brother and two other men Sept. 29 with possession and intent to distribute Ecstasy. Clark had received a package containing the pills from Florida but told police he didn't know what was inside.

Clark allowed authorities to open the package.

The other three remain defendants, including Clark's brother.

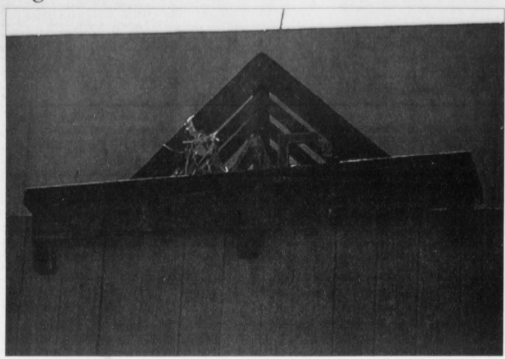
Travis said Clark filed an appeal with NKU to allow him to play this season. He said he hopes to have an answer sometime next week.

NKU Athletic Director Jane Meier verified that Clark had filed for reinstatement and that a committee will be established.

Meier said that Clark has been "permanently terminated" from participating in NKU athletics, based on the school's drug and alcohol policy.

Meier said Clark has been involved in "past instances" involving drugs or alcohol and that, as specified in the policy, has been "permanently terminated" based on these instances as well as the most recent accusation of possession, which have been dropped.

High Chair



Last Thursday, DPS received a call about a bench on top of the University Center building. The Alpha Delta Gamma's fraternity bench was found perched on the roof. How it got there no one knows.

Phones a nuisance at NKU

By Rick Amburgey
Special Projects Editor

Student Government Association received numerous complaints this semester from students regarding problems making telephone calls from campus, according to SGA President Kara Clark.

Freshman Autumn Howard said it is annoying because it is important to her that she can make phone calls when she needs to.

"I usually have to call back five times before I can get a line out," she said.

Kim Vance, assistant director of Residential Life, said Telecommunication Services is aware of the problem and she said she puts in service requests "all the time."

Jennifer Surgalski, SGA vice-president of public relations, sent an e-mail to Chief Information Officer Gary Pratt regarding the problems. This e-mail explained the problem was very common in the residence halls, "especially in the evening hours."

Pratt's response indicated that he forwarded the concerns to Roger Schuster, associate director for network systems, who has been intimately involved with this situation.

Shuster informed SGA that he has met with Cincinnati Bell repre-

sentatives and has requested reprogramming from Verizon (formerly GTE) that would increase the number and quality of the phone lines.

However, Schuster told *The Northerner* they are currently expanding outgoing call capacity by 10 percent and incoming call capacity by six percent. He said these changes should take four to six more weeks to be completed.

NKU's phone system operates using trunk lines, which is a connection to Cincinnati Bell. Schuster said there are 3000 extensions on campus with only 42 trunk lines for outgoing calls and 45 trunk lines for incoming calls.

Schuster said more lines will be added by 2002.

"The new science building will be on-line then and we'll need more phone lines then," he said.

Schuster said a phone switch typically lasts about 15 years and the current phone switch is 11 years old. He said the current phone switch does not support caller-ID.

"We'd love to be able to give all the new functionality that's now available like caller-ID, call waiting, etc., but it's just not feasible without a new phone switch which would cost somewhere around \$550,000."

Keith Hill, assistant chief of the Cold Spring Fire Department, said if a student dials 911 on campus the

dispatcher will know the call is coming from campus, but will not be able to locate exact location.

Hill said because each extension isn't a separate line, the address will appear incorrect. A 911 call placed from a dorm at 20 Campbell Drive would be indicated as coming from "O Louis B. Nunn Drive."

House Bill 900, proposed by Representative Joe Burrows of Woodford County, would allow mandatory for technology to be used that would allow "automatic number identification" by 911 dispatchers. The bill passed the House of Representatives, but did not pass the Senate before the end of the session and was automatically killed.

Hill said he believes the bill will be re-introduced because several agencies, including the Kentucky Emergency Number Association, are lobbying the state to create such a law.

Schuster said if the bill is renewed and passed, it "could accelerate our purchase of a new phone switch."

Department of Public Safety Chief Don McKenzie said the function of DPS would not drastically change if NKU began utilizing 911. He said DPS officers would still respond and they would still use the emergency vehicles of local departments like they are doing now.

Shooting investigation a slow go

By Forrest Berkshire
Editor in Chief

The investigation of the shooting which left NKU student Demarcus Phillips hospitalized is not going well, said Det. Dennis Ficker of the Cincinnati Police Department.

Ficker said he is still having trouble getting people who were at the scene of the crime to talk to him.

He said he has spoken to one person who says he/she saw someone running away after the shooting. As of yet though, he said no one has come to him with anything useful.

"This is going to be a very difficult task," he said. "I need someone who will step up and say 'I saw this guy.'" Ficker said once a witness comes forward he can show them some pictures and get an identification.

Ficker said he still has some more witnesses to interview, but he is having trouble finding them. One of the witnesses he has listed has warrants for his arrest, so Ficker said that naturally this person is not returning his phone calls.

Ficker is the investigating officer responsible for the case of Phillips, who was shot after a party at the Mt. Auburn Community Center in Cincinnati Sept. 30.

Ficker said the shooting happened as an act of revenge for a fight which happened in the party. He said as far as he knows Phillips was not involved in the fight. He also said he does not believe Phillips was the intended target, but was "just a random victim."

Ficker said he had an idea of who the shooter is, but that without any witnesses, it will be hard to prosecute.

NKU to help boost teacher population

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
Sports Editor

Northern Kentucky University is developing a program that could help new teachers get their degree while working in public schools. This program, known as Masters of Arts in Teaching, could begin next fall if the approval process goes through.

The new program offered will help with the teaching shortage in public schools around the state of Kentucky. Dr. Ken Carter, who is part of the School of Education at NKU, said, "There is an increasing number of teachers at the retirement age. Enrollment in elementary and high schools is increasing," he said. The number of students are going up nationally. The number of teachers need to go up too."

The class would meet at night, so that the teachers can pursue their jobs during the day. The program allows teachers to get their teaching certificate and master's degree at the same time.

The program is available not just for undergraduate but graduate students as well, Carter said. It also will take 12-18 months to complete the program for

the teachers.

"A lot of people are gaining their teaching certification and can't afford to quit their jobs," said Patrick Clore, Pendleton County Superintendent of Schools. "The (proposed) curriculum course time and schedule is a good accommodation."

"There are so many requests for this type of program," Carter said.

The current teachers are already certified and were prepared initially. The new program would have new potential teachers work on getting their certification while being employed as teachers in local businesses and industry, Carter said.

NKU Provost and Executive Vice-President of Academic Affairs Rogers Redding said the program has the potential to enhance teacher education for a lot more people. "It provides the opportunity for them to be trained as teachers," he said.

Before implementation, the program must be approved by the Faculty Curriculum Committee, the Board of Regents, the Council on Post-Secondary Education (the State), and the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board.

D.P.S. REPORTS

is trying to contact the victim's family.

An officer responded to a call from a dorm resident Oct. 8. The resident claimed he was receiving threatening mail through the Internet. The victim said the messages were life-threatening and he had an idea of who it was.

An officer was dispatched to Cardinal 210 to a subject feeling dizzy and sick to his stomach. The 19-year-old male was lying in his girlfriend's bed falling in and out of consciousness. A squad arrived at the scene and put the subject on 15LPM per nonbreather. His girlfriend said he had taken medication for depression and had

barely eaten for three days. The girlfriend said he refused to receive medical attention. It was after he would not get out of the bed and did not respond to verbal commands that she called D.P.S. Nurse Kay took over for the officer and he was later transported to St. Luke's East.

A female reported a possible harassment report to D.P.S. Oct. 11 at 6:50 p.m. She said she had just broken up with her boyfriend of three years. She said that he was following her around campus and leaving notes on her car. She said she had some classes with him, but he had not threatened her in any sexual or physical way. She did not file a report with D.P.S. and indicated she would attempt to ignore him.

Corrections

In the October 11 issue of *The Northerner*, in the story "Students get advice on GRE," the Anthropology department was incorrectly identified as the presenter of the workshop. The workshop presenter was actually the Student Anthropology Association.

In the Oct. 11 issue of *The Northerner* the story, "Pi Kappa Alpha placed on two-year probation," incorrectly stated that as part of the sanctions against the fraternity it would not be allowed to participate in intramural activities, fundraising or philanthropic events. The fraternity is in fact permitted to take part in these activities.



