

Northern Kentucky University

THE NORTHERNER

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Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Pace reorganizes SGA staff

Tobergta named VP for public relations, Fegan to serve as chief justice

By AMANDA VANBENSCHOTEN
Editor in Chief
nkunews@yahoo.com

Student Government Association President Chris Pace appointed Executive Vice President Eric Fegan to the judicial council and Sen. Mike Tobergta to Vice President for Public Relations at the April 26 SGA meeting.

The Senate approved the appointments, and both will assume their

positions immediately. Tobergta will hold his position until June 30, and Fegan's is a three-semester appointment. Pace also proposed Fegan as the council's chief justice, which the Senate approved.

Tobergta said his primary goal will be to "get a message out to students" at the May 12 Board of Regents meeting, where the board will vote on a pro-



Fegan

"There are no hard feelings between (Andy and me) about what happened."



Mike Tobergta Tobergta

posed tuition increase, on the proposed new SGA constitution and also, potentially, on the outcome of this month's SGA election.

He also said he would like to raise awareness of SGA by attending upcoming Transitions events for incoming freshmen, and also to update the organization's display cases around campus.

He hopes to make "a smooth transition into administration, giving them more options to get things off the ground."

Tobergta said that despite his prominent role in the impeachment of former Vice President for Public Relations Andy Hixon, "there are no hard feelings between us about what happened."

He said he hopes that SGA will move forward next semester under Hixon's leadership.

Pace said he chose Tobergta for the position "because of all the work he's done."

See APPOINT, page 3

Night of the stars



Photo contributed by Office of Student Life

The Presidential Ambassadors were one of ten organizations presented with a Merit Award at the Student Organization Celebration April 21. Katie Herschede (third from left) took home Two Awards: Outstanding Senior and Outstanding Leader. Other award recipients included Kate Brodbeck (Outstanding Freshman), Jon Thiem (Outstanding Sophomore), Dustin Lewis (Outstanding Junior) and Jon Wright (Outstanding Graduate/Law Student). Delta Gamma Sorority claimed the night's coveted title, receiving the Award of Distinction.

Fundraiser to benefit hospital

Students and organizations wanted for new program developing at NKU

By JUSTIN ROBERTS
Reporter
northerner@nku.edu

Students at Northern Kentucky University are participating in a nationwide philanthropy project to help benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Up 'til Dawn is a student-led

project hoping to raise money for children battling different forms of cancer.

"The program is starting from the ground up; it's new at NKU this year," said Stephanie McGoldrick, faculty adviser. "Students from all over the country are raising money to help with cancer research."

Up 'til Dawn is currently in the organizational stages of

development but is already scheduled to be an annual event at NKU.

Participants will be organized into groups of up to six people, and required to raise at least \$750 per group.

"This seems like a lot of money, but when \$750 is divided up between six people it's really not that difficult," McGoldrick said.

The main source of fundraising for the project is primarily through letter writing. "St. Jude makes it easy for us to fundraise," McGoldrick said. "They provide the stationary for the letters to be written on and tell us what to say, so really the student is just responsible for signing off on 30 letters."

See DAWN, page 3

SGA: No tuition rise

Senate votes against Votruba's recommended 16.7% increase

By C.J. FRYER
News Editor
cjf@northerner@nku.edu

Student Government Association voted April 26 to stand "firmly against" the tuition increase of 16.7 percent recommended last week by Northern Kentucky University President James Votruba.

The recommendation, which will go before the Board of Regents May 12 for approval, would add an extra \$624 to in-state tuition for the 2004/2005 academic year, bringing the cost of tuition

from \$3,744 to \$4,368 per year for full-time undergraduate students.

By a vote of 19-6-1, the Senate passed then-Executive Vice President Erik Fegan's proposed resolution, which expresses disapproval of the tuition recommendation.

"I feel the majority of students at this university care about their education, and not much more," Fegan said.

The tuition increase would help alleviate Votruba's proposed budget increase of nearly \$13.7 million. The university's current budget is \$125 million.

See TUITION, page 3

Votruba has recommended the increase in order to sustain the university's momentum, enhance its quality and capacity, and protect against future uncertainty.

The tuition increase will offset \$10.5 million of the budget increase.

Fegan's resolution acknowledged that opposing the tuition recommendation "may result in somewhat larger class

sizes and a decrease in hiring of full-time faculty," but went on to say, "We accept these consequences and strongly prefer lower tuition."

Fegan said that most students simply want to get a degree.

According to Votruba, that's not the case. "Student government is not speaking on behalf of all students," Votruba said.

Votruba said that many students have personally talked to him and made it clear that they do not want to compromise the quality of education at the university.

SGA Vice President for Public Relations Mike Tobergta said affordability is one of the most important factors in students' decisions to attend NKU.

"I'm not here to learn about multiculturalism. I'm not here

Students feel 'inconvenienced' by lack of computers

By NICK EADS
Reporter
northerner@nku.edu

With a new \$42 million arena, a new student center and several other campus improvements in development, social work students are left wondering, what about us?

"When things need to change, sometimes it takes a

community to come together and press those in charge to get it done," said senior social work major Robert McAlonan.

For years, students studying social work, human services, respiratory therapy and radiology have shared the computer lab in the Albright Health Center room 320.

So what's the big deal? There are only six computers. And with short operating

hours and lack of paper it makes getting research and projects completed a difficult task.

The results of a recent survey conducted by Dr. Daniel Payne's social work 594 class showed an overwhelming majority of students felt inconvenienced by the lack of technology.

When the social work students contacted the Information Technology Department regarding their concerns, IT was under

the impression that there were 12 computers in the lab.

According to IT Administrative Assistant Barb Korpiak, there are no current plans to update or expand the lab.

The Albright Health Center does have another lab on the third floor that contains 21 computers.

There are programs on the computers specifically designed for nursing students to

help them with their studies, said Cheryl Colpenhein, nursing coordinator.

Occasionally, other students do have access to the nursing lab for testing purposes, but otherwise it is reserved.

"The other (computer) labs on campus are almost always full," McAlonan said.

Currently, opens labs can be found in the Business, Education and Psychology

building, the Old Science building, the Science and Technology building and the library.

"My classes are in the (Albright) Health Center, so to go across campus is an inconvenience," said McAlonan.

Social work students are hoping that their voices will be heard and they can gain the technological resources they need.

War of the Cicadas

The staff of The Northerner examines what these bugs are, why they plague us, and what you can do to stave off the swarm of inconvenience they will bring this summer.

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dpsreports

APR 25 2004
Sunday 2:56 p.m.
 Classification: COMPLAINT RECEIVED
 Location: PARKING LOT J
 Disposition: Under Investigation
 Summary: Subject reported his vehicle was struck by the door of another vehicle causing the paint to be chipped. The driver of the second vehicle left the area prior to the officer's arrival.

APR 24 2004
Saturday 6:12 p.m.
 Classification: FIRE ALARM
 Location: UNIVERSITY SUITES
 Disposition: Closed
 Summary: A fire alarm was received at the listed location. Officers and Central Campbell County Fire Department responded. The cause of the alarm was determined to be an overheated hair dryer. No evidence of smoke or fire was found. CCCFD cleared the area and allowed for re-entry. The Kentucky State Fire Marshall was notified by email.

APR 24 2004
Saturday 8:03 a.m.
 Classification: AUTO ACCIDENT
 Location: KENTON DRIVE AT PARKING LOT M
 Disposition: Closed
 Summary: A non-injury auto accident between two (2) vehicles occurred at the listed location. Both vehicles remained in service.

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

campusbriefs

NKU event raises money to fight cancer
 Through generous contributions and help from hundreds of participants, organizers of the Relay For Life announced the event was successful in raising \$7,500 for the American Cancer Society, according to an ACS news release. The overnight event was held at Northern Kentucky University April 16.

The relay began with more than 10 cancer survivors leading a first victory lap around a track in the Albright Health Center, followed by 10 teams staying on the track relay-style for 12 hours, according to the news release.

Covington Latin received the award for highest fundraising team with \$1,800, and Alpha Delta Gamma won the award for best camp site.

SGA online book exchange operational
 The Student Government Association book exchange is now open for Northern Kentucky University students, faculty and staff to buy and sell textbooks via the Internet. The book exchange Web site offers auctions set up much like eBay in which visitors can browse through categories to bid on textbooks for upcoming semesters or sell old textbooks from previous courses.

Book titles, descriptions and photos are listed with the starting and current bid, along with the closing date and current time left on the auction.

To use the book exchange, buyers and sellers must register online with an @nku.edu e-mail address, create a username and consent to abide by the user agreement policy. To access the book exchange, visit nkusa.org and click on the book exchange link at the top of the page.

SGA budget 'running thin,' some missing funds accounted for
 Vice President for Administrative Affairs Joe

Myers said April 26 that the balance in the Student Government Association's budget is still "up in the air," and that there are not sufficient funds left for many major expenditures. He said the budget is "running thin," although he could not provide the Senate with an estimated dollar amount. On April 13, he announced that approximately \$1,000 or \$1,800 was missing from the budget. On April 26, he revealed several expenditures to account for a portion of that amount, including \$565 for dinner during the SGA spring retreat and nearly \$600 spent on the student rally in Frankfort in February.

nationalbriefs

\$50 bill sees facelift

The new \$50 bill featuring hints of red and blue was unveiled Monday as part of an initiative to deter counterfeiting, according to the Associated Press.

The new \$50 is the same size as the previous design and still portrays Ulysses S. Grant on the front and the U.S. Capitol on the back, but without borders around them.

A field of blue stars and three red stripes are located to the left and right of Grant's portrait on the front of the bill, and small yellow 50s are scattered across the back.

New security features include embedded thread, color-changing ink and watermarks.

The \$50 bill is the second of the nation's paper currencies to receive a makeover following the \$20 bill.

