

Starting a new business? We'll show you the money.

See page 7



Cities unite for Walk As One

Annual event promotes racial acceptance

By Sean Dressman
News Editor
dressmans@nku.edu

Close to 3,000 people gathered along the riverfront area on Saturday, October 15, just in the shadow of the Suspension Bridge. There weren't fireworks. It wasn't for a cultural food festival. It was, instead, for the annual National Conference for Community and Justice's Walk As One event.

The event, which was designed to raise benefit money for NCCJ and the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, is an annual gathering of people of all races, creeds and religions around the city. The walk itself, which was 10K (6.2 miles), began at the Freedom Center, went through downtown Cincinnati, across the purple bridge over into Newport, through Newport and Covington, and back across the suspension bridge to end at the Freedom Center.

There was also a run, which started ten minutes prior to the walk start time of 10 a.m., which followed the same route.

"It went very well," said Mimi Assanuvat, Senior Executive Secretary to the President of the University. "Northern had good representation at the event." She, along with 13 other NCU representatives, mainly faculty and their families, took part in the walk, which the university was heavily involved in on several levels.

NKU President James Votruba served as educational chair for the event. "NCCJ sponsors programs designed to build understanding across lines of race, ethnicity, religion, national origin and class," he said.

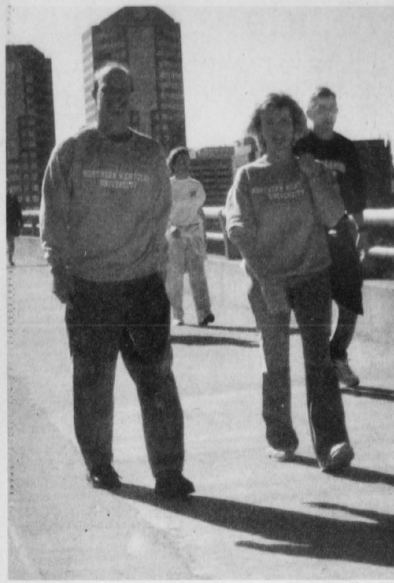
Votruba, along with Jack Cassidy of Cincinnati Bell, also co-chaired the event. NKU also printed several of the fliers that the walk used in the campus print shop.

Several different companies were represented among the 3,000. Among them were GE, Channel 9-WCPO, Mercy Health Partners, Cinergy, Cincinnati Bell, the Cincinnati Police Department, and the Enquirer. The group gathered at 9 a.m. outside the front of the Freedom Center for free food, drinks and fellowship, allowing them to tour booths set up by the various groups to see what they were all about. At 9:35 a.m., a group from Mercy Health Partners hosted an aerobics

workout on the grass in front of the building, to warm everyone up and get them ready. At 9:50, the runners began, and the walkers followed 10 minutes later. According to Assanuvat, the walk took about 90 minutes to complete. Many groups mingled, talking and chatting with each other while they walked.

Prince Brown, Jr., a professor of sociology, philosophy and anthropology, was also heavily involved in both the walk and the Freedom Center. He said, "This walk is a community external expression that expresses commitment to an inclusive society and a desire for racial reconciliation." Brown has been involved with the walk for three years, and with the Freedom Center since its debut five years ago. Brown said he felt the walk was an important event because race is a subject of all of

See Walk, page 2



Nicole Jones/Photo Editor

Mimi Assanuvat and Joe Green cross the bridge for NKU during the annual walk.

Fists fly at martial arts championship

By Audrey Kunkel
Assistant News Editor
kunkela3@nku.edu

Punches and kicks flew through the air while loud kikas reverberated inside the gym walls.

The first Kentucky Invitational Taekwondo Championship was off to a victorious start on Oct. 15 in the Albright Health Center Gymnasium.

Taekwondo is a Martial Art that originated in Korea and literally means "the art of the foot and the hands." The strikes made with the hands, elbows, knees and feet ward off even kill attackers.

From children to adults, white belts to black belts, 237 participants competed against each other in forms and sparring.

A Form is a routine particular to belt level and it takes about two minutes to perform the sequence of kicks, punches, blocks and spins against an imaginary attacker. Sparring is freestyle and is done full contact with an aggressor. Some participants also entered divisions to showcase creative forms that they developed themselves.

Northern Kentucky University's Taekwondo Club and Jang's Taekwondo in Edgewood, KY sponsored the daylong competition. It commenced with a ceremony involving five members of the University of Cincinnati's ROTC Color Guard and

the singing of the National Anthem by members of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia fraternity.

The competitors and judges came from area colleges such as the University of Cincinnati, Miami University and Taekwondo schools across the country and even beyond. The success of the event indicates that this will become an annual occurrence at NKU.

"People are here from as far away as Canada and Maryland," said Christopher Jang, the Taekwondo Club's president and instructor. "There's a lot of complex working that goes on to get them all here."

Jang is a third degree black belt who started learning Taekwondo 12 years ago.

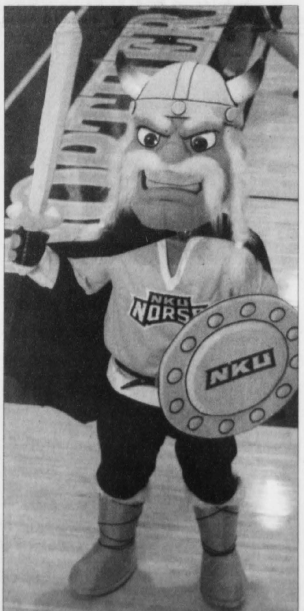
Taekwondo Club member Raphael Suh took first place in the men's black belt division in sparring and forms. The student from Germany said he has been practicing Taekwondo for 12 years.

Fifteen students are registered in NKU's Taekwondo club, and several of them competed and did well in the tournament.

NKU students Ron Cole, Parkhad Abdikadrov and Osnel Gonzalez all received awards for their performance of forms and sparring in their divisions.

The Taekwondo Club practices Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays with instructor Christopher Jang. Their website is <http://studenthome.nku.edu/~taekwondo/>.

The New Norse



Joe Ruh/University Photographer

NKU's new mascot debuted during Meet the Norse night Oct. 24

Student union construction coming soon

By Sean Dressman
News Editor
dressmans@nku.edu

Northern Kentucky University has seen a lot of changes lately. The University has received a new lake, which is nearing completion. It is scheduled to receive a new arena for the sports groups to use. Now, it appears that another new building will soon be gracing the campus.

The new Student Union building, scheduled to start being built soon, will be between the University Center and Nunn Hall. The Union, a three-story building, will house many facilities that are currently in use in the University Center. The Student Union Building, according to manager Steve Meier in the Dean of Students Office, will begin at the grass area just behind UC, and will stretch out to half-way into Parking Lot A. The bridge that Albright Students currently use to get into the upper levels of that building will go away, as all students will have to enter through the lower levels.

Some people may be worried about the parking situation, with half of Parking Lot A going away. Both Meier and Schuh were quick to assure that the new garage will be able to handle the difference. Schuh said, "The Kenton Drive Parking Garage was constructed to provide spaces that would be needed when construction of the Student

Union takes Lot A off-line. The garage has 682 spaces and Lot A has 291." Schuh also said, "The University Drive garage has not been filling up this year, and if you've been on campus awhile you might know that prior to the opening of the Kenton Drive garage, the University Drive garage would usually be full by 10:30 or so." She also said that the lower section of Lot A is out of commission because of the lake construction. She said that when that comes back online, it would also help things.

Meier also said that there might be, if it can be worked in, a bridge from the second floor of the University Center to the third floor of the Student Union. All of the food shops will go into the Student Union, while there will be a Starbucks in the corner of the first floor.