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Polluted Ohio River unsafe

By Rick Amburgey
Special Projects Editor

At one time, Native Americans fished, bathed in and drank water from the Ohio River. Because of water pollution, inhabitants of this area no longer have such a luxury.

Results of an environmental study of the Ohio River area were presented in Huntington, W. Va. Sept. 26. Aaron Keatley, tri-state geographic initiative coordinator, said that although the study was done on the Ohio/West Virginia border, the results would still be valid for this area.

The Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission recently released a report indicating that pollution levels along the stretch of the Ohio River that runs through Northern Kentucky is "too high for unrestricted fish consumption" and "making unrestricted swimming inadvisable."

He said the study evaluated fish samples gathered by the Ohio River Valley Sanitation Commission. Keatley said one of the main concerns was how the fish have been affected by this pollution.

Keatley said there are fish consumption advisories posted at many areas along the Ohio River.

"If you are eating catfish from the Ohio River, you should eat no more than one meal [of catfish] per week," he said.

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) issued a report in 1996 giving recommendation on fish consumption because of toxic contamination in many of the water bodies in the United States. According to this report, Alaska, South Dakota and Wyoming are the only states that do not have water advisories.

However, the NRDC stated that a state reporting a lower number of advisories does not automatically mean their water is safer than the water in a state with a high number of advisories. According to the NRDC: "Some states conduct extensive sampling while others do much less."

Keatley cited the major problems as being pollution caused by dioxin and PCBs. Keatley said dioxin is one of the most toxic pollutants. He said one way dioxin is created is by burning household trash.

The Environmental Protection Agency has established guidelines in 1984 regarding discharge of dioxin into the water bodies. One of these regulations is the Clean Water Act. In 1998, it was estimated that the restrictions of the Clean Water Act would reduce dioxin discharge by 96 percent.

Keatley said dioxin is the only contaminant that is continually still being produced, but "historical toxins" such as PCBs are still present and harmful.

The harm caused by PCBs is not exactly known. However, research has shown that PCBs contain cancer-causing agents. Research done at the University of Kentucky indicates there is some link between PCBs and hepatic tumor promotion. In addition, research conducted at Michigan State University indicates that pregnant women having a high exposure to PCBs have complications during gestation and labor.

Keatley said individuals who abide by the regulations that are set regarding fish consumption and swimming should not have any health issues caused by these contaminants.

Pin Coushin



Maureen Jacob/The Northern
Erin Bond, a senior middle grade education major gets immunized for meningitis last Wednesday in the UC Ballroom. Both flu and meningitis shots were available for a fee less than what most family physicians charge.

Historic Civil War battle site and cemetery nearby

By Rick Amburgey
Special Projects Editor

The final resting place for some Union soldiers who died during the Civil War can be found nestled inside Evergreen Cemetery, located in Southgate, Ky. on US 27.

Visitors can also see the remains of Shaler's Battery there, which was constructed to protect Cincinnati after the Confederate Army invaded Northern Kentucky in 1862.

Looking upon the replicas of the cannons used, a patriotic feeling came over me as I stood behind a cannon with an American flag draped over it. I could almost hear a Confederate battle cry somewhere off in the distance.

Wright and Fort Mitchell, for which two Northern Kentucky cities are named.

Newport native Nathaniel Southgate Shaler commanded Shaler's Battery, officially known as the Fifth Kentucky Battery. Union General Lew Wallace, who later wrote the novel Ben Hur, was among the men who fought here.

The battery was in a prime location because the cannons could hit the state road, where the ramps for Interstate 471 are presently located.

Confederate General Henry Heth led a group of Confederate soldiers through Northern Kentucky during the second week of September, 1862 with the intention of reaching Ohio.

Union and Confederate forces had a skirmish Sept. 11, 1862 and the Confederate troops retreated south on Sept. 12. Five days later, General Robert E. Lee and the Confederate Army was defeated at Antietam Creek.

Shaler resigned his position in the fall of 1862 because he was having health problems. However, Shaler returned in 1863 and the Confederates again threatened Cincinnati.

*Information for this story was obtained from the Shaler's Battery pamphlet, which was produced by the Military History Program at NKU. Additional information came from Kentucky's Civil War Heritage Trail website <http://www.wkycorp.org/cvstrail>.



Rick Amburgey/The Northern

The Northern Kentucky area is rich in Civil War history because of its strategic location overlooking the Ohio River into Cincinnati. Shown here is Shaler's Battery, one of many Civil War monuments in the state.

Directory held up by withdraw date

By Amanda Thompson
Staff Writer

You may have noticed that the "handy" student directory has yet to make its 2000-2001 debut.

Publishing the directory is a lengthy task influenced by one major factor, the last day to withdraw from classes. Working with the offices of the Registrar and Bursar,

Betty Mulkey, director of Student Life, said that "the directory is always released in the later part of the fall semester, due to the withdraw date." After this purge of students occurs, the current student list will be finalized and off to the printer. The end result will hit the Information Desk in UC sometime in late November.

The last day to withdraw from classes is Oct. 31, 2000.

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Wednesday	Reception Entrepreneurial Networking Picnic	4:30 - 5:30, BEP 222
Thursday	Visiting Entrepreneur: Bill Butler, President & CEO of CORPOREX will be meeting with CEO and other student organizations. Everyone in the community is welcome to attend this meeting	5:30 - 7:30, UC 4:00 - 5:00 BEP 461

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Letter to the Editor: Vote Gore

By Josh Wice

Most Americans are better off today than they were eight years ago. America owes its current prosperity to the hard work of its people, but also to the winning policy formula of the Clinton-Gore administration: combining fiscal responsibility with investments in its people. Al Gore wants to keep the prosperity going and expand it to those who have not yet enjoyed its benefits. His economic plan includes balancing the budget and paying down the national debt—to keep interest rates low and economic growth high; saving Social Security and Medicare; cutting taxes to help families and small businesses afford key investments in their future; investing in new technologies; and opening up foreign markets. And Gore will make sure every American can get the quality education and job training they need to succeed in the New Economy.

As vice president and as a member of Congress, Al Gore has been a leader in improving educational opportunities for all Americans. He has championed efforts to pursue proven strategies for improving public education—reducing class sizes, improving standards and accountability, and bringing technology into classrooms. He has worked to increase access to higher education and lifetime earning opportunities, and he has advocated for get-tough proposals to make schools safer and drug-free.

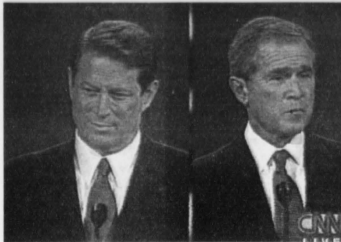
Current and future Northern Kentucky University students stand to directly benefit from an Al Gore presidency. Gore will fight to keep college costs down. Since college costs are currently rising faster than the general rate of inflation, inflationary pressures are a major barrier to access to higher education. That is why Gore has proposed a National

Tuition Savings plan to allow families to save for their children's college education inflation-free and tax-free. The program will link together existing statewide college savings and prepaid tuition plans, many of which let families invest their money in special accounts, which grow tax-free and/or inflation-free. Al Gore believes we should increase access to these programs, allow every parent's savings to be used in any participating state, and use incentives to encourage states to not have the programs to create them.

Under the Gore-Lieberman administration, current NKU students will also avail. The Clinton-Gore administration's Hope Scholarship and Lifetime Learning Tax Credits have provided an estimated \$3.5 billion in tax relief for 4.8 million families. Gore's proposed College Opportunity Tax Cut would build on that estimated \$3.5 billion by making \$10,000 of tuition and fees for post-secondary education and training tax deductible.

Americans have the opportunity to continue the progress and prosperity of the last eight years and take this country to new heights, to make it a country where every child is guaranteed health care and safe, quality education. Where people can grow old comfortably and with dignity. Knowing that Social Security and Medicare will be there for them when they retire. Where people don't have to decide between getting the medicine they need before feeding their family. This is what we are fighting for, and this is why a vote for Al Gore is a vote for you and the rest of Kentucky.

Josh serves as Co-Founder and President for College Democrats of NKU. He also serves as Vice President for College Democrats of Kentucky.



Al Gore and George Bush square off in their second debate, which many analysts are still claiming had no clear-cut winner.

Money still in the bank

By Jonathan D. Salant
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Trying to retain their narrow majority in Congress, House Republicans had slightly more money in the bank at the beginning of October than their Democratic counterparts, according to figures released Friday.