"Friends" finale attracts advertisers

Advertisers are paying the NBC television network an average of \$2 million per 30 seconds of commercial time during the May 6 finale of the 10-year-old sitcom "Friends," according to Reuters wire service.

Advertisers are showing interest in the time slot because of the potential to reach an enormous audience that is less likely to walk away from the television during the commercials, according to Reuters.

It is estimated that 40 million to 50 million viewers will watch the final episode.

The record amount paid was \$2.3 million for 30 seconds during this year's CBS telecast of the Super Bowl championship of the National Football League.

New members join Northerner ranks



Emily Chalfant



Jonathan Divita



Josh Blair



Amy Ehreiter



Kyle Brown



Matt Steffen

By D.J. CARTER
 Reporter
northerner@nku.edu

The Northerner will reorganize its staff and add several new members for the fall 2004 semester.

Junior journalism major Emily Chalfant will sign on as editor in chief.

She served as assistant news editor this semester and has been involved with the paper for three years.

"The Northerner has improved incredibly over the

past year, and I just hope we can continue to publish a quality paper," she said.

Senior journalism major Jonathan Divita will serve as executive editor.

He was assistant features editor this semester, which was his first working for the paper. "I just want things to continue to run smoothly and to have some fun," he said.

Crystal Smith will be business manager and oversee the advertising and billing for The Northerner. She worked as an office assistant for the paper this semester.

Smith was not available for a photo and is not pictured above.

Other Northerner staff appointments are:

Junior journalism and speech major Josh Blair as arts and entertainment editor, freshman Amy Ehreiter for assistant arts and entertainment editor, junior journalism major Brianna Bodine as layout/design editor, and freshman art major Mike Brennan as webmaster/design editor. Tony Redell and Tim Downer will return as photo editor and assistant photo editor. John Rasp will continue to write his *Hot Seat* and Mike Maydak will draw *Slamline*.

The Northerner is still hiring for the fall semester. Students can apply at UC 209.

secondary education major C.J. Fryer as news editor, senior journalism major Susan Neltner as features editor, junior journalism major Brianna Bodine as layout/design editor, and freshman art major Mike Brennan as webmaster/design editor. Tony Redell and Tim Downer will return as photo editor and assistant photo editor. John Rasp will continue to write his *Hot Seat* and Mike Maydak will draw *Slamline*.

The Northerner is still hiring for the fall semester. Students can apply at UC 209.

The Northerner is still hiring for the fall semester. Students can apply at UC 209.

It's finally time...

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Graduation Guide

32nd Commencement Exercises

Saturday, May 15, 2004

10:00 a.m. at U.S. Bank Arena in Cincinnati, Ohio



Graduates

- Graduates must arrive no later than 8:30 a.m. Enter the arena via the street-level doors off Broadway or the Concourse Level near the East Garage
- Pick up a name card, which tells you where you'll be seated, according to college & degree
- Leave personal belongings with guests

Guests

- Should enter at Concourse level
- No tickets necessary
- Seating first come, first served
- Not allowed on arena floor
- Ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. and last approximately two hours

Miscellaneous

- Order announcements at the NKU Bookstore or by calling 1-800-353-5299
- Each candidate must have a cap, gown and tassel, which can be purchased at the NKU Bookstore through May 14
- Master's candidates must have an appropriate hood
- Associate's & Bachelor's: \$21.00
- Master's: \$41.00

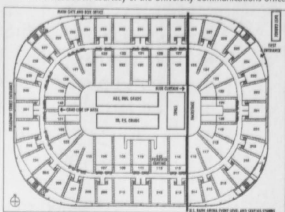
Parking

- East Garage, adjacent to the arena
- Western-Southern garages two blocks north of the arena
- Public landing next to arena
- Any other areas downtown

Diplomas

- Available after June 28, 2004

Photos/illustration courtesy of the University Communications office



Directions to U.S. Bank Arena

U.S. Bank Arena is located directly across the river from the Newport Aquarium and Newport on the Levee and next to the Great American Ballpark and Paul Brown Stadium.

From I-75 South:

Take the Second Street exit. Stay in the right lane and follow Second Street until it ends at Pete Rose Way, right in front of U.S. Bank Arena or take the Freeman Avenue exit. Freeman Avenue ends at Mehring Way. Go left on Mehring Way. U.S. Bank Arena is on the left, after passing Paul Brown Stadium and Cinergy Field.

From I-71 South:

Take the Gilbert Avenue exit. Turn right at light by bus station onto East Court Street. Turn left onto Reedy Street, the first street on left. Turn left at light onto Eggleston Avenue. Follow Eggleston until it ends at Pete Rose Way, turn right at light. Follow Pete Rose Way and U.S. Bank Arena will be on your left.

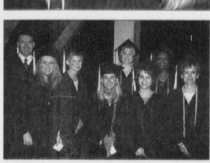
From I-75 North:

Take the Second Street exit. Stay in the right lane and follow Second Street until it ends at Pete Rose Way, right in front of U.S. Bank Arena.

From I-471 North:

Stay in right lane across bridge. Follow North I-75/West US 50 exit. Stay right and exit on 3rd Street. Turn left at corner onto Broadway. U.S. Bank Arena is at the corner of Broadway and Pete Rose Way.

Some information/directions compiled from the U.S. Bank Arena Web site at www.usbankarena.com and the NKU Web site at www.nku.edu.



Tuition *Continued from page one*

to learn about to expand my mind," said Tobertga. "I'm here because I want to get an education."

"That is why I'm here. That is why a lot of people are here," Votruba said that he doesn't like proposing a tuition increase of 16.7 percent, but he has to consider what the consequences would be of implementing it versus not.

"I'm doing everything I can to keep tuition as low as possible while also protecting the quality and capacity of current programs," he said.

Votruba said it is a "difficult balancing act," but he believes the proposed budget has done a good job keeping NKU affordable without compromising its quality.

Vice President for Administrative Affairs Joe Myers said that administrators are basing the budget increase solely upon the future of the institution.

"We can either represent the interest of the future of the uni-

versity... at the sacrifice of tuition costs for the current students, or we can represent our current constituency," Myers said.

"Maybe (standing against the recommendation) is not the best thing for the future of the university, but it is the best thing for students that are here."

Votruba believes this claim is a "false dichotomy." He said it is not an "either-or thing," rather he is considering both the present and the future of university.

He said that if some SGA officials examined the budget more closely, they would realize the immediate consequences they would face next year should the university fail to increase tuition.

SGA President Chris Pace, who also serves as student regent, will take the Senate's decision to the May 12 Board of Regents meeting.

"I think (the university is) going in the right direction," Pace said. "Any disagreement I may have with the president is simply how fast do we need to get where we're going."

Fegan isn't sure how much of an effect the Senate's decision will have on the Board of Regents.

"I hope that the administration will at least take the information that we've provided into consideration," Fegan said.

Votruba said the proposed tuition increase recommendation is even lower than what

was originally discussed with the Board of Regents, and said many regents he has talked to see it as a "responsible recommendation."

Votruba said the board will want to hear from Pace, but it will not want to see quality compromised either.

Votruba was present at the SGA meeting while senators debated the tuition increase. "I thought the dialogue was constructive," Votruba said. "I thought the students on both sides of the issue made a good point."

However, Votruba said it might have been beneficial for senators to have him actively involved in the discussion, simply to give answers to questions, not necessarily to advocate the administration's position.

Votruba said that if invited, he plans on attending SGA meetings more frequently next year to be available for senators' questions.

Appoint *Continued from page one*

"Mike's here about two hours a week just doing stuff for us," he said. "If there's anything he's proven, it's that he likes to work."

Fegan said he has "mixed emotions" about assuming the position of chief justice because it is a challenging job, but he welcomes the opportunity.

"It's the only part of SGA I don't have any experience in," he said. "It takes the politics out; you don't technically have a constituency. It'll be nice to not worry about voting."

He said that if next year's administration asks him to take a more active role in SGA, he would like to push toward establishing SGA courts to hear students' appeals on parking tickets, discipline and academics.

Fegan said he has not officially conceded the election to opponent Hixson, but would support him if the Board of Regents decides next month to uphold the administration's election results.

Pace announced the resignation of Chief Justice Dave Caddell at the meeting. Caddell said he had decided to resign primarily because he needs to take a class which conflicts with the SGA weekly meetings.

"It's been a good year," he told the Senate. "I had fun working with y'all."

Caddell was chief justice of the judicial council during its most tumultuous semester yet: the council ruled on the constitutionality of the Senate's ratification of a new constitution, on the impeachment of Hixson (twice), and on Hixson's removal from SGA.

It also ruled on Hixson's eligibility to be elected SGA president, which remains a topic of debate between the SGA Election Committee and university administration.

"Dave really made great strides this year," Fegan said. "The chief justice position is tough."

Hixson could not be reached for comment.

Dawn *Continued from page one*

All funding efforts lead up to a finale event to celebrate the earnings and stay "up 'til dawn."

The date has not yet been set for the finale because it is not going to take place until some time next year, according to McGoldrick.

The project is hoping to attract students from student organizations, fraternities and sororities, as well as any students who just want to sign up. NKU student Tiffany Jones was recently selected to serve as the Executive Director of the Up 'til Dawn project.

One of the responsibilities of the Executive Director is to help choose the students that will assist her on the Executive Board.

The positions on the Executive Board range from

assistant directors to fundraising to public relations, and applications for these positions are being accepted until April 9, 2004.

"The board will be organizing everything," said McGoldrick.

"This will be an excellent resume builder for anyone on the board, and anyone who participates in the project as well."

The minimum goal for the first year of the project is \$30,000. McGoldrick was adamant about

not putting a maximum goal on how much money she thought students at NKU could raise.

"We are a school with over 14,000 students—other schools of that size have raised close to \$70,000. I don't want to put a cap on how much we'd like to raise."