The Commons room in the center will be coming over to the Student Union. The bookstore, however, will remain in the Center, and will take over the upper TV area as a second floor area of bookstores. Student Media, however, will not be included in the move. "It was just a matter of what would fit into the building and prioritizing," Campus Planning Director Mary Paula Schuh said. "You can only fit so many programs into a building," said Dean of Students Kent Kelso. However, he is enthusiastic about the project. "It will be the front door to the campus."

NKU hosts Gulf benefit con-

By Justin Duke
Assistant News Editor
dukej@nku.edu

As the media coverage of the hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast begins to dwindle, the efforts to help those affected by the hurricanes are unrelenting.

Northern Kentucky University hosted the Northern Kentucky Gulf Coast Benefit Oct. 23.

The benefit served as an oppor-

tunity to support relief efforts for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita that crippled the Gulf Coast last month.

"A NKU part of our job is to figure out ways to bring people together, whether it's with fund-raising or issues that need to be debated in the public forum," said Kent Kelso, NKU Dean of Students.

The benefit featured games and food nearly the entire afternoon, and took in donations of blankets, toys, water, cash, and non-perishable food items.

By the end of the day, over \$100,000 was raised, Kelso said.

The donations will be split between the hurricane relief funds of the American Red Cross and the United Way.

The highlight of the event was a free concert held in Greaves Hall. Former WLWT television anchor Norma Rashid served as emcee to the concert that featured performances by the Northern Kentucky



Breanna Gaddie/Photographer

The NKU Opera Troupe performs at Greaves Hall.

See Coast Benefit, page 2

Walk As One Continued from page one

people are still not comfortable talking about it. In addition to his duties with the university, Brown is also involved with the Institute for Freedom Studies. He takes part in yearly joint conferences with the Freedom Center. He is also frequently present at seminars and workshops on slavery and the

Underground Railroad. The money from the walk goes to support programs that NCCI is involved with such as Anytown Youth Leadership, the Police Youth "Live-In" Camp and Healing Through History. NCCI Chairman Nathan Stein said, "I think the event was a great success this year. Of course,

you put so much time and energy into the event and you always worry how it's going to turn out, and if everyone will enjoy it." Brown also shared his feelings on the event, "I commend the people who thought up the idea and are still working to make it an even more high-profile event."

Coast Benefit Continued from page one

Children's Ensemble's concert and prep choir, Covington Catholic High School's chamber choir, Metropolitan Opera singer Richard Cowan, and others.

Concertgoers in the packed auditorium were also treated to a special performance from Ashley and Mike Lemmler,

There have been a lot of storms, a lot of earthquakes and other natural disasters. For me personally, what helps is not raising money or entertaining. For me personally, it's prayer that helps.

- Kent Kelsa, Dean of Students

direction of NKU's Dr. Randy Pennington, a jazz arrangement of "My Old Kentucky Home," that according to Rashid had "even Steven Foster tappin' his toes."

The benefit was the culmination of a 21 county effort, including Kenton, Boone and

Carmel counties who passed resolutions to support the benefit. That support made the event possible, Kelsa said.

Getting the benefit together was personal for Kelsa. Kelsa's wife's family lives in Beaumont,

Texas, a city near the Gulf Coast damaged by Hurricane Rita, Kelsa said.

"There have been a lot of storms, a lot of earthquakes and other natural disasters. For me personally, what helps is not raising money or entertaining. For me personally, it's prayer that helps," Kelsa said to a cheering crowd.

His father-in-law is the

Jefferson County, Texas judge executive who is helping organize relief efforts.

"They are struggling with some government programs like FEMA. Things are just not working out well. These people are still facing major devastation," Kelsa said.

"I told them NKU was doing a benefit concert on Oct. 23, so why don't you have your event coincide with the NKU event," Kelsa said.

This led to the combination of the relief event and concert at NKU with multiple sponsors including the Northern Kentucky Children's Ensemble, the NKU Music Preparatory Department,

the "One For All, United We Care" Northern Kentucky Relief Effort, the Northern Kentucky Counties and Cities organization and NKU.

Dark days lie ahead for President Bush Party splits as in-fighting continues

By Dick Polman
Knight Ridder News Service
northerner@nku.

The conservative coalition that elected George W. Bush is falling apart.

Many of its members are furious with the president and furious with each other. The health of the Republican Party may well hinge on whether the warring factions can heal their self-inflicted wounds and find common ground in time for the next presidential election.

Nursing grievances on many fronts-the Harriet Myers nomination, the lavish post-Katrina federal spending, the woes in Iraq, the scandals engulfing the GOP's top leaders, and many more prominent conservatives are talking and behaving in ways that would have been unthinkable nine months ago, when Bush was sworn in for a second term.

Bruce Bartlett, a domestic-policy aide under Ronald Reagan, says Bush and the conservative coalition are headed for divorce. "Peggy Noonan, the GOP speech writer, says the schism between Bush and his own base is a crisis 'perhaps unprecedented in modern American politics,'" Analyst Fred Barnes, a habitual defender of the Bush administration, says of the fracture, "It's happening, and it's serious."

And it's getting very personal. Consider the insult directed at Bush the other day by conservative commentator Jonathan V. Last. After learning that high-court nominee Miers had stated in 1989 that she couldn't recall "the last time I read a whole book," Last remarked, "The guy who voted for George W. Bush were promised a mind like (Antonin) Scalia's for the Supreme Court. Instead, they've been given a mind like George W. Bush's."

Mark Rozell, a political analyst at George Mason University who tracks the conservative movement, said, "There is so much bitter frustration right now. Conservatives were out of power for so long, and once they got into power, their expectations were so high. But these expectations are not being met."

"So they're firing not just at Bush, but at each other. The conservative movement has always been, in a sense, a dysfunctional family. They get along well when times are good, but when times are bad, you start to see all these

fighting between purists and pragmatists."

H.L. Mencken, the famed political commentator of yesteryear, remarked during the New Deal that the Democratic Party comprised "gangs of natural enemies in a precarious state of symbiosis." That's also a fair description of the GOP during the Bush era. The factions that muted their differences when Bush was riding high small-government conservatives, religious conservatives, war-hawk "neocons," big-business conservatives now appear to be forming a circular firing squad, and hunting for betrayers of the movement. Similar actions will occur during the next few years, as conservatives seek a presidential candidate who can restore purity and rescue the movement from Bush's alleged transgressions.

In one instance, the religious conservatives, who care about values, are now openly attacking the business conservatives, who care about money.

Iraq is also exacerbating the tensions. The conservative faction, a mix of isolationists and self-described "realists," scoffs openly at the neocons, who believe that the United States can bring democracy to the Middle East; one ex-CIA officer, Philip Girard, charged last week in a conservative magazine that Iraq is "America's catastrophic imperial venture." Meanwhile, conservative hawks are assailing the administration for running the war badly; as commentator Rich Lowry said last week, "The prison-abuse scandal was a profound error. Prisoners should be famously well-treated, which was political poison and if the counter insurgent campaign is going very well encourages surrenders."

And even though Bush is trying to reunite conservatives by invoking the fight against terrorism, the pillars of his conservative coalition (including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers) are revolting against a Patriot Act provisions...

sion, up for renewal at year's end, that allows the FBI to search their private business records with scant oversight from any court.

What makes matters worse, for the White House, is that the Bush strategist best qualified to make peace among the factions is missing in action.

"Karl Rove is the guy who kept all those factions together," says Marshall Wittmann, a former Christian Coalition lobbyist and close observer of the conservative movement. "But he is distracted these days by his legal problems," namely, the fact that he could be indicted this week by a special prosecutor who is seeking to determine whether White House aides illegally

blew the cover of a CIA officer in an effort to discredit the officer's husband, a vocal critic of the rationales for the Iraq war.

"For years," Wittmann said, "Rove has been able to cajole everybody into muting their complaints and uniting behind

Mark Rozell
George Mason University
Analyst

will be gone and the factions will go their separate ways, competing with each other to define the future of the movement and the party."