The National Republican Congressional Committee reported a bank balance of \$23.8 million as of Sept. 30, as compared with \$20.6 million for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. Almost \$14 million of the GOP committee's balance was raised under federal contribution limits and, therefore, can be used to directly aid candidates. But only \$5.5 million of the Democrats' money was raised under the limits.

The GOP was helped by getting individual lawmakers to donate, raising \$13 million that way. Lawmakers were told their future chairmanships and committee assignments could depend on how much money they raised for the committee. By comparison, the Democratic committee raised only \$3.5 million from House members.

House Republicans reported raising \$27.4 million between July 1 and Sept. 30, bringing their total to \$117.4

million since Jan. 1, 1999. During the same 21-month period in 1997-98, they raised \$96 million.

"We've had our best fund-raising cycle ever and we will have more money than the Democrats in the important closing days of the campaign," said Rep. Tom Davis of Virginia, the GOP committee chairman.

The Democratic committee raised \$14.1 million during the past three months, bringing its 21-month total to \$74 million. That is more than double the \$32 million the committee raised during the same period in 1997-98.

Though the House GOP raised \$40 million more than its Democratic counterpart, it also has spent far more. The Democrats did not start spending in earnest until the summer, when the congressional committee started running commercials in key districts across the country.

"We never dreamed we could have eliminated the GOP's spending advantage," said Rep. Patrick Kennedy of Rhode Island, the Democratic committee chairman.

"Yet even after dominating the unchattered airwaves during the months of August and September, and prefinancing our October television buy, Democrats are at financial parity with the GOP as we enter the final stretch," said Kennedy.

Policy Wonks

By Peter W. Zubaty
Executive Editor

Debates: Round Two.

Nothing like a fat load of political hubris and dim-witted double-speak to bring out a nasty, violent hate-frenzy in a pair of politically passionate hillbillies. I guess it was right around minute 35 when the liquid anger began to take hold and my colleague began viciously hurling beer bottle caps at the TV screen and I began noticing my booming baritone rise to an octave and pitch that would've made that Bowser guy from Sha Na Na green with envy.

Early on, we gripped and moaned about the two clowns essentially coming across as an echoing board for one another. Their views on the deployment of active U.S. troops abroad sounded just alike, including their assessments of past U.S. involvements in the conflicts moderator Jim Lehrer mentioned. What troubled me the most is how, save for Lebanon, they supported all U.S. involvements. And people wonder why when shown scenes of the conflicts in their home countries they see the protest signs reading anti-American sentiments such as "Yanqui go home!" The American people, who both these men accurately represent, sentiment-wise, just maybe, are an unwelcome presence.

I wonder how the folks in Rwanda feel about this, the ones walking around with perhaps one arm, victims of tribal fighting, if they would welcome the prospect of U.S. intervention to help calm their internal hostilities. The sad thing is, we feel so obligated to get involved in all these overseas conflicts, but only if it is important to U.S. interests. Bush and Gore's mutual agreement that it was the right thing to not get involved reflects their, and basic American sentiments, that Africa is just not important to U.S. overseas interests. The sad thing is, it sounds alarmingly similar to what goes on in this country in the weak attempts to curb black-on-black violence. I guess

as far as the two candidates are concerned, black folks killing other black folks just isn't all that important to them. An accurate reflection of the American public, and a tragedy.

But let's examine an area that is obviously important to U.S. foreign policy, the Middle East. That was a hot topic in this

debate, especially with the explosion of hostilities between

Israelis and Palestinians in recent weeks. The candidates' desire to broker a deal between the two parties I don't doubt. What I have my questions about is the bold statements by both regarding the U.S. position as a traditional ally to Israel. That is an obvious fact, anyone who knows anything about Middle East history knows our traditional favoritism to Israel. What the powderkeg didn't need is a chest-beating diatribe screaming that fact. Not that the folks who blew up the U.S. Cole needed any further affirmation of support for their hated enemies to give them a reason for action, but two testosterone-filled political junkies announcing it and seeming proud for their slight of the Arab peoples probably helped spur the decision to go ahead with the suicide mission. The families of the sailors who lost their lives can probably thank Bush and Gore for their loss. Once again, jealousy and resentment of the U.S. position of power in the world has firmly placed another large bulls-eye target on our people.

So what have we solved? Nothing. Neither candidate pushed up anything. Well, maybe Bush might have gained a bit by Gore's willingness to be nice and not attack. I guess we'll see what happens Oct. 17 at the town hall. I have a sneaking suspicion it will be outright nasty. I also have an even more sneaking suspicion that my colleague and my mood will be just as nasty. Maybe we'll get a protective cover for the TV screen to keep the beer bottles away from it.

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Missile defense puts U.S. at risk

Staff Editorial
Michigan Daily (U. Michigan)

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Last Saturday in Ann Arbor and 60 other cities around the world, demonstrators protested the use of military technology in space. Even though it might be hard to take someone dressed like Darth Vader seriously, the U.S. should listen to these protesters and thoroughly reevaluate its defense policies — specifically with respect to the proposed National Missile Defense system (the continuation of Reagan's "Star Wars").

The system is intended to protect the U.S. against a nuclear attack. Supposedly, the greatest nuclear threats in the world today come from so-called "rogue states" like Iran, Iraq and North Korea, who might launch nuclear weapons at the U.S. (intentionally or otherwise). In order to safeguard against these perceived threats, legislation was passed through Congress that called for the deployment of a limited ballistic-defense system as soon as technically feasible.

While the system might seem like a good idea at first glance, the impact of deploying it would be disastrous. First of all, the likelihood of a nuclear attack is highly exaggerated. Any attacking country would undoubtedly face swift retribution and possible annihilation. Leaders in these countries are not likely to embrace that possibility. Even if they would, they do not have the missile technology to deliver weapons of mass destruction to the U.S.

The system is counterproductive as well as unnecessary. The implementation of a missile-defense system would destroy our current arms control agreements. Even a limited system would violate the 1972

Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty on which the global non-proliferation regime hinges. Russia has already said that if the United States were to deploy an anti-ballistic missile system that it would neither adhere to previous arms control agreements nor would it sign any future ones. Other countries would be likely to follow suit. Without such agreements the U.S. might begin to have a real problem to worry about as nuclear weapons spread across the globe.

The missile-defense system would also give countries incentives to gain bigger and better nuclear arsenals. For example, if the U.S. were to effectively nullify China's missiles by acquiring the ability to shoot them down, China has stated it would modernize its weapons to recreate a useful deterrent against America. India would likely modernize in response, prompting its adversaries to do the same, and so on. The ensuing arms race would threaten global stability and lead to the possibility that these horrible weapons would actually be used.

Even if the National Missile Defense system was a good idea in theory, its unfeasibility makes it a terrible investment. Most major tests of the system have failed miserably and Secretary of Defense William Cohen has already said, "major problems have called into question the realism of the timetable" of the project. Clearly there are better things to do with \$60-billion dollars — the current projected cost of the program.

The government should not develop this unnecessary, infeasible and dangerous program. It will jeopardize every arms control agreement currently in force in the world and is likely to bring about a new arms race.



Jesus meets Dubya: The second coming of Bush

By Matt Birkenhauer

Jesus came back, this time to Texas. He did not come back because the world, or the U.S. for that matter, was in any kind of crisis. He came because he was bored in Heaven. A man (or a God, for that matter) can only take so much harp playing and hosannas and clothing followers prostrating themselves before him for a while, sip on a beer, take in some good country western music, and watch humanity.

Suffice it to say, watching humanity in a country western bar got pretty boring, and the music didn't help much either. So Jesus, remembering that he was the favorite political philosopher of George W. Bush, went to see the Governor, presenting himself, of course, as the Son of God. After repeatedly trying to see George W., pointing out again and again that he was Dubya's favorite political philosopher, Jesus was threatened with prosecution if he didn't stay away from the Governor's mansion. That's when Jesus very publicly declared that he would perform three miracles to establish his credibility. First, he made Texas the second largest state

in the contiguous United States, after that bastion of liberalism, California. Second, he caused a jury in Texas, on the verge of sentencing a man with an IQ of 62 to lethal injection for murder, to reconsider and give him life in prison instead. Third, he caused the Texas legislature to legalize civil unions for homosexuals in the Lone Star State.

George W. was impressed, and a little scared. He knew now that he was dealing with the real McCoy here, not some flake of whose brain had been simmering too long in cheap Kentucky bourbon. He would have to meet with his advisors first, and then with the Son of God. He thought he'd give him a call too, though he knew that as an Episcopalian, George Sr. wasn't saved. Still, the elder Bush knew how to handle world leaders.