CORRECTIONS

Assistant Photo Editor Tim Downer was incorrectly listed as the photographer for the April 21 Norse Poll (page 5).

Photographers Mark Bennett and Jeremy Mize assembled the pool.

The staff of The Northerner would like to apologize for any inconvenience or misunderstanding this inaccuracy may have caused.

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The Cooperative Education Program wishes congratulations to all of the NKU students who earned academic credit while gaining valuable work experience.

What NKU students say about the experience:

- Co-op is one of the most important experiences that any student could have.
- I've learned a lot. I like getting college credit for on the job learning.
- Great opportunity to apply classroom training with real world atmosphere.
- Had a great experience and plan to work there after graduation.
- What a great combination - the learning experience with great pay.
- The networking that was available to me has been amazing.
- They never expected me to know everything - they were always willing to train and teach me.
- As I progressed in the semester they saw potential in me to grow and take on new tasks.
- Asset to my educational experience - I recommend to everyone.

The **Cooperative Education Program** wishes to thank to the employers participating and supporting the academic and career growth of NKU students:

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Department of
Technology Co-op
Program
AS&T Room 237
<http://www.nku.edu/%7etechnology/>

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WHERE ACADEMICS MEET EXPERIENCE

northernerstaff

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Amanda VanBenschoten
[nkunesu@nku.edu]

NEWS EDITOR

C.J. Fryer
[cjf@northerner@fuse.net]

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Emily Chalant
[chalant01@nku.edu]

FEATURES EDITOR

Susan Nidner
[nku_features@yahoo.com]

ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

Jonathan Divita
[divita@nku.edu]

PHOTO EDITOR

Tony Redell
[redella@nku.edu]

ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

Tim Downer
[nkuphoteditor@yahoo.com]

SPORTS EDITOR

Kyle Burch
[kjbku@nku.edu]

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Dominick Wise
[papiunique@aol.com]

CAMPUS EVENTS EDITOR

Amie Vogt
[vogtmarie@yahoo.com]

LAYOUT/DESIGN EDITOR

Brianna Bodine
[ditzy_dragonfly@yahoo.com]

WEBMASTER/DESIGN

Mike Brennan
[brennaman@nku.edu]

BUSINESS MANAGER

Ryan Whitham
[jads.whitham@yahoo.com]

CARTOONIST

Mike Mayclad
[ChiefWackemgood@aol.com]

STAFF WRITERS

John Rapp
Josh Blair
Amy Ehrreiter
Matt Steffen
Robert Johnson

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS

Benjamin Robb
Kelly Schomaker
Frances McQueen
Nicole Jones
Rachel Ligon
Amy Ehrreiter
Pamela Atkinson
Brianna Gaddie
Candy Kessler
Mark Bennett

ADVISER

Gayle Brown
[browning@nku.edu]

contact information

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

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

email: northerner@nku.edu

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further details

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newspoints Letters to the editor

Tuition increase is 'commitment to sustain value'

Dear NKU Students,

As the semester winds down, I want to take a few minutes to discuss with you the tuition package that I will recommend to the Northern Kentucky University Board of Regents next month.

The package, which includes a \$312-per-semester increase for Kentucky undergraduates, is a reflection of NKU's commitment to sustain the value of the NKU academic experience in light of historic, under-funding, enrollment growth, and recent budget reductions.

Value has always been a hallmark of NKU. Professor Russ Proctor likes to say that NKU offers a private school education at a public school cost. What that boils down to is value. Value is, in the simplest terms, what you pay measured against what you get.

At NKU, even with this proposed tuition increase, students will be paying less than those at most other colleges and universities in Kentucky and in the tri-state. And you will be getting more. More opportunity to study in small classes with faculty who are committed to

your success...More access to academic programs that are in high demand throughout our region and nationally...More financial, advising, and program support to ensure your success on our campus and beyond...And more value associated with your degree as the university continues to grow in excellence and reputation.

The way that many universities have addressed similar financial challenges is to double and triple class sizes, rely more heavily on part-time faculty, and reduce programs and services designed to support student success.

Our students have said to me that, while they don't like tuition increases, they want NKU's "up-close and personal" approach to education to be protected, even if it means that tuition must increase. I don't enjoy proposing tuition increases, but my greater nightmare is that we allow academic quality to be compromised, which means that students leave here less prepared to begin their careers and their lives.

The challenge that NKU now faces is to balance affordability on the one hand with academic quality and program availability on the other. I believe that the proposed tuition package

does just that. Along with an increase in need-based financial aid, it sustains affordability while assuring access to high-quality academic programs that are in demand by both our students and our community.

I sometimes ask myself whether the university has done all that it can to reduce costs and increase efficiency so that we can be kept as low as possible. My answer is yes. By any measure, NKU is the most under-funded university in the commonwealth. Over the past three years, we have had our state budget reduced by nearly nine percent.

We are a lean and efficient institution. In spite of this fact, over the past year, we've cut an additional six percent from our operating budget in order to minimize the amount that tuition would have to be raised. On our campus, raising tuition will always be a last resort.

The budget that I'll propose to the Board of Regents is not the product of a set of aspirations the university came up with on its own. We've heard the message loud and clear from our students and our community - don't let the momentum stall. Don't let academic quality suffer. NKU is an outstanding institution. Our graduates are held in high regard

throughout the region and beyond. We play an indispensable role in the lives of our students and our community. We cannot, and we will not, allow that role to diminish.

Governor Ernie Fletcher has acknowledged NKU's historic under-funding and has pledged to correct it. Our northern Kentucky legislative caucus has made the same pledge. However, as I write this letter to you, the General Assembly has still not passed a budget and we confront uncertain financial times.

My pledge to you is that we will do everything within our power to protect both academic quality and affordability while ensuring that NKU continues to develop in a way that supports the needs of our students and our community.

Faced with a very challenging financial picture, the budget that I'll propose to the board of Regents is my best effort to make good on this pledge.

I wish you much success with your upcoming final exams and I hope that you have a productive and satisfying summer.

Best Wishes,
James C. Foltz
President

npr

norse poll responses

Compiled by Tony Redell
and Jeremy Mize

Graduating Northerner editors: What will you miss most about NKU?



Amanda VanBenschoten
Editor in Chief

"All the amazing friends I've made here. And, of course, the 4 a.m. newspaper deadline nights."



Kyle Burch
Sports Editor

"Windy winter days and [sports writer] Robert Johnson"



Amie Vogt
Campus Events Editor

"Friday meetings with hangers and pizza"

SGA should acknowledge students' voice

To the editor of the Northerner,

As a non-traditional student, I was not at all interested in the recent SGA election because I believe that since a large majority of SGA is under the age of 25 they could not possibly relate to most of our older students, and could not adequately represent us because they do not have the life experience we have. I thought the whole SGA thing was a waste of time.

I was not interested until the Fegan faction started its smear campaign against Mr. Hixson. That's why I decided to vote and vote for Andy Hixson. All of the dirty tricks and tactics used by Fegan and associates absolutely disgusted me. I went so far as to visit Mr. Fegan's Web site on election day, write down the names of all those endorsed by his campaign, and made sure I did not vote for a single one of them.

Now comes the news that the Pace/Fegan/Orndorff-dominated clique

that currently runs SGA refuses to acknowledge that the students made this choice, and that choice was Hixson.

Who do they think they're? They have no right to refuse to acknowledge what the students of this university have voted for. The voters have spoken, and the current clique in power has lost. Grow up, get over it, move on with your lives! How dare you try to override the will of the students? You have no right to do that.

Every student now knows just where this clique stands. They are more interested in power than in the welfare of the students they claim to represent. The April 19 meeting was supposed to be about the proposed tuition increase, but did the Pace/Fegan/Orndorff clique focus on that as they should have? No! They were whining because they were being kicked out of office by the voters, and trying to blame the administration because their questionable tactics failed miserably. Grow up!

There are even rumors going around that Mr. Fegan and his campaign spent nearly

\$20,000 on this election. That is ridiculous, and I would like for Mr. Fegan to tell the students if this rumor is true.

I think the administration needs to step in and disband the SGA. Not permanently, but long enough for the students to get together and come up with a better way of running it without the clique that is currently in charge. The way they currently run it now, only students who serve in the SGA can run for the presidency. That is elitist and discriminatory against the large majority of students on this campus, and is one of many things that need to be changed on the SGA. Any student with good academic standing should be able to run for president.

President Vornha, we need change and we need it now, before the situation gets worse. Please step in and put an end to this madness.

Jeff Foster
Freshman, history and
secondary
education/social studies

SGA is 'bankrupt institution'

Dear Editor,

A university is an institution dedicated to the spread and teaching of knowledge. This dedication is achieved and represented by ideals such as honesty, fairness, diversity and intelligence.

These ideals are not being represented by the Student Government Association at Northern Kentucky University. They have been tarnished by the very institution that provides a means for students to voice their opinions on how the ideals should be upheld.

With all of the election controversies, impeachment issues, financial scandals, plagiarism, and the teaching of an illegitimate and illegitimate constitution, it has become frighteningly obvious that the SGA has become a bankrupt institution.

The reason for why this has come to pass is quite obvious: The SGA is composed of people who have done a poor job.

The elected representatives of the student body have not been able to treat each other with the respect and courtesy required to

achieve any meaningful results.

The political infighting within the group is a blatant example. The question of why these people cannot get along can be easily answered by examining the group's members in context with the ideals that they have been elected to represent.

The first of these ideals on my list are honesty and fairness. It seems to me that the Hixson and Iker ticket honestly won the majority of votes in the election. It would seem only honest and fair for other members of the same SGA that were also democratically elected to honor the will of the students.

Chris Pace, with all of his own shortcomings, and Trey "the plagiarizer" Orndorff, Matt Vaughan, and the other members are unwilling to do this. It is obvious from reading *The Northerner* that Pace has his own problems with honesty, so how could we expect him to treat someone else fairly? Orndorff could not present an original opinion in an editorial - can we expect anything but the best from him? I am not really sure what Mike Vaughan's problem is.