Without Rove around as a disciplinarian, conservatives continue to clash over Miers' nomination. To the point where the nomination could be imperiled. A fractured base could push some conservative senators toward open opposition; they could be swayed by the argument voiced last week by rebellious former Bush aide David Frum that Bush's choice of Miers is a betrayal equal in magnitude to the older George Bush's violation of his "Read my lips: I won't raise taxes" promise.

When Bruce Bartlett, the Reagan aide, assails Miers as "a patently unequipped crony," he is referring to her dearth of experience with constitutional law. Last week, conservative bloggers were appalled to learn that Miers, in response to a Senate questionnaire, had referred to the proportional representation requirement of the Equal Protection Clause.

dpsreports

These reports were filed with the NKU Police Department between October 11 and October 20

Tuesday, October 11

11:24 a.m. Subject reported that a cell phone and keys were stolen from the Fine Arts Building.

12:30 p.m. Subject reported that his 2006 NKU Parking Pass was stolen.

3:04 p.m. Zachary Figgins, 19 of Louisville, KY found in possession of a forged 2006 NKU Parking Permit. Figgins was issued Kentucky State Citation for Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument.

Wednesday, October 12

3:04 p.m. Subject reported the loss of a 2006 Parking Permit. Subject was referred to the parking office.

3:54 p.m. Subject reported that his 2006 NKU Parking Permit was stolen from his vehicle.

4:55 p.m. A minor non-injury auto accident occurred on Nunn Drive at University Drive.

6:16 p.m. Kristopher Steinman, 24, Georgetown, OH was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Speeding and Failure to Have Proof of Insurance.

10:52 p.m. Antron Masden, 21 of Louisville, KY, was arrested on an outstanding warrant from Jefferson County.

Thursday, October 13

3:20 p.m. Subject reported the theft of a 2006 NKU Parking Permit from his vehicle.

Friday, October 14

12:41 a.m. Diana Trunta, 22 of Detroit, MI was issued a

Kentucky State Citation for Speeding.

3:28 p.m. Subject reported that personal checks were stolen from her vehicle.

5:16 p.m. Subject reported that her prescription medicine was stolen.

Sunday, October 16

2:39 p.m. Subject reported that his 2006 NKU Parking Permit was stolen.

11:21 p.m. Subject reported that an unknown person damaged a vending machine in Commonwealth Hall.

Monday, October 17

11:43 a.m. Subject reported that his wallet was lost somewhere on campus.

5:43 p.m. Subject issued a Kentucky State Citation for Unauthorized Parking in a Handicapped Zone.

Tuesday, October 18

10:33 p.m. Subject reported derogatory statements written on the sidewalk.

Wednesday, October 19

10:38 a.m. Subject reported that his 2006 Parking Permit was stolen. He was referred to the Parking Office and advised to file a theft report with the Florence Police Dept.

12:02 p.m. Medical Assistance requested for a subject at the University Center. Subject was transported to St. Luke East for further evaluation and treatment.

2:58 p.m. A fire alarm was received from Commonwealth Hall. Upon investigation, it was determined that the alarm was caused by a faulty smoke detector. Building was cleared for re-occupancy.

6:43 p.m. Subject reported that NKU property was found off campus earlier this date. Property was secured and logged in DPS Evidence room pending investigation.

6:55 p.m. Complainant stated that an individual who had been sanctioned from campus may return to campus. Sanction was in response to prior domestic incident.

10:28 p.m. Subject reported the theft of her 2006 NKU Parking Permit from her vehicle.

Thursday, October 20

11:57 a.m. Medical Assistance requested for a subject at the Albright Health Center. The subject was transported to St. Luke East for further evaluation and treatment.

12:36 p.m. Smoke alarm received from the Ceramics Building. The cause of the alarm could not be determined.

12:50 p.m. Owner of a reserved parking space requested that an illegally parked vehicle be towed. Prior to towing, owner of said vehicle arrived and paid the wrecker show up fee. Vehicle was then released.

2:48 p.m. Subject reported that a possible scam may have been committed at the University Center.

3:03 p.m. Subject was found in possession of a forged NKU Parking Permit, and was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument.

4:56 p.m. Subject issued a Kentucky State Citation for Possession of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

6:04 p.m. Subject reported the theft of personal computer equipment.


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7:30pm - Dancers
Saturday, Oct. 29, 2005
10:00am - Vocalists, Actors, Musicians & Technicians
2:00pm - Dancers
Sunday, Oct. 30, 2005
10:00am - Vocalists, Actors, Musicians & Technicians
2:00pm - Dancers
For more info, call 513-754-5740 or visit pki.com

Section Editor
Matt Steffen
859.572.5260

sports scene



→ with Matt Steffen

NBA tries to fix its problems

David Stern, commissioner of the NBA, recently announced that this season he would enforce a dress code rule. This means that when NBA players are traveling to a game, attending a press conference, or taking part in any other type of business dealing with the NBA, they will have to dress in business casual attire.

This new rule has irked many of the NBA players, but I think it's long overdue. Stern has been the commissioner of the NBA since 1984 and knows what he's doing.

If players can't dress in a professional way, they don't deserve to be playing professional basketball. It looks sloppy when players are dressed in T-shirts and sweatpants entering the arena and the cameras are taping them.

Indiana Pacers' guard Steve Nash has called this new rule a "racist statement." And last week he wore all his gold chains during interviews to protest this rule.

The NBA has more problems than players dressing sloppy, but at least they are heading in the right direction. It was horrible when the brawl broke out between the Pacers and the Detroit Pistons.

Ron Artest, a culprit in the brawl, said recently that he isn't going to tone down his aggression and this is something that referees will have to deal with.

On Oct. 23, journalist Ed Bradley interviewed former Chicago Bulls and Washington Wizards guard Michael Jordan. The interview focused on his new book that he shoves yesterday.

In his new book he makes the comment that the young players in the NBA are being cheated these days. Jordan says that players are being given rewards that they don't earn.

It is doubtful that the league restores their prominence when players such as Michael Jordan, Larry Bird, and Magic Johnson were playing.

Matt Steffen is the Sports Editor for The Northerner. He can be e-mailed at: MSteffen2@nku.edu

norsesports

Norse Volleyball sweep games

Defeat Quincy and UM-St. Louis, notch 20th win

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, Ky. - Liz Holmes and Tristen Dye combined for 24 kills Friday night as Northern Kentucky University reached the 20-win plateau for the 13th consecutive season with a three-game sweep over Missouri-St. Louis in Regents Hall.

Holmes slammed down 11 kills and hit .647 for NKU, which won by scores of 30-18, 30-18, 30-13. The Norse improved to 20-5 overall, 8-3 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. NKU has won at least 20 matches each season since 1993.

Dye recorded 13 kills and a .518 hitting percentage as NKU remained perfect (17-0) in the all-time series against Missouri-St. Louis. The River-owners dropped to 5-18 overall, 5-7 in the GLVC.

Andrea Lanham picked up 41 assists, eight digs and two service aces for NKU. Lanham, a junior setter and a graduate of Notre Dame Academy, now has 3,127 career assists.

Julie Lewis added eight kills and a .357 hitting percentage as the Norse attacked at a .337 clip as a team. NKU also held Missouri-St. Louis to a .038 hitting percentage and finished with a 51-23 advantage in digs.

NKU is tied for eighth place in the latest NCAA II Great Lakes Region poll. The top eight teams in that poll will advance to the NCAA Division II Tournament in November. Grand Valley State is currently No. 1 in the NCAA II Great Lakes Region, followed by No. 2 Rockhurst and No. 3 Southern Illinois at Edwardsville.

The winner of the GLVC Tournament, which will be played on the campus of the No. 1 seed Nov. 10-12, receives an automatic berth to the NCAA Division II Tournament.

SILUE is in second place in the GLVC standings followed by NKU. Rockhurst is in first place in the GLVC.