George W. and his advisors immediately took Jesus' appearance as a sign that the LORD, that is, the one who's always capitalized in the Bible, sanctioned Compassionate Conservatism. Compassionate Conservatism was what Team Bush thought of as a counter to Al Gore's vision, which Al called Happy Go Lucky Liberalism. These two visions were in the ring taking swipes at each other, and George W. and his advisors reasoned that

Jesus could deliver a KO for their team, though they wondered a little about Jesus' position on the death penalty. But they were pretty sure they could bring him over on that too, after a few beers and some talk at a good old-fashioned Texas barbecue. George Sr. would be there too.

The barbecue, it turned out, was being held right outside some prison on the outskirts of Dallas. It was being held to celebrate the putting to death, through lethal injection, of a woman who killed her husband after he had repeatedly abused her over the years. George Jr., as a compassionate conservative, refused to issue a stay of execution, saying the law was the law, regardless of circumstances. He said he'd prayed on it for at least fifteen minutes and that he felt in his heart that he was doing the right thing. Jesus was gnawing on his barbequed ribs and trying to figure out how the governor could feel all right about the premeditated murder, by a jury and judge, of a human being. Jesus thought that logic, which he fairly quickly assessed wasn't the governor's strong point, argued against the position that two wrongs make a right. He explained: "If your son is hit in the playground, do you tell him to hit the kid back who attacked him as a way of resolving the

disagreement?"

"You betcha, Lord. In Texas, we don't take no guff from nobody. An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."

"I should tell you, Governor, that Dad was drunk the day he said that. He and mom had just broken up—she having run off to marry Zeus—and Dad was drinking too much and feeling kind of bitter at the time. That part about turning the other cheek, in Matthew 5:38-39, was meant to overturn that. I thought that was fairly clear from the context: 'Ye have heard that it hath been said, AN EYE FOR AN EYE, AND A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.'"

"You mean God was an alcoholic at one point?" George had already forgotten the thread of their argument, bowled over as he was by this revelation.

"Well, who do you think inspired Bill Smith to start up AA? Dad knew how to take care of this from personal experience. But back to our original argument about capital punishment. Why is it that there are so many countries in the world that don't have capital punishment and yet have much lower violent crime rates than the U.S.? If this is supposed

to be a deterrent to violent crime, it doesn't seem to be working too well."

"It deters the one executed," George came back. "As you'll see in a few minutes, nothing deters a repeat offender like a dose of Pavlov and Potassium chloride running through his or her veins. And it's a compassionate way to deter the killer, too, since it's such a gentle way to dispose of criminals."

George snickered, thinking he had clinched the argument had brought over the Son of God on this issue.

Jesus swallowed some pork and took a swig of his draft beer. "But isn't it often the case that people who die on death row only kill once? In fact, didn't the woman who's going to be put to death in a little while only kill once? What's she being deterred from, except living?"

George smirked: "Once a killer gets a taste for blood, he only wants more." This George Jr. knew from personal experience, having put to death more than 130 people while governor of Texas.

Sherry Lanner looked older than her fifty-four years. Like many on death row, she'd grown up in poverty, which abets the aging process, while no doubt building character.

See BUSH, Page 10

NORTH POLL

What do you think of the cafeteria hours?

Megan Hils

Theater
Florence

"They are not very convenient. I think it is my paying to be here we should be able to eat whenever we want to."



Tom Pidgeon

Undeclared
Erlanger

"I think it should be open around eight, or at least when the bookstore opens. I want cold cereal and oatmeal for me to eat."



Kevin Meiners

Undeclared
Edgewood

"I don't really think about it because I just come to class and go home."



Chris Stanford

Information Systems
Hebron

"Everybody has the munchies around four so it should be open later."



Adam Turner

Business Management
Burlington

"I think it should be open later because closing at two is gosh-damn ridiculous, because if you take a later class you don't get to eat."



John Blandford

Marketing
Florence

"I think it should be open earlier because we need something to wake us up in the mornings."

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The Northerner is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press and the Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association. Publication is weekly on Wednesdays excluding university observed holidays and final examination weeks.

How hot can you take it? Smokin'

By Jason R. Crysler
Production Manager

Nothing is better when you're settling in for a night of watching football, the base-ball playoffs or just hanging with the guys and gals than a pile of buffalo chicken wings smothered in a mouth watering sauce and a cold, ah, beverage of your choice.

Dining with Jason



Buffalo Bob's
Price: 10 for \$4.29

Well, I took on the unpleasant task of sampling delicious chicken wings from Keegan's Buffalo House and BW-3's, both in Highland Heights, and The Front Porch Saloon and Buffalo Bob's (formerly Buffalo Wings and Rings), both in Florence.

I chose two places that specialize in chicken wings and two places that many of you may not have heard of. Keegan's and the Front Porch Saloon more than held their own with the franchises.

As much as I hated eating one of my favorite foods four times in a week, I believe it is my duty to tell you, the student, of my findings.

I ranked each wing, one to four, on four categories: meatiness, sauce, number of sauce choices and spiciness. I will also give my personal take on each wing.

I found all of the wings I sampled had its strong points and weak points. Dare I say, they all had their own personality, and each will appeal to different people.

Anyway, here's my results. Hope you enjoy, I'm going to go get me some more wings.

Meatiness

3

It was a toss up between Buffalo Bob's and Front Porch Saloon for second. It lost out because of bone size. Their wings were stubby and plump.

Sauce

2

I tried their mild barbecue flavor and was very impressed. The sauce was thick and soon covered my fingers and lips.

No. of Sauces

2

Buffalo Bob's offers four flavors: teriyaki, garlic, barbecue and original.

Spiciness

2

Creepier wings. The kick came about one second after the first bite into an "atomic" wing. The burn had nice staying power but was lessened considerably by bleu cheese dressing.

My Take

Buffalo Bob's had the best all around wings. There were no glaring weaknesses. There was a solid but not unbearable punch in the atomic sauce and they have good flavor. Any wing lover will enjoy their wings.



Front Porch Saloon
Price: 12 for \$5.99

The Front Porch Saloon had longer wings than BW-3's and Buffalo Bob's but were only slightly less meaty than Keegan's.

2

Had a nice barbecue flavor but the sauce was too runny for my taste. Don't get me wrong, they tasted good, but nothing extraordinary about the flavor.

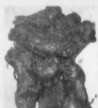
T-3

Front Porch Saloon and Keegan's tied because, well, they only had one flavor.

4

Instead of offering mild and hot in their menu, it should be cold and cool. They make their own sauce, so I asked for one wing extra-spicy. It tasted like everyone else's mild.

The Front Porch Saloon's wings are perfect for people who value taste over heat. Their wings are meaty and tasty but won't bring tears to your eyes. Ever.



BW-3's
Price: six for \$2.49

Scrawny wings in comparison to the others. Occasionally meaty, but not enough to keep me happy.

1

Their sauces are full of flavor. Nice consistency, too. I tried to not let the number of sauces offered influence me but BW-3's offers so many distinct flavors that it's impossible. All are good.

1

Thirteen different sauces. Need I say more?

3

I was actually disappointed. BW-3's "blazin'" sauce hit hard and quickly faded, in comparison to Buffalo Bob's and Keegan's, which stuck around.

If you're looking for good flavor, BW-3's is the top dog. You could eat there 13 straight days and have a different flavor every day.



Keegan's
Price: eight for \$4.50

Keegan's has long and thick wings, just barely bigger than Front Porch Saloon's.

3

Had a nice, tangy flavor. Nothing special. Homemade sauce.

T-3

Missed number one by only 12 flavors.

1

The owner said the wings can be spiced to order and I had extra-spicy. A mistake. It was pure torture. The heat came in waves and my eyes watered. One wing caused 30 minutes of pain.

Good wings all around, but the spicy wings are unbelievable. They are a challenge worth taking for anyone brave enough. Oh, ask for water. Lots!

NKU student terrorizes at Fear Fest

By Rick Amburgey
Special Projects Editor

Some students reported seeing a "frozen dead guy" walking across Northern Kentucky University's campus just after midnight Friday, Oct. 13.

Upon further investigation, *The Northern* discovered the alleged frozen dead man was actually NKU sophomore Chris Davis, returning from his job at Paramitty's Island Fear Fest.

Davis said he enjoys wearing his makeup home just to see what reactions he can get.

He said from time to time he does get strange looks walking from the parking lot to his on-campus apartment.

Davis also said he likes to turn and look at people while stopped at a red light when he is driving home from work.

"I like to scare people," Davis said.

Al Raiser, one of Davis' friends, said the fact that he wears his makeup home helps describe Davis' personality. She said he does things like that a lot.