I think that by analyzing the idea of diversity, we can further shed light on the problem. SGA has been dominated by a faction within the College Republicans. They are like the "good old boys club" of the SGA. I think this group is not willing to play by the rules. Therefore, the fix is in.

Intelligence in the SGA is like an oxymoron. The vice president of the Student Affairs is an exposed plagiarizer. Chris Pace can't keep his lies straight. The constitution this group passed is totally demagogical, and was passed in an irregular fashion.

I think that this group of people, in demonstrating their own stupidity, is challenging the intelligence of the student body. This group of students is an embarrassment to any of us that hold the ideals of honesty, fairness, diversity and intelligence to mean anything at all.

Someone from the university needs to correct this group before they negatively affect the reputation of this school.

Kenneth Crawford
Senior history

editorial note

End is nortersweet

Graduating editors bid farewell

May brings with it the sweet smell of success, pride in a job well done and relief that the school year is drawing to a close. Or is it that just the aroma of cicadas in the air?

In any case, graduating members of *The Northerner's* staff welcome May with open arms. After years of hard work, we're more than ready to spread our wings and fly.

Our departure is bittersweet, however, as we leave the safety of our Northern Kentucky University, is published weekly, except during holidays and examination periods from August through May by students.

We leave our fellow staff

members: friends who have shared in our triumphs and failures, our hopes and dreams. These people have become a surrogate family during our time at the Northerner, and leaving them may well be a scarier thought than swarming into the job market.

It has been an eventful semester, during which we've covered events such as the statewide budget crisis, university tuition increase, Ken Shields' retirement, and Student Government Association impeachment, election and constitution

issues. We've fine-tuned our journalistic antennae in every imaginable way during the past 14 weeks. We now leave exhausted, but proud of our successes, and better educated because of them.

Our experience on staff at *The Northerner* taught us many things: humor and friendship will get you through anything you're exhausted that you think you can't go on.

Criticism means that somebody is at least reading the newspaper, which makes all the stress and missed classes worth it.

And sometimes, sleep really is more important than anything else, especially after those 4 a.m. deadline nights.

To the Fall 2004 staff, we impart the following: we have all the confidence in the world that you will be incredible next semester.

We've been fortunate enough to have worked with groups of talented journalists and good friends, and we'll miss you.

Amanda VanBenschoten
Kyle Burch
Amie Vogt
D.J. Carter



D.J. Carter
Technical Consultant

"Quality interaction with quality professors and staff, S.T.A.R. folks, and the paper"

GENERAL EDITORIAL POLICY

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

STAFF EDITORIAL POLICY

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

slimbone



horoscopes

By Lasha Seniuk, Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service (KRT)

Aries
(March 21-April 20)
Plenty of social contacts and avoided detailed romantic discussions. At present, nostalgic reflection and quiet activities will bring renewed energy. Friends, lovers and close relatives will follow your lead. Expect continuing interest in lifestyle choices and social habits. Later this week, a close friend may require complex career or business advice. Offer encouragement but advocate caution. Long-term debt may prove unmanageable.

Taurus
(April 21-May 20)
Home decisions and family promises demand clarity. Loved ones may ask probing questions or address changing expectations. No serious or long-lasting offers are accepted, so not to worry. Do, however, avoid lengthy financial discussions. Wednesday through Friday, social obligations are a source of concern. Before next week, expect close relatives or roommates to demand obvious displays of loyalty. Don't disappoint.

Gemini
(May 21-June 21)
Romantic choices and scheduling require added diplomacy. Friends and lovers may be mildly possessive of your time. Don't be unyielding. A competition for your attention should be taken as a compliment. After Thursday, family relations will intensify. Watch for home discussions to involve complex financial planning and revised daily obligations. Take time to explain your needs. Loved ones may not appreciate limitations.

Cancer
(June 22-July 22)
In the next few days, employment schemes may trigger intense discussions. Late Tuesday, expect relatives and friends to outline unusual or unrealistic career plans. Sensitivity to criticism is high. Gather detailed information before offering opinions. After midnight, love relationships are a priority. For many Cancerians several months of strained relations will end. Don't hold back. Rekindled agreements and renewed passion are possible.

Leo
(July 23-Aug. 22)
Old romantic memories or distant friends are accentuated over next five days. Many Leos will feed drawn towards the comfort of yesterday's relationships. Take time for contemplation and quiet reflection. Nostalgic impressions will soon allow for meaningful discussion between loved ones. Later this week, co-workers or business partners may ask for detailed written contracts. Financial promises, added duties and long-term daily obligations are accepted.

Virgo
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
This week is an excellent time to reassure loved ones of your continuing devotion. At present, long-term friends or lovers may be afraid of change, abandonment or loss. All of this is a passing mood, so not to worry. Do, however, offer concrete dates, times or promises. After Thursday, watch also for a sudden increase in workplace cooperation. Yesterday's errors may become obvious. Expect colleagues and key officials to privately request assistance.

Libra
(Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Early this week, a close relative may outline revised career goals or new financial aspirations. Thoroughly discuss all ideas and small details. Although proposals may appear scattered or unreliable, fresh ambitions will eventually be adopted. Expect change before June. Thursday through Saturday highlights complex social triangles. Friends, lovers or co-workers may feel threatened by last-minute promises. Avoid long-term promises.

Scorpio
(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)
Improved workplace skills or new educational programs may soon be key influences. In coming weeks, many Scorpios will feel a strong desire to search out new career opportunities. Ask mentors and older relatives for advice. A seasoned perspective will prove invaluable. After midnight, a distant or isolated relative may make contact. It's a powerful week for renewed home agreements and subtle family negotiations. Remain receptive to creative proposals.

Sagittarius
(Nov. 23-Dec. 21)
Home celebrations and family events will prove rewarding over the next eight days. Early Monday, a previously reluctant friend or relative may offer unique invitations. Social insight and empathy will bring the desired results. Remain open to gestures of affection or apologies. Late Saturday, a brief financial restriction may be bothersome. Loved ones will expect a dramatic dedication to revised home budgets. Renovations and unexpected repairs will require patience.

Capricorn
(Dec. 22-Jan. 20)
Financial promises may be briefly unreliable. After Tuesday, a friend or family member may outline a revised long-term budget, business plan or schedule. Offer creative suggestions. Later this week, social habits and daily family patterns are vital to long-term relationships. Loved ones may ask for added commitments, new promises or shared home agreements. Be expressive. Doubts are valid.

Aquarius
(Jan. 21-Feb. 19)
Property agreements and short-term leases may require detailed revisions. Although worthwhile, important documents may present inaccurate calculations or definitions. Carefully clarify all legal information, numbers or expectations before offering a commitment. An honest review of the facts will eventually prove helpful. After Friday, a new social relationship may quickly turn romantic. Be prepared for passionate flirtations.

Pisces
(Feb. 20-March 20)
Share private moments with loved ones and romantic partners. At present, key relationships may need to move to a more intimate or committed level. Use this time to explore changing affections or discuss common home, social or family goals. Thursday through Saturday accent financial decisions and ongoing debt. Close relatives or romantic partners may ask for time or consideration. Trust your instincts. Long-term agreements are solid.

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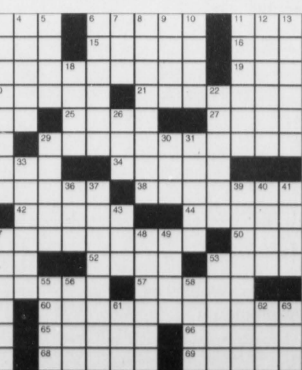
crossword

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

ACROSS
1 Half-and-half half
6 Quips
11 Sluggish's stat
14 Self-indulgent spree
15 White poplar
16 Hearing organ
17 Television in show biz
19 Corn or pod starter?
20 Paradigm
21 Means of ascent
23 Lament-riddled sailboat
25 Talking bird

27 Writer Wiesel
28 Thole insert
29 Champagne song
32 Muralist Rivera
34 Gantry or Fudd
35 Sequential
38 Corrode
41 Friendly regard
42 Japanese seaport
45 Alcott classic
50 Came down with
51 Superior relative?
52 Clear a hurdle
53 June Carter's Johnny

5 Pinocle d
6 eclaration
7 Smith of
8 "Charlie's Angels"
9 Shortened bk.
10 Thin-skinned?
11 Zeno of ____
12 Dispatch
13 Pass gossip
14 Peter Pan's creator
15 Eye parts
16 18-wheeler
17 Wreckage
18 Extinct bird
19 Head locks
20 Comic Louis
21 Having harmony
22 Actress Thurman
23 Back at the track
24 Talented
25 Roman greeting
26 Scottish region
27 Atomic bomb blast site
28 Some ring results
29 Sacred promise
30 Lobster eggs
31 Official emissary
32 Smoothed out
33 Like some windshields
34 Tomei of "My Cousin Vinny"



Last week's puzzle
SOFAR AGARS CPA
AMUSE PIVOT HUM
WIRE SERVICE ARI
STY TRIED ACRES
TAY BAILS IMAGES
VACATE STYLE
ELUDE PETE ICES
SORT HOKUM CARA
TERI LKES PORGY
EMPTY CREDO
LONERS HOLES
ARTSY BEPOY WIZ
TAJ OUTLET STORE
ETO UNION OWNER
REB TORTS NOTSO

46 Venice craft
47 Film holders
49 Hill builder
50 Opry regular
54 PGA peg
55 Arabian Sea feeder
56 Funny Jack of Hollywood
57 Byrnes of "77"
58 Sunset Strip
59 Seed covering
60 Derisive
61 Letterman's network
62 Periphery
63 Captivated
64 Radiant

35 Betting odds
36 Homer's forte
37 Zealot
38 Discumber
39 DeForest or Trevino

The answers to this week's puzzle will be published on our Web site.