In Saturday's game, Liz Holmes put on a thunderous attacking exhibition Saturday afternoon as Northern Kentucky University rolled past Quincy in a three-game sweep.

Holmes slammed down 15 kills and finished with a .619 hitting percentage as NKU defeated Quincy, 30-18, 30-18, 30-17, in Regents Hall. The sophomore middle hitter converted the 15 kills in 21 attempts with just two errors, and many of her attacks were rocket-like shots that hit the court before Quincy's defense could react.

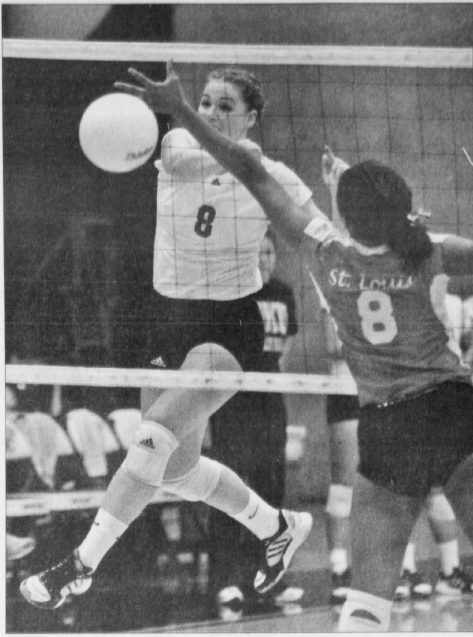
Holmes and Tristen Dye combined for 22 kills during the first two games, and NKU coasted past Quincy (4-16 overall, 2-11 GLVC) for the victory.

NKU served up 11 aces as a team and finished with a 49-27 advantage in digs.

NKU is tied for eighth place in the latest NCAA II Great Lakes Region poll. Southern Indiana and Northern Michigan are tied with NKU for the eighth spot in the poll.

The Norse hit the road next weekend for GLVC matches at Saint Joseph's (Friday) and Indianapolis (Saturday).

*Article contributed by Sports Information



Sophomore middle hitter Liz Holmes had 15 kills and a .619 hitting percentage in the win on Saturday versus Quincy University. Tim Downer / Photographer

speakin'sports

Reds looking to improve in offseason

By Chris VandeWater

Contributor
northerner@nku.edu

Its World Series time and there is no better time to reflect on our hometown team, the Cincinnati Reds. Tack on another year to the playoff drought and World Series drought. What needs to be done to this team so that it can compete in 2006?

The obvious problem to everyone who follows the Reds is why can't they get good pitching? Injuries and lack of talent have been the problem for years with the Reds pitching staff. Paul Wilson went down with an injury this year, ending his season abruptly. Eric Milton gave out hard hats for the people sitting in the outfield seats at Great American

Ballpark.

Bright spots in the rotation this year was Aaron Harang, Brandon Claussen, and free agent pickup Ramon Ortiz. The question now becomes how do you keep these players in the rotation and healthy? So if the Reds don't pick up anyone else this year from the free agent market, your rotation is setting up like this: Wilson, Harang, Milton, Ortiz, and Claussen.

It doesn't sound too bad, but health is a problem. Developing young talent inside the organization has been the other. It's been a while since the Reds have developed a pitcher in their own organization. The Cubs and Pirates have been prolific at developing talent.

Another problem is the crowded outfield the Reds

have. It is nice to have options, but there isn't enough playing time to go around for these guys. A trade will be in order this off season, most likely resulting in either Wily Mo Pena or Austin Kearns being dealt. There is a small chance that both will be dealt to give Chris Denorria a chance in right.

If that occurs, the outfield would look like Adam Dunn, Ken Griffey Jr., and Chris Denorria or Kearns and Pena. There has also been rumor that first baseman Sean Casey may get dealt and Dunn would move to first base. This would be a mistake and a shame because Casey brings leadership to the team and he had the highest batting average on the team.

Last season, the Reds used a tandem of Jason LaRue and Javier Valentine to handle the

catching duties. It worked out well, but the Reds may cut ties with one of them.

The Reds also have until the end of the World Series to determine if they will pick up the option on utility man Rich Aurilia. The decision the Reds have to make is will Aurilia be an everyday second baseman because he will most likely not want to return to the Reds.

He feels that he can play consistently day in and day out. If the Reds pick up Aurilia, Ryan Freel will be a utility player off the bench because the organization is grooming Felipe Lopez at shortstop and Edwin Encarnacion at third base.

The Cincinnati Reds most likely will not add too much additional payroll this coming season, so what you see is

what you get.

Unless the team gets excellent pitching from its starters and bullpen, it's not looking good for next year either.

The Reds have a tremendous amount of offense, ranking among the league leaders in home runs hit and runs scored.

Unfortunately, the Reds were among the league leaders in home runs allowed and the team E.R.A. was high too.

The Reds won't be in a hurry to sell many playoff tickets in 2006, but they usually play the first couple months tough before the injury bug settles in.

Baseball fans enjoy the hot stove action and spring training. The Reds look forward to seeing you at Great American Ballpark April 3rd against the Chicago Cubs.

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Trip includes:

- ▶ Free transportation
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- ▶ Some meals included
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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 Albritton Health Center)

Cost: \$199 per person

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

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Sarah Loman
[lomanerms@nku.edu]

AD MANAGER & LAYOUT EDITOR

Brianna Bodine
[bodinebr@hotmai.com]

ASSIST. LAYOUT EDITOR

Kristy Hix
[hixsk@nku.edu]

BUSINESS MANAGER

Dawnielle Fousard
[fousard@nku.edu]

COPY EDITOR

Jamie McIver
[bennettjam@nku.edu]

ASSIST. COPY EDITOR

Erin Marsh
[marsh@nku.edu]

PHOTO EDITOR

Nicole Jones
[jonesnic@nku.edu]

WEB EDITOR

Triton Fetherhoff
[fetherhoff1@nku.edu]

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Josh Jacob
[jacob@nku.edu]

ADVISER

Gayle Brown
[brown@nku.edu]

contactinformation

The Northerner
University Center Room 203
Highland Heights, KY 41026

Editor in Chief: (859) 572-6128
News: (859) 572-5260
Features: (859) 572-5859
Sports: (859) 572-5260
Advertising: (859) 572-5232
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viewpoints

Gay lifestyle 'is a sin'

Tuesday, Oct. 11, while walking across campus, I was inundated with graffiti-type artwork on the sidewalks and walls of various concrete structures. The theme of the messages seemed to be a lack of acceptance from those who are insecure with their sexual lifestyle to those who find it unnecessary to publicly declare their heterosexuality. Along the way I couldn't help but notice the several references made of God's love for them. And while I would never deny that, in fact, God does love them, I can say, with no doubt, that He does not love their lifestyle.

One can often use quotes and ideas from a written word or speech and manipulate words to infer things that were never intended or are downright false. Using God's Word to promote acceptance for a life of sin is an assault on the teachings of Christ. Leviticus 18:2 says, "Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman, that is detestable." 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 says "Do

you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral... nor homosexual offenders... will inherit the kingdom of God." In reading these two selections from the Bible, I personally conclude that homosexuality is a sin. In no way am I judging anyone for their sins, for I am a slave to my own sinful desires. However, it would be irresponsible of me, a believer that Jesus is the Christ, to allow a false inference of God's Word to corrupt the minds of those struggling to find truth. God loves all people. God cannot be in the presence of sin. Two truths that on the surface, seem incompatible. But through the blood of the perfect sacrifice,

How to write The Northerner

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

- E-mail letters to the editor to northern@nku.edu.
- Letters must include writer's name, telephone number, class year and major.
- Letters must be 400 words or less.
- Please submit sources for factual information to permit editors to fact check and verify information.
- Letters must be received on Friday before publication to be included.
- Event or organization announcements will not be printed on the Viewpoints pages. Submit to Reagan Comer at comer@nku.edu.
- The Northerner reserves the right to edit for content and space.