"He could take his makeup off at King's Island but he wears it home," she said.

Raiser said she thinks Davis' personality is one thing that makes him like him job so much.

"It gives him a forum to be sadistic," Raiser said. Davis has a close-knit circle of friends. They say they have come to understand and accept Davis' weirdness.

"He's like a really scary teddy bear," said sophomore Rebecca Webber.

Another one of Davis' friends, sophomore Erika Mohler, said he tries to make people face their fears.

At Fear Fest, Davis works in the freezer, which is basically a maze. He said he does his own makeup, which makes him look frozen.

Davis describes his character both at Fear Fest and in real life as sick and twisted. He said his entire "act" at Fear Fest is original and improvised.

"Everything I do comes out of my mind. It's probably years and years of watching scary movies and a little bit of my own twisted mind," he said.

Davis said some of his inspiration for his Fear Fest haunting come from B-movies and slasher movies.

"I love the movies that mess with your mind. They are demented and twisted. Those are my favorites," he said.

Davis cited one example that inspired him was the clown in "Clown House" because of the "whole psychological thing."

Davis prides himself on his ability to scare people.

"I try to go for a deeper psychological fear than just to startle," he said.

Davis' scary costume and makeup is only the initial way he scares people. He said another way he scares people is with the things he says and how he says it.

"I do a lot of talking, but it hurts a lot. I have this really raspy voice," he said.

Davis said one of his friends came through and he still finds ways to scare them.

Davis said he had found different ways to scare different people.

"Every time I work it's a little bit different. There's different people and you learn what scares certain people," he said.

Davis, who is single, has found out Fear Fest is a great way to meet beautiful women.

"I get hit on a lot there. Girls try to hug me and kiss me. I've had girls tell me they will have sex with me if I would lead them out of the maze," he said.

Davis confessed the only drawback is he can't take advantage of any of the offers.

"I can't come out of character. That's the worst part. They have been so many times I wanted to say something, but I have to stay in character as long as people are around," he said.

Davis said one of his favorite parts of the job is the power trip he gets.

"You can't scare me. I'm there to scare you," Davis said.

Davis said sometimes there are visitors who try to reverse the roles and scare him.

"I'm a little dude. These big macho dudes try to scare me and I laugh in their face. It's the funniest part," he said.

Irish eyes shine at "Weir"

By Rick Amburgey
Special Projects Editor

The seventh season of the Cincinnati Shakespeare Festival continues with a flawless adaptation of Conor McPherson's "The Weir," which opened Oct. 12.

"The Weir" made its American debut April 1, 1999 and won the 1999 Olivier Award for Best Play.

The play is set in a small Irish bar, during a cold and stormy night. This bar isn't garnished with neon signs or big-screen televisions. It is a humble setting, complete with a fireplace, that sets the atmosphere for the play.

"The Weir" is different from any play I have ever seen. While most plays concentrate on action, this play focuses on dialogue. The play is the collection of several different stories told around the bar as the characters drink and smoke.

The stories alone are enough to keep you captivated and create a mood that will stay with you until the end of the play.

Although the play is well-written, the performances of the cast are what bring the story to life on stage.

One example of the fine acting found in "The Weir" is Amy Hutchins' portrayal of Valerie, a new resident to Dublin, Ireland.

Hutchins, who is in her first season, is a refreshing new face to the Cincinnati Shakespeare Festival and ignites the stage with energy in every scene in which she appears.

Hutchins' challenge is one of the more difficult in the play - she must listen to the stories told by the other actors and react as if she has never heard them before and she does so eloquently.

Another notable performance was Michael Burnham as Jack. Burnham, who makes his first on-stage appearance in more than ten years, also comes across with a lot of energy.

Burnham, who teaches at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, is a guest artist with the Cincinnati Shakespeare Festival and has director's credits on three other CSF productions.

The show, which has many serious situations, also has a lot of

See Weir, Page 10

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The 'Meanest Man' in Ohio

By Dan Mecher
News Editor

Some fantasies should remain just fantasy. My friend Pickle's attempt to fulfill his dream of conquering in a redneck toughman tournament is a shining example.

The time was 7 p.m. on a Friday night. The place was in the city of Ross, Ohio. The rest is hilly history.

By the time our carload of Pickle fans arrived at Strickler's Grove Amusement Park for the meanest man contest, other fighters had already begun to fight in I have never before seen such a multitude of muscles, mullet-cuts (short in front and long in back), and sweat pants in my life.

Before a single punch was thrown, I was hit in the face by the odor of cheap cigars when the bouncer/doorman let us in. Thinking back, I really have no idea why anyone there needed their own cigarette. Couldn't they have just shared the looming haze of second-hand smoke? Only a few deep breaths in the place could have sent a non-smoker home with terminal lung cancer.

Soon the first fighters waddled into the ring. Whether chest hair was a requirement for contest entry, I'm not totally certain, but I would say it's probable. The two swung frantically at each other for the first 30 seconds of the bout, but had to stop for air in between every punch after that point. The sight of the two rustic gladiators was somewhat unsettling.

Although headgear and boxing gloves were provided, I was concerned for Pickle's health. Sitting in my front row seat, I pondered whether it was curiosity, stupidity, or insanity that had pushed this acquaintance of mine into what appeared to be a suicide attempt. I can't recall if he has ever been in a fistfight before, but I can say that his physical intensity level is comparable to Clumby's.

Looking around, I soon began to worry about my own safety. The man who sat in the folding chair next to me had a black bandanna hugging tight onto his cranium. He wore a pair of faded blue jeans with a tattered hole developing on the right knee. He was not clean shaven, and was a pretty husky gentleman. I wouldn't say he was fat, but he was getting there.

His right hand clenched a plastic cup filled with draft beer. A Marlboro cigarette dangled in the fingers of his left. Between his bottom lip and gums he stuffed enough chewing tobacco to satisfy an entire Major League baseball team. With his nicotine supply flowing, the fellow had become deeply engrossed in the brawl taking place in the boxing ring, along with the other 700-1,000 similarly described audience members present.

I wonder if the people at the event realize what a spectacle they truly were. I don't think the nicotine deposit next to me realized how scared of him I actually was. He kept telling me that he had boxed for five years in the Army without ever losing a match. Unfortunately, he added, his hopeful prizefighting career was stopped short when he was ran over by a dump truck several years earlier.

"I was in the newspaper and everything," he boasted. "Everyone was calling me 'the miracle boy.'" He was then going to tell me about the accident, but instead leapt out of his chair and spilled beer on my shoe when an Oscar De La Hoya wannabe got knocked to the ring floor.

Throughout the fights, the crowd frequently rose to their feet. Fighting words were shouted with fists in the air. The husky guy to my left continued to pour his beer, and not to mention the spit from his tobacco, all over my foot every time he stood up.

The spectators had a very steady pattern of behavior. When one beer was finished, another one was immediately purchased. When that drink was drunk, yet another one followed, and so on. These people were driven to get drunk and to



Dan Mecher/The Northerner
Hot action and flying fists entertained the crowd at the "Meanest Man" contest, which took place at Strickler's Grove Amusement Park in Ross.

watch people beat each other senseless. This is entertainment at its peak.

Cody, "The Pickle," Ramey is a 5' 10", bleached-blond, rubbery limbed middleweight. His boxing experience was exactly what I had expected it to be: brutally humiliating. His oversized opponent sent him to the mat three times, two of which came in the first round. Luckily, the referee stopped the madness before any permanent damage was done.

Although he lost the bout, he did have the honor of being the contest's first fighter to bleed. His split lip received a standing ovation. After the match, I had a strange feeling of respect for Pickle. He had fought the good fight against mallets, beer on my foot.

Lake Inferior's pollution is mainly organic

By James Profit
Assistant Features Editor

"I'm kind of having a poopy day."

"Well, my day's kind of crappy, to tell you the truth."

"It's been a doo-doo day."

No matter where you are on campus, unfortunately, you may hear some of these phrases. Lately, however, these phrases seem to popping up a bit more than usual. Especially around Lake Inferior.

That's not to say that Lake Inferior is a depressing spot on our campus. Far from it. Dr. Miriam Kannan from the biology department called it "a gorgeous biological habitat." And many would agree. However, there are those who disagree.

The pond skunk that shows up on the surface of the lake, according to

many, is stealing from the beauty of Lake Inferior. The pond skunk is caused partially by the fertilizer used around the lake, and partially by the organic pollution around the lake.

"What is organic pollution?" you ask? Simple. In this case, it's wildlife poo-poo. The question that has come up now, is one that has come up in the past: Should wild life be allowed around Lake Inferior?