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Our heartfelt thanks also to volunteers and students who participated in the 2003-04 Alumni phonathons.

For information about NKU Phonathons, contact Marina Harper
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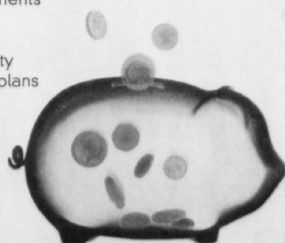
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Wednesday
April 28, 2004
Edition 34, Issue 14

norsports

Section Editor
Kyle Burch
859.572.5260

Sports Scene



with Kyle

Norse had strong season

The 2003-2004 sports season for NKU athletics could be looked at 10 years down the road as one that has set the pace for the university's athletic program in years to come.

The big story of legendary men's head basketball coach Ken Shields retiring highlighted the year, but that was just the beginning of an eventful year.

The university is still waiting to hear if it gets the money that has been put into the state budget in order to construct a brand new regional special events center.

They will most likely begin the process of moving up to compete at the Division I level.

Just this past week, Dave Bezold was named to replace Shields, while women's assistant coach Brian Neal led his post to take over as head coach at Thomas More College.

In the fall, the women's soccer team made a surprising run in the NCAA tournament, advancing all the way to the Elite Eight.

The cross country teams made strong efforts led by sophomore Tracy Imman, who was the first women's cross country runner at NKU to receive all-conference honors.

John Basalyga made big strides in his first season at the helm of the men's soccer team.

In the winter, the men's and women's basketball teams once again had strong seasons. Nancy Winstel led a youthful group of ladies to the NCAA tournament for the sixth straight season.

Shields enjoyed an exciting final season of coaching, by leading a rather inexperienced squad to a 16-15 record and a berth in the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament.

Shields' season was highlighted by a dramatic 93-90 overtime victory over Lewis during his final game at Regents Hall.

The spring season has seen its ups and downs as well.

The softball team is currently ranked number one in the Great Lakes Valley Region, with a record of 43-3.

The baseball team is enjoying a strong late-season run after a sluggish start.

The men's tennis team has enjoyed a great season as well. The Norse have won their second straight GLVC championship and have now won 23 consecutive conference matches.

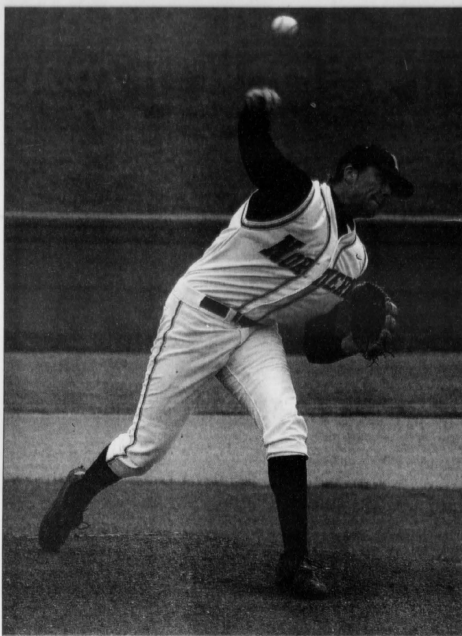
I have been lucky to witness much of this success firsthand. It has given me probably the best experience in the best working environment I could imagine.

The group of people I've had the privilege to work with in the NKU athletic department have given me every opportunity I've needed to succeed and learn.

The professional atmosphere that I have been exposed to through Jane Meier, Don Owen, Ken Shields and Nancy Winstel in particular has given me a tremendous amount of insight into my future profession.

I would like to thank them for the experiences that I already know will be invaluable in whatever I do.

Kyle Burch is the Sports Editor for The Northerner. You can e-mail Kyle at kburch@yahoo.com



Tim Downer/Assistant Photo Editor

Sophomore Derrick Moeves continued his strong season Saturday, throwing a complete game shutout in a win over Quincy. The Norse gave themselves some breathing room, winning three of four from the Hawks over the weekend.

Moeves pitches a gem in Norse win

By KYLE BROWN

Reporter
northerner@nku.edu

The Northern Kentucky University Baseball team entered a four-game series on April 24 and 25 one game ahead of their opponent, Quincy University, for third place in the Great Lakes Valley Conference standings. A good showing in the series, and the Norse put a little breathing room between themselves and their opponents.

The first game of the series began with the Norse sending sophomore pitcher Derrick Moeves to the mound against Quincy's Brad Stone.

Moeves got out of the first inning with only one Quincy batter reaching base as the result of an error.

NKU's lead off batter, senior Justin Mundt, reached base as the result of an error by Quincy shortstop Mike Miley. A balk by Stone eventually sent Mundt to second.

After Shaun Erie struck out, designated hitter Keith Jackson was hit by a pitch which put NKU runners on first and second with one out. Center fielder Alex Frank walked to load the bases for the Norse, however Stone ended the inning by

striking out Connor McGeehan. Moeves took care of the Quincy hitters in the second inning, striking out all three batters he faced.

Quincy threatened to score in the third after loading the bases with two outs. Quincy right fielder Kevin Reynolds grounded to Matt Wagers, who took the force out at second base, and the Norse finished the inning unscathed.

The Norse offense finally struck in the third inning following Mundt's single past a diving Quincy third baseman Brooks Bantier. Erie stepped to the plate and finally executed a sacrifice bunt for NKU as Mundt advanced to second base.

"Our game is short, we need to be able to get bunts down," NKU coach Todd Asalon said. "Once we were able to finally execute a bunt, things happened for us. Hopefully our guys learned from this, and in the future have the same results."

Jackson hit a single to right field to score Mundt and put the Norse up 1-0.

After Jackson stole second base, Fraley singled up the middle driving Jackson in, and put the Norse up 2-0.

Moeves rolled throughout

the rest of the game, allowing only two Quincy base runners in the final three innings he pitched, with neither of them advancing past second base.

Junior Justin Selter entered the game in the seventh to pitch for the Norse and retired Quincy 1-2-3, picking up his sixth save of the year in the process.

Moeves' record improved to 5-3 on the season after giving up two hits and striking out eight Quincy batters in the six innings he pitched.

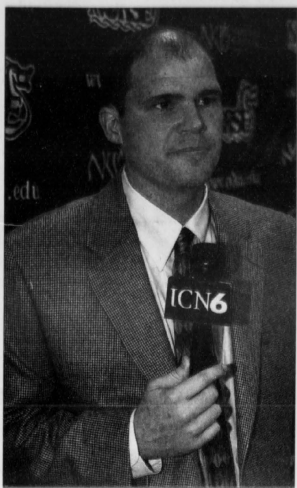
"Getting the first pitch over today was a big thing," Moeves said. "Coming off of three day's rest, I was a little tired.

Bearing the team that was directly behind them in the GLVC standings was a big confidence boost for the Norse.

"We're in third right now, and Quincy was right behind us in fourth, so it was a big win for us," Moeves said.

"We always want to sweep teams, and you can't sweep anybody until you win that first one," Asalon said. "It was big. Moeves did what he was supposed to do; Selter came in and closed the door on them. So it was a good win, and we feel like we're playing our best ball."

In the opener, NKU pitcher Krystal Lewallen upped her



Tim Downer/Assistant Photo Editor

Bezold will take over the reins of the men's basketball program after being the full-time assistant for 14 years underneath Ken Shields.

NKU gains new coach, loses another

Bezold given reins of men's team, Neal leaves women's team for TMC

By KYLE BUCH
Sports Editor
kburchky@yahoo.com

The NKU administration made an important move Thursday: it named Dave Bezold the new head men's basketball coach.

Bezold, 38, an assistant to former head coach Ken Shields for 14 years, was chosen from four finalists.

"Everything he touches, he touches with class," said Athletic Director Jane Meier. "He wasn't hired because of his loyalty, he was hired because he can do the job."

Bezold began his coaching career at NKU after playing at Holy Cross High School and Viterbo (Wis.) College. He began as a volunteer coach before being hired for the full-time assistant position.

NKU President James Votruba called Bezold the "best candidate to lead athletics and the university."

Votruba also announced that the university is preparing to move up a level to NCAA Division I.

"We are looking to continue to build on the tradition that has been established," Votruba said. "We are going to prepare to move to Division I in several years. It is going to be a lengthy process. We will do it when we are fully prepared to do it and do it competitively."

Bezold thanked the administration for the "trust and confidence that they have put in me."

He also announced that the university would begin a nationwide search to find a full-time assistant coach.

"This is awesome," Bezold said. "In my profession, not too many people are able to follow a half of fame guy. I look at it as an honor."

For five games during the 2001-2002 season Bezold filled in as head coach for Shields, who was sidelined with back injuries. Bezold went 3-2 in those five games.

He also served as NKU's women's tennis coach during the 1996 through 2000 seasons. During that time, he led the Norse to two conference championships, and was named conference coach of the year in 1999 and 2000.

"It's unbelievable to be able to stay at home and get my dream job," Bezold said. "I have always known deep down this is where I want to be."

Women's assistant basketball coach Brian Neal announced he was leaving his post to take over as head coach at Thomas More College.

Neal has been at NKU for six seasons. He will be taking over a Saint Thomas team that advanced to the NCAA Division III Sweet Sixteen last season.

and they're one-half game ahead of second-place Lewis University.

NKU is also ranked No. 1 in the latest NCAA Division II Great Lakes Region poll.

If the Norse maintain that ranking, they will play host to the Great Lakes Region Tournament May 6-9.

NKU then expects to be advancing to the NCAA tournament for the third year in a row.

The Lady Norse concluded their regular season schedule at home with a double-header against West Virginia State yesterday.