Jesus, comes the cleansing of sin. It is now possible for us to enter the kingdom of heaven, when before we had no hope. Because of that selfless act of love, we should all strive to become that which God intended. Christ is the standard by which we should measure ourselves, for he did not come to abolish God's law, but to fulfill it. To those who attempt to justify their own sin and make it enticing for others perhaps you should consider the words of Jesus

in Luke 17:1-2: "Things that cause people to sin are bound to come, but woe to that person through whom they come. It would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around his neck than for him to cause one of these little ones to sin."

Jay Vinson
Junior
Radiologic Technology

Sinners should rate on campus

Apathy allows 'hate and fear to continue and exist'

By now, everyone has noticed the abundance of chalk on campus. Regardless if you agree with Coming Out Day or not, the chalk slogans have brought an awareness of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) presence to the forefront of the campus mind. While our goals were to encourage rational discussion and education, the response to our event was petty and unwarranted. Statements such as "Homosexuality is Immoral," "Adam and Eve, Not Adam and Steve" and "Boycott Gay Pride" further highlight the very real prejudice and

homophobia which live on our campus.

Our campus received a very small glimpse into the everyday life of a GLBT student, including the

(The chalkings) are a reminder that hate will not be tolerated... further education will not be stopped or silenced.

Mike Volmer
Junior
Co-President of Common Ground

on our campus.

The apathy of the everyday person who hears a homo phobic slur or sees discrimination and says nothing is what allows this hate and fear to continue to exist. Both the challenge and the response serves to ameliorate this disease of apathy. Coming Out Day raised public allies for our group, but the chalkings in response have given us more.

They are a reminder that hate will not be tolerated and that discussion and further education will not be

stopped or silenced.

To our new allies: We have seen you crasing anti-gay slurs and replacing them with statements of support. Thank You. You are a reminder that individuals can make a difference in the lives of others and the society that they live in.

Happy Coming Out Day!

The members of Common Ground
Mike Volmer
Junior
Social Work
Co-president

Marijuana laws need change

Kentucky laws 'needlessly concentrate on non-violent offenders'

The United States of America has been known for centuries as "The Land of the Free." In this free land, many of us reside in the "free" state of Kentucky. I say "free" because of our oppressive marijuana laws that make it impossible for many to consider themselves truly free.

It does not take much research to find out that in Kentucky the penalty for 100 grams or less of pot is one year in jail and a \$500 fine, according to the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (www.norml.org). The second offense is an automatic felony. A felony, folks, for consuming a damn plant.

From campus at Northern Kentucky University to the border of Ohio is seven miles. Once you cross the river into the free/democrational state of Ohio, the penalty for 100 grams or less of pot is a \$100 civil citation with no wasted time involving incarceration.

In Ohio, there is not even a consideration of putting a plant in jail until there are 200 or more grams involved. Today, as in the past, the river

divides an oppressive state from a free one. On one side all citizens are suspects in an endless war and on the other side they slap your hand.

Why is it like this? What makes our laws and policies here needlessly concentrate on non-violent offenders who are making their own choices to put something into their bodies?

The reason Kentucky is still using tax dollar resources for enforcing these laws is because of our out of date philosophy on the plant itself. Lawmakers set the law so long ago and have been enforcing it so long that the plant has become inherently "evil."

They figure if they stop enforcing the laws now, then they would have somehow lost the war (which will happen eventually anyway).

Those who set the laws and policy in Frankfort would have you to believe we are

better off spending our tax dollars to send the police driving around in suburbs sniffing the air. In 2004, 700,000 citizens of Kentucky and other "free" states were arrested for possessing marijuana.

Marijuana happens to be the third most popular drug used in the United States behind nicotine and alcohol. Yet in Kentucky we continue to punish these citizens rather than accept them. We would rather continue funneling more money into weapons, task forces, special agents, and prisons to maintain this absurd status quo.

The lack of public outcry to change the existing policies in Kentucky is quite disturbing.

While there is still an abundance of marijuana available there have been plenty of casualties in this war. According to the Christian Science Monitor, persons of Latino and black descent are being jailed up in

an disproportionate amount when compared to the amount to whites jailed for pot crimes. White people do just as many drugs as their Latino and black brothers and sisters yet they are jailed less. Therefore, the war on drugs is also a racist war.

Kentucky is not the "Land of the Free" if you can't decide to put one certain substance into your body that, in my opinion, has proved to be less harmful than either alcohol or tobacco. If you do, you will immediately be involved in a war against you waged by your own government. They will arrest you only seven miles away from a state that has had the sense to realize what a waste it is to incarcerate marijuana users. They will arrest you, take your money, let you back out and arrest you again and again. Write letters to the editor, call your congressmen and inform everyone you can about these nonsensical laws. Then maybe someday we can all smoke in peace.

Nathan Brown
Anthropology

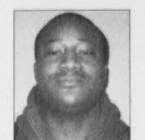
Section Editor
Sarah Loman
859.572.6128

npr

horse poll responses

Compiled by
Brianna Gaddie

Are college students too old to dress up for Halloween?



Adebisi Adesiyun
Senior, CEET

"No, it doesn't matter about college students, but about age. When you have kids in it, when you should let the kids do it."



Bryan Wilson
Sophomore, CEET

"It's a state of mind. If you want to dress up, then do it. If you don't, then you don't have to."



Ronny Young
Sophomore, Graphic Design

"Heck no, I'm dressing up and coming here...as Spiderman"



Sanja Novic
Sophomore, Undecided

"No, I don't think so. I don't think you're ever too old to dress up for Halloween because it's a time to have fun."



Jess Frieth
Junior, Criminal Justice

"No, you're never too old to dress up and fun and bring out the kid in you."



Christina Thompson
Senior, Biology

"Hell, no I dress up anytime I want, even if it's not Halloween."

Mandating religion solves nothing

Fredrik Persson's claim of a large decline in morality due to a libertarian crusade against religion in public schools doesn't hold up to an examination of the facts. The editorial cites juvenile violence as an example of declining morality, yet violent crime rates, among juveniles and overall, have declined considerably over the last couple of decades. Violent crime

rates have declined a couple of percent from last year as well, according to the FBI's 2004 Uniform Crime Report, so this decline is a continuing effect.

While many of us have good personal reasons to believe, the socially beneficial nature of religion is not a good reason to believe. There's no evidence that putting more religion into our public gov-

ernment or schools would decrease the incidence of sexually transmitted diseases or violence. In fact, a recent study of first world jurisdictions in the Journal of Religion and Society by Gregory S. Paul demonstrates a correlation between high rates of religious belief and high rates of STDs and high juvenile and early adult mortality. The study doesn't show that reli-

gion is socially harmful, as it demonstrates correlation and not causation, but the study makes it clear that solving our problems with religion as mandating religion in the public domain.

Janes Walden, Ph.D.
Dept. of Computer Science
Northern Kentucky University
walden@nku.edu



True happiness is a cold Coke

By Sarah Loman

Editor in Chief
mccamersons@nku.edu

"Whaaaat, huh? I wanna hear you scream!" In the jungle, welcome to the jungle. My cell phone is cut off mid-Axle Rose as I flip it open to see who's calling. It's Sean. Again.

"Hey Sean, what's up?" "Hey Sarah, Listen, I think we're going to have some problems with the front page layout."

I concentrate on breathing and pretend that I am not already frustrated by deadlines with classes that constitute my 17 credit hours. I continue cruising the Krogers parking lot looking for a parking space when an old man in an old-man car chooses that moment to pull out of his parking space—directly in front of me. I slam on my brakes, and say something uncomplimentary under my breath while waiting. I blink, then realize that Sean is still talking.

"...and she didn't even let me know." "Er... Sean? Sorry, I'm kinda caught up in something. What was that?"