"A long time ago, no ducks or geese were allowed (around the lake) because they'd poop in the water," Dr. Kannan said. "But because of the (change), we now have fish, frogs and turtles."

Kannan said that there are some people who just don't like a green lake. "It's not a swimming pool," she said, but also made clear that the pollution was "nothing that would hurt

anybody. It's organic pollution, so it's biodegradable. It's great for our classes, because you get such a great diversity. You get a great diversity of life."

But is the diversity worth the green surface caused by the organic pollution? "It's worth it if we continue to use the lake like we do," Kannan said, emphasizing the use it gets in biology labs.

Dr. Greg Dahlem, another member of the biology department, once found an entire nest of baby turtles around the lake. Dahlem used this as an example to show that animals don't just live by the lake, but they also breed there. Dahlem and Kannan both called the lake "one of the best resources on our campus."

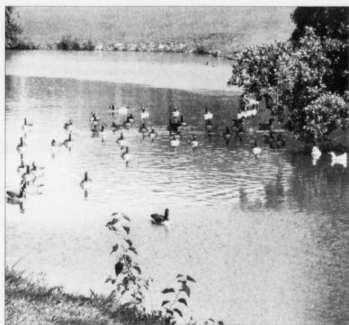
Robin Root, a Northern Kentucky University graduate of biological and

environmental science, who currently works in the biology department, said that the lake gets plenty of use in its current state. "We do use it a lot in classes, and we can use it as a quick easy way to get samples in case we need to train somebody."

"We like our pond skunk," Kannan continued.

Biology 120 is one of the many science courses that make use of the lake's uniqueness. "We always use it in Bio 120. We use the pond as an example of an ecosystem," Dr. Kannan added that more than 1000 students take Bio 120 every year.

"Some may like it if we made it into a swimming pool, but I'm a biologist," Kannan said. "It's great to put under a microscope and look at all the stuff. It wouldn't do us any good if we tried to 'fix it.'"



Rachel Dietz/The Northerner

Invasion of the ducks...and others! Geese, ducks, fish, frogs and turtles are considered the main contributors to Lake Inferior's pollution.

For voting registration info, see www.y2vote.org

By James Profit
Assistant Features Editor

This week, *The Northerner* received a letter duct taped to the front door of our office. It made us all a little nervous, especially in lieu of last week's events. For those of you who didn't read the frightening tale, I was forced to read literature at sword-tip by a masked man in front of the University Center last week. The man was bearded, educated, and had a working knowledge of classic literature. By the way he spoke, we assessed that the man was not alone in his rebellion, but rather part of a larger group. We also learned that the letters "K" and "B" had a special significance to this man. He also seemed to be upset about the "chickens" around this campus. The man promised that we had not heard the last from his group. With the letter we received, he came through on his promise.

We would like to share the letter with you, in an attempt to discover who the members of this rebel organization are. *Dear Northerners,*

We saw the travesty of literature you called a "story" in last week's issue. At first, we were angered, and planned on showing one whopper of a lawsuit into your hands. After some reconsideration however, we decided against that course of action. Instead, we are going to use you. You are

going to be our platform, and you are going to get our message out. It's time that everyone realized that, in some cases, a little is too much. And though our campus has only had to digest this travesty for a relatively short time, it has already been too long. Somebody has to take action, and there are members of this faculty who are not afraid to. And while we may be using you, we're well advised. Stay out of our way. There were questions about whether we should continue or not after last week's documentation. I made an executive decision to press on, and switch the pressure over to you. Get our word out, or else the chickens will continue to floss our campus.

With earnest sincerity,

The 4 F.M.F.R.M.'s Members

This new letter, intentionally or not, gave us more clues to unraveling the mystery. Along with knowing that the organization holds some kind of anger against "chickens" and that the letters "K" and "B" have some kind of significance, we also now know that the members of this organization are, oddly enough, faculty members of Northern Kentucky University. We also know the initials of the organization's name, and that there are four members. We'll keep you posted on continual occurrences.

Y2VOTE

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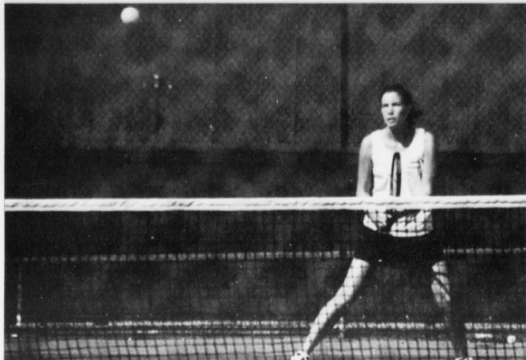
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Women's tennis team captures third GLVC crown



Junior Lauren Spears was one of many NKU women's tennis players who sparked the Norse to its third straight GLVC Championship.

Rachel Dietz/The Northerner

The NKU women's tennis team lost its first match of the season to Wright State University last week, and ended with its third consecutive Great Lakes Valley Conference championship Saturday.

The Norse faced Wright State last Tuesday at Dayton in a Division I match. Jamie O'Hara triumphed in her number 1 singles match, 6-1, 6-3. O'Hara is 2-0 in GLVC matches.

O'Hara and number one doubles partner Claudia Ruelh crushed their opponents 8-3. Number two doubles Elizabeth Brunsman and Lauren Spears rallied for a 9-7 win.

The rest of the squad did not fare as well against the Raiders, and the Norse lost its first match of the season, 5-3.

"The loss at Wright State only made us respect their team even more, and showed us that we have to take every match very seriously," said Coach J. Webb Horton. "The Raiders have a very solid team."

The Norse faced number eight St. Joseph's University Friday. O'Hara shined again in number one singles

with a 6-1, 6-0 victory, and with Ruelh in number one doubles, 8-3. Ruelh also won her number six singles match, 6-1, 6-0.

Spears and Brunsman won their number two doubles match, 8-0, while number three doubles Amy Chapman and Christina Dausch won, 8-0.

The Norse beat SIU 5-0.

The Norse next faced the number four seed, the University of Indianapolis.

Brunsmann racked up another win with a 6-0, 6-3 match in number three singles, while Chapman won her number five match, 6-0, 6-0. Ruelh also pushed the Norse along with a 6-3, 6-0 win at number six singles.

Ruelh and O'Hara, suffered their only loss of the tournament at number one doubles, 3-8. Number two Brunsman and Spears and number three Chapman and Dausch dominated their matches both winning 8-6.

With no conference losses since 1997 and two GLVC conference championships, the NKU team strode into the finals against Southern Illinois University Tuscarora favored to three-peat.

Number two singles Lauren

Spears beat SIU's Emily Blinzinger 6-4, 6-0, while Elizabeth Brunsman dominated Kelly Sengerketter, 6-2, 6-2. Brunsman and Spears teamed up to beat Nicole Freyberger and Jenny Ravellette, 8-4.

Number five singles Amy Chapman beat Emily Nall, 6-0, 6-3. Chapman and Dausch won in doubles against Sengerketter and Jamie Carie, 8-4, and clinched another GLVC title for the Norse.

The Norse wrapped up its season with a 9-0 GLVC record. "Overall we are very pleased with the season. Consistency is hard to maintain," said Horton. "In our conference, everyone pumped up to beat us and is fired up with their best games, which is a compliment to the ladies on the team."

Horton and the team's work is not done with the GLVC victory. "We play a pretty tough schedule in the spring," Horton says, "but we can still play better tennis. Our goal is to represent this institution well in the spring and go farther than we ever have in the NCAA Division II Tournament in May. We are ecstatic to win the GLVC, but we can't rest on our laurels. We have a lot of work to do."

NKU golf player takes game seriously

By Douglas Dehner
Staff Writer

When many people think about golfers, they picture rich old men in polo shirts and goofy-looking pants. Glenn Davidson, a freshman member of NKU's team, feels that people's misconceptions are the biggest problem facing golfers today.

"I wish people would take the sport of golf more seriously," Davidson said. "It's a lot harder than most people think."

Davidson started playing golf with his father as a child. "My dad was on the golf team for Berea College, and he introduced me to the game at a very young age," he said.

Davidson adds that his favorite part about college so far is the freedom to make his own decisions and the number of beautiful young ladies.

Glenn is ranked 7th out of 13 on the men's golf team, and he is averaging 82.6 per 18 holes so far this season.

Junior teammate Steve Landrum said, "Glenn's unique character helps to bring an entertaining aspect to our team."

"My most embarrassing golf memory was of the first day of practice this past summer when I showed up with blue hair and coach threatened to kick me off the team," Davidson said.