*Article by Sports Information
Kyle Burch contributed

Napier, Lady Norse offense shine



Tim Downer/Assistant Photo Editor

Rachelle Vogeloph throws out a runner from second, on Saturday.

RENSELAEER, Ind. - Becky Napier went 3-for-3 and drove in a run Saturday as the Northern Kentucky University softball team completed a doubleheader sweep of Saint Joseph's College with a 2-0 victory in the nightcap.

Sara Becker was 2-for-4 with an RBI as the Norse improved to 43-3 overall, 15-1 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Sarah Newland (7-0) tossed the complete-game shutout and finished with five strikeouts.

Napier is now hitting .248 with a homerun and 14 RBIs.

Becker upped her average to .262 with three home runs and 14 RBIs on the season.

In the opener, NKU pitcher Krystal Lewallen upped her

record this season to 24-2 as the Norse posted a 7-0 victory.

Lewallen, who now has 40 victories in two years at NKU, struck out eight batters and notched her 13th shutout of the spring.

Jennifer Schamp went 4-for-4 to pace the NKU offense, and Angie Lindeman added two RBIs.

Ricki Rothbauer and Napier each went 2-for-4 with a double for the Norse, who are ranked No. 5 nationally in the latest NCAA Division II poll.

The Lady Norse were supposed to host Indianapolis in a double-header on Sunday, but the games were rained out.

The Norse are in sole possession of first place in the GLVC,

hotseat



In the semester's final *Hot Seat*, John Rasp sits down with Matt Wiedeman. Wiedeman is a starting pitcher for the NKU baseball team. He currently has a record of 7-1 with a 3.31 ERA. He has struck out 44 in 69 innings pitched while giving up just 68 hits.

John Rasp: How fast is your fastball?
Matt Wiedeman: If I'm lucky, 82 m.p.h.

JR: What are the different pitches that you have?
MW: Fastball, curveball and a changeup.

JR: Which NKU baseball player would be most likely to get a bit off of you?
MW: Alex Frank.

JR: As a pitcher, do you ever brush someone back from the plate?
MW: If I have to, I will.

JR: Out of the NKU pitcher-

ers, which one is the best hitter?
MW: Justin Seiter.

JR: Which NKU player would be most likely to get thrown out of a game?
MW: Me. I don't know how to shut up.

JR: What position player on the NKU baseball team could strike you out?
MW: Anyone could strike me out. I'm terrible at hitting.

JR: What kind of superstitions do you have?
MW: I have to say a little prayer before I throw the

first pitch.
Other than that, I don't have any other superstitions.

JR: What position would you be playing if you weren't playing pitcher?
MW: I'm too slow to play any other position. I wouldn't be playing.

JR: What team do you most want to beat this year?
MW: This weekend series against Quincy is a pretty big series.

(By the way, NKU won three out of four games.)



Tim Downer/Assistant Photo Editor
Matt Wiedeman has won seven games this season on the mound for the Norse.

Patriots, Lions get highest grade

By Marc Narducci
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRU)
PHILADELPHIA — It takes a few years to truly evaluate a draft, but that's no fun. Here's a look at the two-day NFL draft and how teams fared:

The big winners

Detroit. First-round pick Roy Williams of Texas will team with Charles Rogers and Tai Streets to form a strong receiving corps.
Virginia Tech running back Kevin Jones of Cardinal O'Hara should start from Day One, and second-round pick Teddy Lehman of Oklahoma should challenge for a starting linebacker spot.

New England. The Pats didn't need to draft a running back after adding Corey Dillon from Cincinnati last week, so New England fortified its defensive line with Miami's Vince Wilfork and LSU's Marquise Hill. Georgia's Ben Watson was the second-best tight end in the draft.

Tennessee. The Titans traded out of the first round, but got three No. 2s

and two No. 3s and addressed defensive-line needs with three of their first four picks, including a strong value pick of Maryland's Randy Starks at No. 71 in the third round.

Points are subtracted for not selecting a running back the first day.
New York Giants. Eli Manning could be a franchise quarterback for more than a decade. Second-round guard Chris Snee of Boston College will help a below-average offensive line.

Solid drafts

Atlanta. DeAngelo Hall (Virginia Tech) could be a shutdown corner, and Michael Jenkins (Ohio State) is a tall possession receiver who may take pressure off Peerce Price.

Carolina. First-round cornerback Chris Gamble (Ohio State) is a great athlete who is still learning the position. Second-round choice Keary Colbert (Southern Cal) was among the most undrafted receivers in the draft.

New York Jets. The first two picks, Miami linebacker Jonathan Vilma and Oklahoma cornerback Derrick Strait,

could be immediate starters.
Pittsburgh. The grade will be determined by the development of first-round quarterback Ben Roethlisberger (Miami of Ohio). Second-round cornerback Ricardo Colclough of Tusculum is a small-school player with big-play potential.

San Diego. Philip Rivers of North Carolina State is the team's quarterback of the future. A weak defensive line was bolstered by two picks in Rounds 2 to 4, including Willingham's Shaun Phillips, a speed-rushing defensive end from Purdue.

Improved a bit

Minnesota. The Vikes went for defense with their first three picks. First-rounder Kenneth Udeze of Southern Cal should upgrade a weak pass rush.

Cleveland. The Browns paid a steep price to move one spot for tight end Kellen Winslow of Miami (trading a second-round), but he could be the best player in the draft.

The Browns still need receiving help.

Houston. First-round cornerback Dunta Robinson (South Carolina) fills a glaring need.

But the Texans may have reached for their second first-rounder, defensive end Jason Babin (Western Michigan).

New Orleans. At No. 18, the Saints got good value with Ohio State defensive lineman Will Smith.

Second-round linebacker Courtney Watson of Notre Dame could be a find.

Cincinnati. Second-round cornerback Keivan Ratliff of Florida could make an immediate impact.

Biggest gambles

Buffalo. The Bills traded a No. 1 next year for quarterback J.P. Losman of Tulane, after drafting injury-plagued wide receiver Lee Evans of Wisconsin.

Dallas. The Cowboys traded out of the first round and settled for second-round running back Julius Jones of Notre Dame.

Getting a 2005 No. 1 pick from Buffalo would be a valuable one.

Less than strong

Philadelphia. Nobody knows how first-round offensive lineman Shawn Andrews will fare. The Eagles don't have a strong recent track record with first-day picks from Arkansas.

Green Bay. The Packers drafted for depth at cornerback with the first two picks.

Third-round corner Joey Thomas of Montana State could be among the draft's pleasant surprises.

Indianapolis. The Colts' most pressing need may be linebacker. Third-rounder Gilbert Gardner (Purdue) or fourth-rounder Kentucky Pope (Florida State) may help.

Tampa Bay. Suddenly, receiver is a team strength after the Bucs nabbed LSU's Michael Clayton at No. 15. Defensive-line concerns weren't addressed the first day.

St. Louis. Running back Steven Jackson of Oregon State is the eventual replacement for Marshall Faulk. Second-round defensive end Tony Hargrove of Georgia Tech could see immediate playing time.

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wednesday

- The last print issue of The Northerner for the semester.
- The "Hooks Are Fun" fair will be in the University Center from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- The Early Childhood Center will have an Open House and Open Enrollments until April 30 in BEP 147 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Call 572-1391 to make a reservation.
- A documentary entitled "Shock and Awe for Whom?: A Story of American Democracy," will be shown in the Busch Theater from 10 a.m. to noon, on Thursday, April 29 from 7 to 9 p.m., and on Tuesday, May 4 from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is free.
- Race and Gender Theater class 102 will be displaying a collage entitled "Colors of The World" in the UC until May 4.

thursday

- Senior Athletic Awards Celebration, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the UC Ballroom.
- Norse Visitation Day from 12:45 to 3 p.m. in the Steeple Library Welcome Center. Reservations required with Maribeth Carskaddon by calling 572-1400.
- The Brass Choir Chamber Concert will be from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in Graves Hall.
- Home Run Derby, no registration required, in the intramural softball fields from 4 to 6 p.m. For more information contact Campus Recreation at 572-5197.
- Annual Norsin' Around Bid Bash in Regent's Hall. Check in is 5:30 p.m. Bidding begins at 6 p.m. Feast for finals from 8 to 10:30 p.m. in Norse Commons.
- The Spring Choral Concert will be from 8 to 9:30 p.m. in Graves Hall. There is a \$3 admission.

friday

- Volunteers needed to help raise Money for the Elderly in Northern Kentucky with Cincinnati's Flying Pig Marathon. Help needed from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. or Sunday, May 2 from 6 to 11 a.m. Contact Allison Cole at 491-0522 for more information.
- Spring Student Chamber Ensemble will be at 7 p.m. in Graves Hall.

friday continued

- The Freshman Service Leadership Committee is participating in Relay for Life, an all night walk-a-thon to support cancer victims. Contact Tiffany Mayne at mayne@nku.edu for more information.

saturday

- There will be a worship experience addressing real life issues and featuring concerts by NKU students and other local musicians at 6 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church on Alexandria Pike.

sunday

- The Northern Lighters - a night to see fine arts, including theater and dance performances, musical presentations and art exhibitions. Food will be served. Cost is \$50 for adults with a reduced rate for children and students. It will be in all three main theaters in the Fine Arts Building from 4 to 7 p.m.

monday

- Last day of classes!
- The 2004 Outstanding Academic Advisors and Master Advisors Awards Luncheon will be from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the UC Ballroom.
- Norse Visitation Day from 12:45 to 3 p.m. in the Steeple Library Welcome Center. Reservations are required with Maribeth Carskaddon by calling 572-1400.
- There will be an Orchestra Concert from 8 to 9:30 p.m. in Graves Hall.

tuesday

- Study Day. No Classes!
- There will be an Education/Arts and Sciences Mini Conference from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in BEP.
- Residual Act from 8:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Landrum 110.