"I said that Nicole wasn't able to get our dominant image taken because her battery ran out on her digital. She couldn't make it to the

office to replace the batteries on time, and she didn't even let me know."

"I sigh. Great, that's just what I need. I'm going into the recently vacated parking space and shove the car into park when the other line starts beeping.

"Hey, Sean? I've got another call coming in, let me get back to you on that."

"Alright, I'll do what I can and we'll talk about it tomorrow."

I switch over to the other line while stuffing my keys into my purse and locking the doors. It's my husband.

"Hey honey, were you able to pick up a few things and meet you at home?" he asks.

"I'm at Krogers now, I'll pick up a few things and meet you at home."

"Sounds good. I'll see you there. I love you."

"Love you, too."

I drop the phone into my purse, hoping that it'll stay silent for a while longer and march into Krogers.

I've got 30 minutes max before I need to head home, start dinner, throw some laundry in and hopefully read a couple of chapters of Jane Eyre while dinner is cooking. I'm throwing random items of food into the cart hurriedly and swerving around small children when I happen to glance up at the bakery section.

They've got a little refriger-

The Northerner is now accepting personal essays to be printed in the Viewpoints section. Submit your story at northerner@nku.edu. The Northerner reserves the right to edit for content and space.

erator on the counter with glass-bottle Cokes in it. I haven't seen those in forever. I stand there for a moment, then grab one and toss it in the basket of the cart.

When I'm done, I throw all of my items on the belt at the cashier's station quickly and hand over my Krogers card. She holds up my little glass-bottle Coke and asks me if I want to leave it out. Sure, I say. I drop it into my enormous purse, then sign the credit card slip and race back out to the car.

When I've unloaded everything in the trunk, I get back into the car and sit down heavily when I suddenly remember my little Coke.

I fish it out and look at it. *It sure doesn't look like that it did when I was a kid*, I thought wistfully. This Coke was a squat little 10 oz. The ones that I remembered were tall 16 oz. bottles that were hourglass-shaped.

I shrug the thought away and take a big swig. The glass from the bottle clinks against

were kinda heavy and plus—we were on a mission.

Each one of those bottles was worth five cents, and we were allowed to use that money to buy candy. Mom had an agreement with Jay—if we spent more than our refund was worth (which was invariably the case) then he would just add it to her grocery tab the next visit.

Justin and I were blissfully unaware of this arrangement, though. We would wander through the small store agonizing cheerfully over our purchases. We would spin a rack that had paperback books on it and yell, "Money, money!" and pretend that we were on "Wheel of Fortune." We would stand wide-eyed in front of the butcher's window and watch Jay cut meat and wrap it in wax paper. We would look at all the colorful pictures in the few magazines that Jay carried.

Then finally we'd gather up our fistfuls of candy and begin walking home while we glugged ourselves out. Sometimes I would read the Laffy Taffs jokes to Justin on the way home. We'd stick our green and purple colored tongues out at each other and laugh.

In the evenings—some amazing Indiana summer evenings that were filled with the rasp of the cicadas and the smell of freshly-cut hay, Mom and Dad would relax on the

porch, their glass-bottle Cokes making rings on the wood. They would let Justin and I split one, and watch us as we danced barefoot around the front yard, catching fireflies in Mason jars. Justin always caught more than I did.

We would spin around in dizzy circles until we collapsed on the grass, laughing so hard that no sound would come out.

We'd watch the stars spin around our heads until the dizziness melted away, and Dad would point out the constellations with his bottle. Mom would always blow into the top of her Coke bottle, making neat sounds that we always tried to imitate and couldn't.

These memories flashed through my mind in an instant and washed away all of the frustration that I had been feeling. I twisted the cap back on the coke and sat it down, thinking.

Before my cell phone could start ringing again, I turned it off and started for home. They say that these things happen when you get older—that a certain taste or smell will take you back.

I say that if this is what getting older is all about, then maybe it's not so bad. Maybe I'll start buying my cokes in glass bottles from now on.

Thinking About Law School?

Then plan to attend the Cincinnati Metro Law Fair! Representatives from over 40 law schools from around the country will be present to discuss your future in law school. This event is free and open to the public. Parking will be free in any UC garage or the Deaconess Hospital Parking Garage.

What: Cincinnati Metro Law Fair
When: Monday, October 31, 2005
11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Where: Tangeman University Center
Great Hall, Room 465
University of Cincinnati
Consult

www.ohiolawcaravan.org
for driving directions and other details
(Parking will be free in any UC garage or the Deaconess Hospital Parking Garage)

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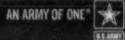
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Who: SFC Kenneth Abruzzini



Design by Josh Jacobs & Stuart MacKenzie

Story by Rich Shivers

WHAT LURKS BE NEATH

I have
studied
at Northern
Kentucky University
for four years now – and
I've always wondered, what
in God's name is below our
university grounds?

"A tunnel," my friends told me.

Some admittedly found their way (usually by accident) and deemed it one of the coolest things about the university. But what really attracted them about the tunnel? Are there classrooms down there? Did they find President James Votruba's secret meeting room? I had to find out for myself.

So, with the help of Associate Director of physical plant Gary Easton, I finally got my first look at this underground phenomenon.

When we began our walk through, Easton said that the tunnel system is a half mile long. I wondered if any walls were tagged by graffiti or if I'd find remnants of squatters. Much to my surprise, these characteristics weren't present, however, the low-lit hallways that stretched into the darkness and the frequent awkward silences between Easton and I gave me an eerie feeling.

It was pretty toasty down there too – and the low hum of machinery and pipes all around us nearly drowned out our conversation at times.

After much gawking, I asked Easton what the actual purpose of the tunnels are.

"It's a mechanical space primarily for distributing mail, for moving materials and products," he replied.

"Most of the food service contractors that we've had on campus have used the tunnels to bring most of their food and supplies through the tunnel system."

We moved on.

DOWN UNDER

Before I knew it after Easton opened a door, we were in Landrum near the journalism lab (room 103).

As we progressed through the tunnel, we passed a heaping pile of Mac and PC computers (Tip: Easton said the Department of Purchasing has a surplus sale every so often.) Easton then revealed the loading dock at the tail end of Stealy Library.

Finally, our tour, as well as the tunnel itself, ended near Founders Hall.

It went quickly, probably because I was so enthralled. The tunnel itself is pretty plain, probably because it's just a service system. I didn't discover anything out of the ordinary, not dead bodies or incriminating items, but I impressively absorbed a great deal of campus history.

ACCESS DENIED

Though students have accessed the tunnel (and probably still do), according to the NKU policy number 190, issued July 27, 2005, "authorized personnel have access to the

tunnels) for maintenance, inspection, security and delivery purposes only. These tunnels are not intended to provide pedestrian access between buildings or to be open to the public."

All of the doors that lead to tunnels are locked. To gain access to the tunnels, a person must fill out a Tunnel Access Request Form, the assistant vice president for facilities management, director of police and public safety and vice president for administration and finance, the registrar's department head and vice president must sign the form.

Easton warns that if a person is caught and is not authorized to use the tunnels, that person is subject to disciplinary action.

"It's off-limits primarily for the liability issue, because of the mechanicals that run the full lengths of this tunnel," he said. "We don't want but a limited number of people in the tunnels. We've got so many valves for high pressure steam, chilled water ... all of the pumps that are pretty accessible and there's too much opportunity for an accident."

ADDITIONS PENDING

"There will probably still be some use by the faculty because they have material that they need to move from building to building," he added.

In his 19 years of employment at NKU, Easton said that there's never been an incident in these underground hallways.

"We've got people moving through the tunnels pretty much all the time ... even during the weekend, late at night and the early mornings," he said.

Easton said that the Department of Physical Plant established the tunnel system in 1976, when Stealy Library and Landrum were first built.