As a matter of fact, Glenn's hair has been many colors so far this school year. "Blue, yellow, pink, amber, red, green; you never know what color it's going to be tomorrow," said his roommate Matt Briggs.

According to Davidson, the hardest part of being both a college athlete and a student is the great amount of time involved. "College golf at NKU is a lot like a job because you have to be

very dedicated, and we practice nearly every day," he said.

Briggs said, "Living with Glenn is an exciting experience because he's so unpredictable." When asked to expand on that comment, Briggs just laughs and answers, "I better not."

Glenn said that his favorite way to get pumped up before a game is by listening to punk rock music, concentrating, and not talking to anyone else. "Punk rock equals fun, equals golf, equals Glenn," Glenn said.

He adds, "My strength and height are probably the best aspects of my game because they help to give me a more powerful swing."

At 6-foot, 5 inches tall and 215 pounds, many people at first glance might mistake Glenn for a football player rather than a golfer. "I do own a few polo shirts," Glenn said. "But I don't have any goofy-looking pants."

2000-01 GLVC Preseason Basketball Polls

Women's

1. Northern Kentucky (11)
2. SIU-Edwardsville (1)
3. Bellarmine
4. Southern Indiana
5. Missouri-St. Louis
6. Indianapolis
7. Lewis
8. IPFW
9. UW-Parkside
10. KY Wesleyan
11. Quincy
12. Saint Joseph's

Men's

1. Kentucky Wesleyan (8)
2. Southern Indiana (4)
3. Northern Kentucky
4. Indianapolis
5. Lewis
6. Bellarmine
7. UMK-St. Louis
8. IPFW
9. UW-Parkside
10. Quincy
11. SIU-Edwardsville
12. Saint Joseph's

This Week in NKU Sports

Women's golfer takes medal at GLVC Championships

The NKU women's golf team finished fourth overall at the GLVC Championships at the Timbergate Golf Course in Edinburgh, Indiana last Tuesday. NKU finished with a score of 701.

Freshman Breanne Hall came away with the first place medal with a two-day score of 161, including a 6-over-par 78 in the final round. For the Norse, Hall's achievement also gave NKU its first-ever conference champion in individual competition in women's golf.

Diana Canacho did well too for NKU as she finished tied for sixth place in the tournament with a score of 166.

The University of Indianapolis ended up winning the tournament with a team total of 678.

Women's soccer gets shutout and tie

The NKU women's soccer team continued its winning ways by defeating the University of Wisconsin-Parkside 3-0 Friday.

Juniors Jeanna Martin, Amanda Trout, who was just recently named GLVC Player of the week, and Tricia Ruark, all scored goals for the Norse, and junior Lauren Piening recorded the shutout at goalkeeper.

The Norse concluded the weekend with a tough game on the road against Lewis. The game went two overtimes, but both NKU and Lewis ended the game tied at 1-1.

The Norse have now managed two ties in their last three games.

NKU, who is ranked fourth nationally in the Division II poll, is now 12-

1-2 on the year and is 7-0-2 in the GLVC.

Men's soccer starts another losing streak

The NKU men's soccer team went on the road to take on 16th-ranked University of Wisconsin-Parkside. The Norse couldn't get anything going in losing the game by a score of 5-0.

Ray James scored two goals for the Rangers, who improved to 10-3 and 5-3 in the GLVC.

The Norse continued their losing streak when they got shutout by Lewis 1-0 Sunday.

Lewis, who is ranked seventh nationally, got its only goal of the game by Gabe Andorf. Lewis goalie Andrew Barks also recorded the shutout.

NKU has now lost three games in a row and has a 5-10 record, including 4-5 in the GLVC.

NKU volleyball improves to 16-4

The NKU volleyball team has shown no signs of wanting to lose at Regent's Hall anytime soon. It was proven when the Norse won their 45th consecutive home game against Edinboro (Pa.) University in three sets, 15-5, 15-4, 15-10, Friday.

Senior Jessica Buroker led the way for NKU with 17 kills and had a .696 hitting percentage in the win.

Freshman Camilla Weiler helped contribute with 13 kills and three blocks for the Norse. Also, junior Bethany Gastight had nine kills, and senior Bobbi Casper recorded 36 assists for NKU in the game.

The Norse improved their overall record to 16-4 with the win.

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Teamwork keys another volleyball home victory

By Aaron Stamm
Staff Writer

The NKU volleyball team went outside of the GLVC conference Wednesday night to defeat Charleston College 15-7, 15-3, 15-8 at Regents Hall.

With the win, The Norse moved to 15-4 overall in the season and continued its home winning streak to 44 games.

Senior Bobby Casey was very happy with the team's effort in the win. "We were intense and ready to play. We ran simple and effective offense well all match long." Sophomore Bethany Gastright led the Norse with nine kills. Senior Jessica Buroker, junior Julie Hathorn and freshman Camilla Welter each had eight kills aside to help the Norse to the victory.

Casey also had 39 set assists to

lead the Norse. She was 39 for 78 in the assists category, which equals out to 47%. She also chipped in with six kills on the night.

The Norse have now bounced back very successfully, winning three matches in a row since dropping its last match two weeks ago at Georgetown.

NKU coach Mary Biermann was very pleased with the non-conference victory. "We passed real well, our blocking and hitting was good as well."

Biermann said she feels that certain non-conference games late in the year are very beneficial in certain circumstances. "It is a regional game for us," she said.

"They (Charleston) are a common opponent for many of our conference teams," Biermann said. "This is our conference break week, and I wanted our

team to keep playing."

The first game of the match was the key for the Norse. Charleston battled the Norse early in the match.

With the score 9-7, The Norse were able to streak away from Charleston with strong offensive play. "We pulled away, everyone was hitting holes, we had quick offense and our defense stepped up as well," Casey said.

The Norse continued its effort with a dominant performance in game two. The Norse took control of the match with seven straight points to go up 12-3. NKU never looked back, coasting the rest of the game.

Hathorn said she feels very good about the team's effort the last few matches. "We are playing with consistent intensity right now," she said. "Our overall passing and offense is working well

right now."

Hathorn said she feels there is always room for improvement down the stretch of the season. "We just need general improvement in all areas," she said. "We just need to continue to develop the rest of season."

The Norse hit a very important stretch of matches starting Friday with an important GLVC match against Lewis University at 7 p.m. The Norse's last conference loss was at Lewis earlier in the season. NKU then plays Wisconsin-Parkside Saturday at 1 p.m.

The Norse conclude the week-end with a match at 5 p.m. Saturday against the University of New Haven. New Haven was the last team to defeat NKU at Regents Hall. The game was in November 1997.

All games will be at Regents Hall.



Rachel Dietz/The Northerner
The NKU volleyball team has been a driving force against its opponents at Regents Hall.

Cross country teams perform well at Disney World Invitational

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
Sports Editor

The NKU cross country teams gave a good showing at the Disney World Invitational, which took place at the Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando Oct. 7.

The men's team placed fifth out of 20 teams who participated in the race. Ryan Carskadon came in with a time of 26:14 in the 10K race and placed 23rd overall in the individual competition. Some of the other runners who ran well for NKU were Kevin Alessandro, 26:56, Pat Sullivan, 27:03, and Joe Zeinzer, 27:27.

"They (the men) ran very well. Their goal was to be in the top five," said NKU coach Steve Kruse. "They carried out the plan very well."

The women's team did well by coming in 11th place with 25

teams involved in the race. Freshman Lissa Faulkner broke the NKU school record with a time of 19:08 as she came in 37th in the race. "I was so excited," she said. "I didn't expect it. I was really surprised."

Some of the other top NKU runners in the women's competition were freshman Elaine Koenig, who had a time of 19:31, and freshman Anna Moore, who finished with a time of 19:50.

"This is the first time ever that we have had three women's runners finish under 20 minutes," Kruse said. "They competed real well."

"We're doing great," Faulkner added. "Our top five are really strong. We have made a lot of strides since the first race."

Virginia Tech, a Division I school, ended up winning the event in both the men's and women's competitions. Kruse said

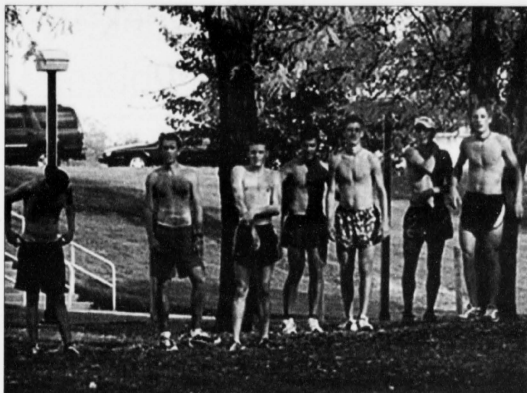
that both NKU teams really showed that they are ready to take on Division I teams.