To place an event : contact Amie Vogt at 859-572-5859

Cash in at the 'Bid Bash'

It's finally here! The end of the semester where we can finally relax, or for those graduating, begin life in the "real world."

However, there are still a few more events until we break for summer time. The second Annual Norsin' Around Bid Bash will be Thursday, April 29 in Regents Hall.

This event is the time for students to cash in for all of the campus events they have enjoyed throughout the year. Meaning, when students went or participated in Norsin' Around events, they have been accumulating "thunderbucks" (points).

The thunderbucks accumulate on their student id card and they now have the chance to bid on a variety of prizes.

Stephanie McGoldrick, program coordinator in the Office of Student Life, said that the event is just like an auction.

"It's basically their (student) rewards for participating in events throughout the year."

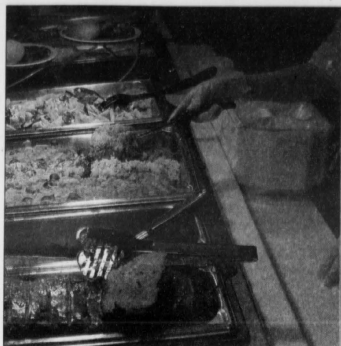
Some of the prizes students can bid on are free tuition, scholarships, DVD's, etc.

Check in for the bash will be at 5:30 p.m. Students will have time to sign in and browse through the rewards that are up for grabs.

The bidding will begin at 6 p.m. Following the bash, will be the semester annual Feast for Finals from 8 to 10:30 p.m. in Norse Commons.

This is a time for students to relax and turn their brains off for a couple hours, said McGoldrick.

At the feast, school administrators



Tony Redell/Photo editor

Administrators will serve a 'Feast for Finals' on Thursday, April 29.

ters will serve breakfast.

Along with food, there will be many activities for students to partake in.

Activities Programming Board will give students a chance to make their own music video.

Students can also enjoy themselves by making photo key chains, sandy candy, singing karaoke, and getting hand massages.

A committee called the Campus

Life team puts the feast together. Everything is completely free for students.

It's just a couple of hours of no stress and free fun, said McGoldrick. "It's been very successful and we want to keep up the tradition."

Norsin' Around is a function of the office of Student Life and could be participating at any event for any student organization.

THEATRE REVIEW

'Invalid' delights still to this day

By KATIE SABIN
Reporter
nortner@nku.edu

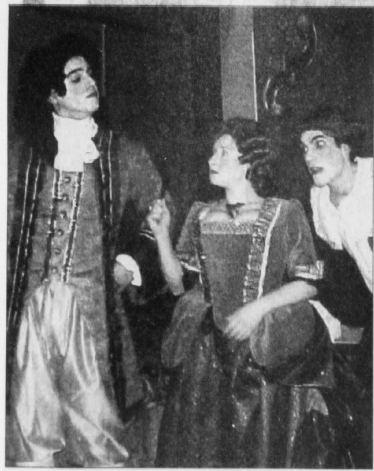


Photo contributed by the department of theatre and dance

From left: Nathan Gabriel, Mindy Heithaus, and Andrew Bernhard star in "The Imaginary Invalid," which takes a comedic look at the art of medicine and its patients.

Even though he's been dead over 300 years, French playwright Molière graced the Corbett Theatre's stage at Northern Kentucky University.

The occasion, was the department of theatre and dance's last play of the season, "The Imaginary Invalid," also known as "The Hypochondriac."

The play is also Director Joe Conger's last for this year, because next semester he will go take a sabbatical.

And the play is also Molière's last, written right before he died.

It takes a comedic look at how many patients believe what their doctor says without even questioning the medical profession's logic.

Conger, who has directed 25 shows, many of them musicals during his 22 years at NKU, did a wonderful job of showing the audience just how absurd that belief can sometimes be.

Even though the play is presented much as it would have been in France in the 1600s, that fact doesn't stop him and associate director Daryl Harris from directing this play in true comedy-dell 'art' style, bringing to life Molière's humor by using a strong comical cast of characters.

In fact, his experience helps this period piece come to life because it is packed with punch and pizzazz. Not to forget that the whole ensemble is complete with slapstick and humorous musical interludes (written by musician Jamey Strawn)

The over-the-top characters made this production quite a wonderful style.

Andrew Bernhard portrays Argan the hypochondriac with great comedic style.

He and Rachel Rodgers (Toinette, the outspoken servant) share a wonderful comedic chemistry as she constantly teases him for his "woe is me" sickness.

Analyse McCoy (Angelique) portrays her inner teenage lover's angst for Aaron Lavigne's character Cleante-Angele's crush-with-hilarity.

Mindy Heithaus (Beline) the "loving wife," flaunts her breasts and manipulates her way through physical comedy stealing a scene just by pushing a chair around stage.

Brian Bailey (Puncinello) does an excellent job of entertaining the audience with his slapstick ways and his overall character through song.

Jeremy Sartin (Thomas Diafoirus) and John West (Monsieur Diafoirus) make a great dynamic duo, with West taking on extremely appropriate caricature attributes as the obnoxious father of

Sartin whose clumsy physicality along with his dense expressions made him the perfect undesirable suitor.

Sarah Peak (Louison) steals her scene receiving an entire applause to herself. Nathan Gabriel is the great "raisonneur" (voice of reason) and delights us by teasing his brother and poking fun at the medical profession.

The pleasant voices of Sarah Drake and Christine Walls must be noted as they take on operatic songs as French

actresses sliding into the action of the main characters and also breaking out of it and giving the audience a small entertainment on the side.

The technical aspects of the show were simple, yet charming. The simple elegant lighting was very appropriate for the mood of the show complete with a chandelier and little candle like on stage lights.

The set on the naked stage was decorated in beautiful reds and golds with curtained hiding places and a set of double doors below a small crest of a medical staff.

That, matched with the rich and colorful costumes, gave the appearance of looking through a kaleidoscope or a candy dish.

The only major criticisms are of Stephen Hunter (Monsieur Bomefois).

It was hard to understand much of what his character said.

Also some noise backstage during one of the opening scenes, was distracting as well.

All-in-all, this is a fantastic last show for Joe Conger to take leave of and something of which the entire cast should be proud to take part.

This is definitely a show that Molière would delight in seeing.

Performances run through May 1 and are Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets are available through the box office.

Box office hours are Monday through Friday from 12p.m. to 4 p.m. Call (859) 572-5464 to reserve tickets in advance. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$9 for faculty and staff and \$6 for students.

on your own in the first stage of the game, however.

Another weak point of the game is the lack of weapons.

In some missions there is plenty of arsenal around, while other stages of the game leave you empty-handed and vulnerable to enemy attacks.

Nonetheless, "007: Everything or Nothing" is a great game.

It could be the best Bond game since Goldeneye, even though it is a third-person shoot.

VIDEO GAME REVIEW

New 007 game 'best since Goldeneye'

By MELISSA HODGES
Reporter
nortner@nku.edu

James Bond fans rejoice as 007 returns in EA games' new release of "007: Everything or Nothing."

The adventurous game play, once made famous by the first-person shooter "GoldenEye," is now a thrilling third-person shooter game, available on all gaming platforms.

The game is an impressive switch from the original Bond

game, allowing for hand-to-hand combat and stealthy moves. Upgraded weapons are also included.

For example, the rappel allows 007 to quickly climb walls or dive off buildings.

Other high-tech gadgets include Q spiders (mechanical bombs that can be sent ahead to take out enemies), thermo vision and a nano suit that renders Bond invisible for a brief amount of time.

Besides the neat new toys, the game play of "Everything or Nothing" is extraordinary.

One mission the player will find themselves driving a motorcycle through the mountains.

Then the next mission could land the gamer in a setting where they fly a helicopter.

The Bond game has a unique feel to it, enhanced with impressive environments and amazing visuals.

Varied locations include Moscow, Egypt and New Orleans.

The production of the game was fairly costly; its cast includes big name stars such as

Pierce Brosnan as James Bond, William Dafoe as Nikolai, John Cleese as Q, Zulu Dench as M, and Shannon Elizabeth, Heidi Klum and Mya as Bond girls.

In addition to the wonderful movie-like graphics, "Everything or Nothing" has a Dolby Digital 5.1 sound presentation.

The sound is absolutely incredible during the numerous helicopter scenes, car chases, loud gunfire and other action-packed sequences.

At some points of the game, the player can't even tell if they

are in a game or in a surround-sound movie theater.

"007: Everything or Nothing" is an astounding game, but there are just a couple aspects of the game that could use a small amount of work.

For example, a training stage is a required level after completely the first mission.

During this stage you can learn how to lock onto targets, use stealth, and operate a sniper gun.

This all seems pointless to go through after already learning

Prepare for summer blockbusters

By PAUL BUBACK

Reporter
northerner@nku.edu

Face it: Summer fun will occasionally be drenched by a few raindrops.

That said, it's time to look at upcoming movies this summer, from Hollywood blockbusters to "best-not-viewed" films.

Let's see which box office surprises will help you shake off the gloom of a rainy day, and a ruined picnic.

Blockbusters

One of the most anticipated movies of the summer is "Spider-Man 2," the sequel to the hit movie of 2002.

This time Peter Parker's nemesis is Dr. Otto Octavius, also known as the infamous Doctor Octopus.

Look for a better acting performance from Tobey Maguire and enough action sequences to satisfy any comic book fanatic attending this film.

"Spider-Man 2" will open on July 2, just in time for the Independence Day crowds.

"Troy," starring Brad Pitt and Orlando Bloom, should also bring in a heap of money.

The movie chronicles the war between the Trojans and Greeks. The film is sure to showcase plenty of bloody battle scenes. "Troy" will be hitting the screens May 14.

Surprises

Zach Braff, who stars in the television show "Scrubs," writes, directs and stars in the drama "Garden State."

This movie, which got a lot of buzz at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival, follows Braff as he comes home for his mother's funeral, after being at odds with his family for years.