"As the university added buildings, they would take the tunnel system to those buildings," he said.

Currently nine buildings are connected through the tunnels. Director of Physical Plant Glen Haywood said that NKU "may extend the tunnel system to Nunn Hall, the future student union, and the future sports center."

Section Editors
Amy Ehrnreiter &
Stuart MacKenzie
859.572.5859

arts&entertainment

Starting a small business easy as 1,2,3

By Rich Shivenor

Staff Writer
shivenerr@nku.edu

Within walking distance from Northern Kentucky University lies a road for entrepreneurs to follow. It'll lead them to the Small Business Development Center on Johns Hill Road. Affiliated with NKU for 17 years, the center's staff assists people who want to start a small business.

"I think if we had a mission statement, it would be to add new jobs and retain jobs in the Northern Kentucky community," said Tom Burke, director of the SBDC.

"New business owners, those that are going to start a business and those existing businesses that may need some help in their expansion."

"Without that, the bank is going to send (people) back," Burke said. "In a nice way, the bank is going to say, 'Don't waste my time. I'm not going to give you a loan with what you've given me.'"

Just be prepared, Burke stressed. Know what a loan request is and how much money you can contribute individually. "The bank wants money in the deal," Burke said. "The golden rule of finance is - those who have the gold make the rules." Burke hinted that banks typically require a person to put up 20 percent of the desired loan.

"The banks always want to know what their exit strategy is," Burke warned. "So if they're going to give somebody a loan, they want to know if (someone defaults), how are they going to get out of (the deal with the person)?"

Additionally, understanding your credit is important. Burke said all U.S. citizens are entitled to a free annual credit report. If your credit turns out to be poor, then you don't stand a chance, Burke said.

Seminar Schedule

- "Secrets to Starting a Successful Small Business," 6 to 9 p.m., Oct. 27
- "Building a Better Business Series," 6 to 9 p.m. Nov. 3, 10 and 17
- Note: Both are held at BEP in room 461.
- Water Cooler Talks (held in the Chamber center located at Buttermilk Pike, Suite 330, Ft. Mitchell).
- "Selling Skills for Non-Sales People," 8 to 9:30 a.m. Nov. 3.
- "How to Get Decision Makers to Stop and Listen," 8 to 9:30 a.m. Dec. 7.
- "Getting Motivated to Move Your Business Forward in the New Year," 8 to 9:30 a.m. Jan. 5.

2. Get a Business Plan

"One of things we do very well, compared to other places, is putting together a business plan," said Sam Asmah, assistant director of the SBDC.

A business plan includes obtaining licenses and permits and deciding on your business structure (sole proprietorship, general partnership, limited partnership, etc.).

"The business puts all of those things together in a package (literally)," Burke said.

"It encompasses so much ... (including) personal financial statements, a summary of your own management experiences, your tax return from the last number of years, a copy of your credit report."

If you have no clue as to how to put a business plan together, Burke and Asmah can train you.

"That's probably 80 percent of what our counseling sessions entail - everything that goes into the business plan," Burke said. "So we can provide with lots of information of preparation of the business plan..."

3. Getting the Loan

Once you're ready to execute a business plan, Burke said, then you're ready to apply for a loan, if needed, from a bank.

Burke said even if your business plan is stellar and you are prepared to convince the bank that you need a loan, the lack of assets, or money, is unacceptable.

"Without that, the bank is going to send (people) back," Burke said. "In a nice way, the bank is going to say, 'Don't waste my time. I'm not going to give you a loan with what you've given me.'"

Just be prepared, Burke stressed. Know what a loan request is and how much money you can contribute individually. "The bank wants money in the deal," Burke said. "The golden rule of finance is - those who have the gold make the rules." Burke hinted that banks typically require a person to put up 20 percent of the desired loan.

"The banks always want to know what their exit strategy is," Burke warned. "So if they're going to give somebody a loan, they want to know if (someone defaults), how are they going to get out of (the deal with the person)?"

Additionally, understanding your credit is important. Burke said all U.S. citizens are entitled to a free annual credit report. If your credit turns out to be poor, then you don't stand a chance, Burke said.

1. Attend the Seminars

Burke said the SBDC hosts approximately 30 free seminars a year. Most seminars are held at NKU, but some are on remote locations around Northern Kentucky.

Topics include "Building a Better Business," "Secrets to Starting a Successful Small Business" and "Small Business Marketing Mastery." Moreover, the center hosts "Water Cooler Talks," which are 90-minute seminars co-sponsored by the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce.



Illustrations from KRT

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Children, Inc. School Age Services, Kentucky's largest before and after school care provider, is hiring for positions in 45 elementary schools in 4 Northern Kentucky counties.

Scholarships Available for NKU Education, Human Services and Social Work Majors

Children, Inc. School Age Services will be selecting 15 NKU students to work in paid positions in After School Programs. These students will also receive up to \$2000 in tuition scholarships each school year. Contact Kelly Lang at Children, Inc., 859-431-2075 ext. 31 to learn how to apply for your scholarship.

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Must be 18, adaptable, creative and able to work in a fast-paced environment. Duties include planning activities for school age children. \$8 - \$10.00/hr.

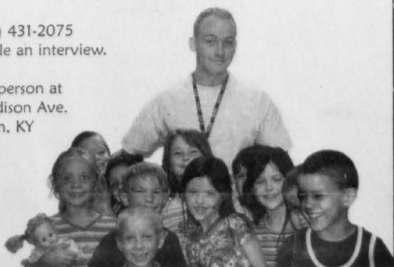
Aide

Must be 16 years old. This position assists Site Director in all aspects of programming. \$6 - \$7.50/hr.

*All personal development training paid.

Call (859) 431-2075 to schedule an interview.

Apply in person at
1053 Madison Ave.
Covington, KY
41011



TOP FIVE
WEEKEND
countdown



5. Check out the Key-board Kleidoscope concert at Greaves Concert Hall featuring students of Sergei Polunin. Tickets are \$3 for students.

4. Rock on at Jack Quinn's Halloween Show Saturday, Oct. 29. Three bands are jammin' and a tarot card reader will be present. Tickets are \$6.

3. In the mood for a ghostly movie? Head down to AMC Theater for the opening of "Saw II" Friday, Oct. 28.

2. Runners: If you're bold, hightail it through Walnut Hills Cemetery for the 14th annual "Run like Hell" race at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28. Visit www.cynrunkhell.com for details.

1. It's Halloween weekend, and you know what that means. Party! Since we have school on Halloween Day, check out parties at clubs around town this weekend. Shame on you if haven't visited a haunted house yet.

For questions, comments or suggestions for Rich's Top Five Weekend Countdown, you can contact Rich Shivener at shivener@nku.edu



Candi Oakley oversees 15 monitors at Newport's USS Nightmare.

NKU senior 'controls' the USS Nightmare

By Rich Shivener
Staff Writer
shivener@nku.edu

During the month of October, Candi Oakley dresses in all black Wednesday through Sunday.

She's not practicing any religion or mourning for a loved one — she's working at the USS Nightmare, located on Newport Riverfront. Oakley involved herself with the haunted boat after dating one of the actors.

In her four years of employment, this Northern Kentucky University senior has taken on the role of virtually every character. And yes, she has played the infamous Rat Lady.

Unlike a performing arts theater, the actors and actresses don't run through

intense rehearsals. "The directors go through and give you tactics to use," she said. "Your main goal is to usually startle people; if you can't do that, you try and make them laugh or try to scare them."

This year, Oakley opted for a solo position in the control room.

"In the control room, you sit and watch the (15) monitors ... and you just keep an eye on them, making sure the actors are doing what they are doing and making sure the customers aren't harming the actors," she said.

"One of our first nights open I had three emergency buttons going off," she recalled. "I had to turn on the house lights to find a lost child, plus I had to call an ambulance from a prior emergency."