The NKU cross country teams next traveled to Eastern Kentucky University Friday.

Faulkner again set her own school record with a time of 18:55. The women's team ended up placing fifth with a score of 117 at the Eastern Kentucky Invitational.

The men's team was led by Carskadon, who finished the 8K race with a time of 26:52 as he came in 11th place. The team came in sixth overall with a score of 102.

The cross country teams next test the GLVC Championships in Evansville, Ind. Oct. 21. "The toughest part of our schedule is in front of us," Kruse said. "We're trying to obtain our personal best times."



Rachel Dietz/The Northerner
The NKU men's cross-country team had seven participants, shown above, compete and do well in the Disney World Invitational a couple of weeks ago.

The Northerner Athletes of the Week



Photos by Rachel Dietz

Left: Claudia Ruehl
Ruehl won both of her singles matches and two of her three doubles matches at the GLVC Tournament Friday and Saturday.



Right: Ryan Carskadon
Carskadon has been one of the top players on the men's cross-country team this season. He recently placed 11th at the Eastern Kentucky Invitational.



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Women

Mon. Nov. 6th

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The Northerner is coming out with the 2000-01 Basketball Preview. Read about how the Norse men's and women's basketball teams will look for the upcoming season on November 8.



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HOROSCOPE

By C.C. Clark — eTVData Features Syndicate

October 15 - October 21, 2000

- Aries (March 21 - April 20)**
A person with a different opinion may try to push his or her views on you. There is no harm in listening, but the decision is ultimately yours.
- Taurus (April 21 - May 20)**
The urge to learn something new is strong and you should pursue it. Take little steps toward achieving your goal and you will get there.
- Gemini (May 21 - June 20)**
It is important to do what a problem and call it what it is. Once you do that, you are on the road to recovery.
- Cancer (June 21 - July 20)**
You feel as though there is an invisible string holding you back. Decide what it is you really want, and then go after it.
- Leo (July 21 - Aug. 21)**
While it is in your nature to barge right in and fix things, that may not be the best solution right now. Look at all the obstacles before you tackle them.
- Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 22)**
You have some great ideas to contribute, but you aren't sure how to go about it. Make a plan of action and share it with someone you trust.
- Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)**
A friend helps you understand what it is you've been missing in life. Learn to live for today and stop obsessing over what might have been.
- Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 22)**
There are some possibilities or solutions you may have overlooked where an important project is concerned. The answers are there; open your eyes.
- Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 20)**
Try not to make more out of a situation than is really there. You've been in worse jams and survived. It only takes a little maneuvering.
- Capricorn (Dec. 21 - Jan. 19)**
A family member appreciates your efforts more than you know. You may soon discover you have a nurturing side.
- Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)**
Ideas may come to you in the strangest places. Keep a pen and paper handy to take notes. You never know when you might strike gold.
- Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)**
Stress is often the source of nagging health problems. If you can't get rid of your burdens, find a new way to deal with them.

Born this week:

- Oct. 15 - Sarah Ferguson, Emeril Lagasse
Oct. 16 - Angela Lansbury, Oct. 17 - George Wendt
Oct. 18 - Pam Dawber
Oct. 19 - Evander Holyfield, John Lithgow
Oct. 20 - Dr. Joyce Brothers, Jerry O'Connell
Oct. 21 - Carrie Fisher

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THE TRIBE HAS SPOKEN!

BUSH: second coming

From Page 5

She'd also lived in a co-dependent relationship with her husband for 25 years, who, like her father before him, beat her regularly. One day, in her mid 40s, Sherry decided to end her co-dependent relationship with her husband after an especially brutal beating. While her husband lay in a drunken stupor after the last beating, Sherry used the chain saw he'd threatened her with in the past and dismembered him in several places. Everyone was appalled by the messiness of the murder, especially the men on the jury that convicted her and recommended the death sentence.

And here she was, after running through years of appeals. She was strapped to the gurney now, as the

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medical personnel prepared to forget about the Hippocratic oath they had taken awhile back. Jesus was there too, wondering how humans could so easily kill one of their own; he was sad for his father's botched creation. He looked sadly over at George W., his student who had so assiduously studied his Jesus's words, and yet had come to this. Wouldn't he be surprised at the results of his Final Exam, in the hereafter.

The murderers surrounding Sherry uprighted her in the gurney so that she could say her last words. She spit in the direction of the Governor, Jesus, George Sr. and the other spectators, and said of her former husband, "If I'd had it to do over again, I'd do it. Though this time I'd wake

WEIR

From Page 6

come relief. This helps to make the play more realistic. The only thing that may offend some people is the excessive strong language used. The language helps make the scenes more gritty and realistic because most barroom conversations are not G-rated. The language and the content make The Weir a play that will be most enjoyed by an adult audi-

"in up for it." Before Sherry's attendance began the series of injections that would result in her premeditated murder, Jesus thought about stopping it, but didn't. He knew she'd be happier where she was going.

Everyone, to their credit, looked somber, befitting the occasion, except for George Sr., who, never having been governor of a state, had never actually seen a live execution. As Sherry's breathing choked a little and the chemicals did their ghastly work, George Sr. began to blanch. He'd never seen anyone killed so efficiently and humanely before. He fainted in the direction of Jesus, so as not to mess up his son's nice suit, and threw up.

I would not recommend taking children to see the play. Overall, I believe CSF has scored yet another masterpiece. "The Weir" will be running Thursday through Sunday between now and Nov. 5. Tickets can be ordered at CSF, which is located at 719 Race Street, by calling 513-381-BARD, or online at <http://www.cincyshakes.com>

RUSSIAN VISIT

From Page 1

According to Michael Klenbara, NKU's director of International Programs, different perspectives could be beneficial to the people of Greater Cincinnati. "In order to grow, the city must be open to diverse cultures," he said.

Klenbara, who helped arrange the group's stay at the university, added that the nature of Cincinnati makes it a good host for international visitors. "I think we're a friendly city," he explained. "We have a very strong IVC here."

Other recent projects of the IVC, according to Rebstock, have brought visitors from Africa to discuss HIV and AIDS, as well as visitors from Ukraine concerning education. "We're hosting different groups all the time," he said.

The Russian group departed from NKU at about 4:30, and left Cincinnati Friday. They then spent several days in New York City for the final portion of their American visit before heading back overseas Sunday.

RUSSIAN EXCHANGE

From Page 1

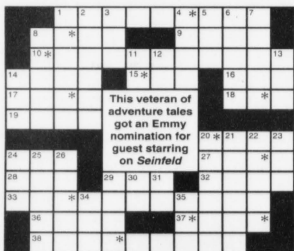
undergraduates. It is composed of ten different faculties, which Evgeny explained is the same as what are termed colleges in the U.S. They offer education in the sciences and humanities and law, as well as medicine and engineering and agriculture, among in the world. Evgeny said PFUR has trained all foreign astronauts in the Russian language, which they specialize in teaching as a second language. And, Evgeny explained this is the university's first agreement with a developed country such as the U.S., but they are

known as primarily an international university.

"We have students from 116 countries," he said. He said one-third of the student population are international students, coming from all over the world and from almost every continent in the world.

"We have prepared thousands of people for developing countries," he said. More information on the program, and what opportunities it can provide, is available through the International Programs office located in BEP 301.

-TV-CHALLENGE



The identity of the featured celebrity is found within the answers in the puzzle. In order to take the TV Challenge, unscramble the letters noted with asterisks within the puzzle.

- ACROSS**
- Monogram for the author of *Little Women*
 - City in France
 - Handle, a weapon
 - Wading bird
 - Dick Martin's state of birth, abbr.
 - The *Rocks* (1975-76)
 - pitch softball
 - Swish positions
 - 1988 Lou Diamond Phillips movie
 - Tack down again
 - Jersey
 - Col. H. Hogan, for one
 - Rockford's first name on *The Rockford Files*
 - The _____, '83-'87 adventure series
 - 1989 sitcom for Ms. Moore
 - If Ever _____ You Again; '78 Jimmy Breslin film
 - Skeerit's monogram
 - Colombia's location; abbr.
 - Type
 - Role on *Nash Bridges*
 - _____ Hart
 - Qualified
 - Mr. Redding
 - Let's _____; long-running game show
- DOWN**
- Served like cherries jubilee
 - Eddie, for one
 - West
 - New _____ Undercover (94-'98)

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