Besides the occasional drama, Oakley said her job is actually pretty easygoing.

"They have an air blaster in one of the hallways that I can control to scare people," she said with a smile. "If the actors know that there is a camera by them, they'll often times makes faces at me and dance in front of it."

And though she's gained tons of experience, she said, her co-workers are more than acquaintances.

"It's fun. (During) the six weeks, it's like a big family reunion," Oakley said. "(The cast) get together and (go out) ... It's just so much fun."

"Probably the most positive thing that I've gained out of it is the life-long friends. There are people that I've met, and I talk to them year-round now."

The FIX

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

Are they or aren't they? Reality TV royalty Jessica Simpson and Nick Lachey have been the subject of tabloid curiosity lately when the two were spotted several times around town in Los Angeles alone and sans wedding rings! Life and Style Weekly reports that Simpson received a call from her husband on Sept. 27 before boarding a flight to Los Angeles, and Lachey told Simpson, "It's over." A fellow passenger on the plane witnessed Simpson crying on best friend Cacee Cobb's shoulder at the news, and an insider who interviewed the witness told Life and Style that "Nick told Jessica that 'Nick told Jessica that it's obvious their marriage isn't working, and...he's fed up with not being able to trust her, with her constant partying, how much money she spends and who she spends her time with.' Representatives of both stars say the account is "absolutely false."

Call it a Freudian slip. Alias star Jennifer Garner and husband Ben Affleck are expecting a girl, a fact that was unsubstantiated until the actress herself let it slip on Jay Leno's Tonight Show Sept. 27 when she said "You can start to feel really pregnant, like you are the hugest person on the face of the planet. I felt bigger and bigger like she..." At which point the audience roared, and the star covered her mouth in shock. Guess she let the cat out of the bag, or the baby out of the belly, so to speak.

British actor Orlando Bloom got a taste of Kentucky's Bible Belt while filming his new movie "Elizabethton" in various locales around The Bluegrass State. The 28-year-old met many native Kentuckians during the shoot. The natives responded to Bloom in various ways, from presenting the actor with homemade pie, and offering to save his soul! Bloom told People Magazine, "Somebody tried to save my soul at a gas station. [Director] Cameron Crowe asked the guy, 'Did you see Lord of the Rings?' The guy says, 'No, try me again.' Cameron says, 'Pirates of the Caribbean?' The guy says, 'No, but if he's from Hollywood, he needs some soul saving.'"



Serena Williams

Quote of the Week:

"I'll never be a size 0, and I'm OK with that. When I look in the mirror, I see a confident young lady who can conquer whatever she puts her mind to."

-Serena Williams

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New James Bond 'seems more real'

By Chris Vognar
Detroit Free Press
northern@nku.edu

He's a younger, blonder Bond, a cool customer with genuine acting chops. But most moviegoers share the same question about the next 007.

Who is Daniel Craig? His biggest and best roles to date haven't been in blockbusters, although he did do "Tomb Raider" duty with Angelina Jolie. The 6-foot, blue-eyed Englishman played a witness to a horrific air balloon accident in 2004's "Enduring Love." He was a jealous, ill-tempered gangster in 2003's

"Road to Perdition," and a highly professional coke dealer in this year's "Layer Cake." It was this last part that really showcased the stuff that Bonds are made of: Sly confidence, coolness under pressure, a nonchalant way of disposing with problems.

Nothing against Sean Connery, Roger Moore and Pierce Brosnan, or even George Lazenby and Timothy Dalton. They all put their stamp on one of film's most prescribed parts.

But Craig just seems a little more ... real. You felt his menace and lack of smarts in "Road to Perdition," but you also felt his anguish at being



Daniel Craig

overlooked by his gangster father (Paul Newman). He let you soak up his unflappable tenacity in "Layer Cake," but he also allowed a view of the cracks in the facade when crisis called.

West confronts injustice issues

By Kelley L. Carter
Detroit Free Press
northern@nku.edu

Kanye West has something to rap about. Critics and fans alike knew that from the first spins of "Through the Wire," the debut single the hip-hop producer released under his own name in 2004 at a time when he was known mostly for the studio work he did for other artists.

In song, he touches on topics dealing with spirituality, racism and issues plaguing U.S. inner cities.

And in public forums, he has talked politics, most recently making controversial comments blasting the federal government's response to Hurricane Katrina, suggesting that it and the news media coverage of the disaster were racist.

West is considered a conscious rapper, someone who stays away from constantly rhyming about money, women and drugs or glorifying a gangsta sensibility. Instead, he makes what many consider backpack hip-hop: the kind of go-against-the-grain music that often has a hard time getting airtime and selling.

Still, his does His 2004 debut "College Dropout" sold nearly 3 million copies. His current album, "Late Registration," has been in the Top 10 since its debut six weeks ago and is expected to be one of the biggest albums of the year. (It debuted at No. 1, selling an impressive 860,000 copies in its first

week alone.)

One thing is certain: Hip-hop just happens to be the forum that West uses to let people know of his take on politics, social injustices, relationships and racism.

There's no gimmick to that, said West. What he says, he means. And editing it would undercut its intent.

"God taps me on my shoulder," sometimes says. "Yo, I want you to talk about this." West said. "And the way He does it, it's ... more like He places angels in my life, and it feels like the movie 'The Sixth Sense.' He is like, 'This is for you to deliver.'"

The rapper ad-libbed some pretty shocking statements during a live telethon to raise money for victims of Hurricane Katrina. A visibly emotional West also expressed his disgust at disparaging media portrayals of black and white victims.

"I hate the way they portray us in the media. You see a black family, it says, 'They're looting.' You see a white family, it says, 'They're looking for food.'"

West continued talking. His co-host, actor Mike Myers, stuck to script and was clearly startled. When the camera came back to West, he again deviated from the

prepared words, delivering the sentence:

"George Bush doesn't care about black people."

In a way, the telethon flap was a mainstream look inside the rapper's mind, a mixture of truth and personal conspiracy theories rooted in America's racist history. The comments fit into the context of who West has always been: someone who follows his own instincts for good or for ill in politics, music or whatever.

His new album, "Late Registration," is essentially a sound track of urban blight and hope and celebration. In a spoken-word delivery, West spits verses over melodic 40-piece string sets, 30-piece horn sets and DJ scratches, giving birth, in a way, to a new sound for hip-hop. His album is a catalyst for an evocative political platform.

"My subject matter," said West, who talked to the Detroit Free Press two weeks before his Katrina comments, "is like a politician. And it's basically like if you, the fan, were talking to the screen. I'm speaking for that person over these beats."

As ill-timed as West's outspokenness might have been, his album was released the same week, commercially it didn't hurt him at all. His single, "Gold Digger," which has been on the charts for 13 weeks, remains the No. 1 song on the Billboard Hot 100 singles chart. His album is No. 6.

Carving tips for Halloween



Without a doubt the most recognizable symbol of Halloween is a jack-o'-lantern. Whether it's carving a pumpkin to sit in your window or holding a carving party with your friends and family, Woman's Day magazine provides the following tips to help you make yours stand out.

- Prolong a carved pumpkin's life by lathering the inside of the shell and cut areas with petroleum jelly.
- For easy cleanup set the pumpkin on several layers of newspaper before carving.
- Avoid cutting mouths that are large open spaces or very long horizontally. They weaken the pumpkin at the bottom and can make it collapse.
- To prevent a fire hazard, use battery-operated candles to light the pumpkin.
- Small children can make jack-o'-lantern faces by attaching vegetables, fruit or candy with toothpicks instead of cutting. Try cucumber or squash slices for the eyes, a green bean for the nose and candy corn for teeth.

Source: KRT campus
From Woman's Day magazine

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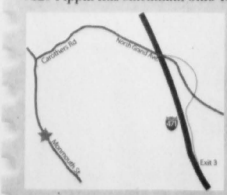
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