"Garden State" opens July 30 with limited release, so catch it where and when you can.

"The Terminal" is the latest movie that teams director Steven Spielberg with actor Tom Hanks.

This movie is based on the true story of a man stranded in an airport for years.

Hanks plays the stranded man, whose refugee papers were stolen.

Hanks is unable to obtain new papers from his government, essentially leaving him without an out from the country he is stuck in.

"The Terminal" will be hitting the screens on June 18.

Comedies

Will Ferrell, fresh off his success with "Elf," stars in "Anchorman."

The previews for this movie are hilarious, and if Ferrell is anything like he was in "Old School" this movie should be the most fun film debuting this summer.

"Anchorman opens July 9.



Tobey Maguire returns to the big screen in his hero's attire in "Spider-Man 2," an expected blockbuster for this summer's movie agenda.

Fellow "Old School" actor Vince Vaughn stars with Ben Stiller in "Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story." The movie follows groups of losers attempting to win a

dodgeball tournament to save their gym.

The premise does sound a bit shaky, but it's sure to get plenty of laughs. "Dodgeball" opens June 18.

Avoid:

"Catwoman," starring Halle Berry looks to be a disappointing film.

The movie follows Berry as

Catwoman out for vengeance against her former employers.

Take the last "Batman" movies, add Berry in spandex, and you've got "Catwoman," which opens July 23.

Rock group shows Cincy how to party

By ADAM ROSING

Reporter
northerner@nku.edu

Born out of the demise of former Cincinnati bands, such as The Frantic Romantic, and No Arms-No Legs, Death In Graceland have been bringing the attitude back to rock music for little over a year's time.

With the release of their debut disc, "Come On, Touch Me," the quintet has managed to pump out seven tracks of uninhibited energy, which epitomizes the band's evil, sex, drugs, and rock and roll sound, reminiscent to 1970s punk band MC5.

"Dance Floor Disaster" opens the album and is the band's catchiest song. It serves as a good intro to Death In Graceland's new face sound.

For me, "Sunsets of the South" serves as the highlight of the disc.

Track five, "Retro Color Clash," transitions smoothly right into this song, as the bass guitar chugs along.

Soon the guitars begin to rise above the drums, and bass, right as Matthew kicks in with his distorted ramblings throughout the first verse, only to emerge from the muddled ramblings with a dark, soulful scream of, "And then she stops breathing."

Perfectly fitting, the track is dark, and represents the attitude of Death In Graceland.

Other songs such as "Retro Color Clash," and "Dancing The Lake" hold their own on the album, showcasing skillful guitars, and powerful drumming, as well as bass. Drive

Thru Records fans should be warned. This isn't the latest "cookie-cutter" pop band being marketed for the punk market.

Harmonies? Not! Sugar coated refrains that will make your ears bleed? Definitely not!

Pretty boys in tight clothing? Forget about it! (Although their hair is pretty stylish, which gives them a rather good look. Not that it matters.)

Bottom Line: Death In Graceland's "Come On, Touch Me" album has been a breath of fresh air to the music scene in Cincinnati, with its incessant attitude and energy.

The dark, crafty songs presented on this album effectively tell a meaningful story, while remembering one thing... Hey, it's OK to rock.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK



The forest's silent beauty...before the cicadas attack.

Tony Redell / Photo Editor

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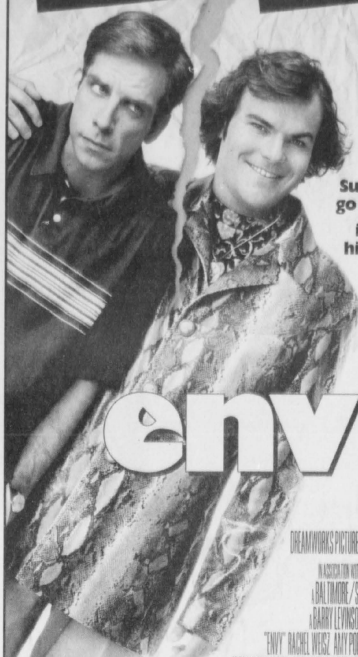
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ATTACK OF THE CICADAS



They're creepy, they have bright red eyes and they're going to be everywhere very soon. The Northerner examines where these creatures come from and exactly what they're doing here.

By JENNIFER GRAMMER
Reporter
northerner@nku.edu



It has been the talk at all the water coolers and campuses across the tri-state. No, it is not about the newest flick in the theater — the talk centers on the imminent cicada invasion in the area. It has been 17 years since they last visited, and you can almost hear them coming — humming that is. Dr. Gene Kritsky, biology professor at the College of Mount St. Joseph, said that at least five billion cicadas are due to attack southwest Ohio at this time now.

But what are these things?

Brood X cicadas, the 17-year cicada (found in Pennsylvania, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Tennessee, to name a few) live beneath the ground as nymphs.

While they are underground, the cicadas spend their time tunneling and feeding on juices from tree roots. Yummy.

As if signalled, the nymph emerges to become an adult through a molting process, wherein the nymph sheds its outer skin layer.

As an adult, the cicada's only goal is to mate. It's not such a bad life.

Once a cicada has mated, it dies. But it leaves up to 600 offspring to begin their own survival process mere inches under the ground.

According to Brian Hamrick, a reporter for WJLT Eyewitness News 5, the cicadas are due to visit around May 21.

However, since temperatures have already reached 64 degrees, you may be able to spot an "early-bird" cicada on small trees and shrubs, he said.

The last time...

Many who lived in the tri-state area in 1987, the year the cicadas last came, have some sort of memory of the invasion. Everyone has their own tale, be it good or bad.

Arianna Perkins, vice president for environmental affairs of Northern Kentucky University's Environmentally Concerned Organization of Students (ECOS), was a six-year-old when the cicadas came and remembers "the stupid boys in elementary school used to throw them at the girls."

But they're so scary!

According to the University of Michigan's Museum of

Zoology, cicadas are harmless. They do not attack people, they do not bite and they do not sting defensively. Even knowing all of this, Perkins still remembers what it was like, and it makes her want to hide in her room until the humming is gone.

For those of you who were lucky enough to never have come face-to-face with a cicada: Once you hear that irritating chirp, which sends shivers up your back like nails scratching on a blackboard; see an evil-looking insect about 25 to 50 mm in length, with prominent, bulbous red eyes, you'll never forget the sight.

Especially when the little buggers fly right into your hair and eyes, because they don't have great eye sight.

You'll be forwarded to the cicadas coming because of the unique acoustic signals the males make to attract a mate, John Foltz from the University of Florida's Entomology Department said.

Since male cicadas are the only ones that produce the loud clicking sounds, it is easy to tell the sex of a cicada.

You want me to look where?

If the sounds a cicada makes aren't enough for you and you (by some strange scientific perversion) wish to discover more about what the cicadas look like, then an interesting thing you can look for is "let-ers" on their translucent orange-veined wings.

A cicada urban legend says that if a "W" is found there will be war and if a "P" is found there will be peace.

Dan Century's Cicada Mania Web site denies this old wives' tale, but does agree that letters can be found on a cicada's wings.

What's going to happen?

Dan Century's Cicada Mania Web site says there are hundreds, maybe thousands, of different species of this insect in North America.

There will be three species of emerging cicadas, ranging in size.

From one to one and half inches long. Different species have different life cycles, which is why some come out every year, not every 17 years.

However, this year is unusual because such a large number will make their appearance at the same time.

Orchard and nursery owners should avoid planting young trees and shrubs during this year's cicada invasion. Cicadas feed and plant their eggs on branches, which could result in flagging of saplings, or breaking of peripheral twigs.

Mature deciduous trees and shrubs usually survive, despite the browning of the leaves right after the invasion. It is best to protect saplings by covering them with screening material, not pesticides.

So, what about my summer?

You can try spraying on the bug repellent to keep the cicadas at bay. Or you can stay inside and as Assistant Professor Richard Boyce of the Department of Biological Science recommends, "Stock up on your favorite CDs and try to drown them out." "Run for the hills, (or for) the west. There aren't any periodic cicadas there," Perkins said.

Photos contributed by Dr. Gene Kritsky

Show mom some love

By KATRINA ROBBE
Reporter
northerner@nku.edu

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 9 — just around the corner.

Every year people struggle to find the right gift for their mom.

Perhaps you fall in the know-not-what-to-get category as well.

This year, do something different: make this year the exception and do something extraordinary for your mom.

Since Mother's Day is in May, flowers might seem like an appropriate gift.

Springtime brings out so many colors and so many different choices of flower, finding the perfect one may be a chore.

Sally Kaufman of Leaf and Petal Florist in Latonia, Ky., said the most popular flowers purchased for Mother's Day are the highly fragrant species.

"Fresh cut roses, iris, stock and gardenia in a vase are popular," Kaufman said.

These flowers come in a variety of colors including soft and bright pinks, purples, yellows and whites, to name a few.

"Planters and hanging baskets are especially popular for the mothers who want to do any gardening," she said.

Delivery is available at many flower shops in the tri-state, including Leaf and Petal.

Remember to call soon to place the order in time for Mother's Day.

Another idea for Mother's Day is time. Being a student, you might not spend as much time with your mother as you would like.

Take a "time out" and grab a picnic lunch to eat at the park.

Perhaps mom enjoys movies.

Take her to see the latest blockbuster.

Or rent a flick and spend the afternoon at home, enjoying each other's company.

Remember, she changed your dirty diapers; you owe her one.

A day relaxing might be what mom needs this year.

Ashley Meyer at Vintage Salon and Spa in Crescent Springs, Ky., said that gift certificates for manicures and pedicures are very popular around Mother's Day.

"Every mom needs a day of pure pampering," she said.

"We have openings right now for the week of Mother's Day, but they usually fill up fast."

Meyer said if you plan to give your mom some pampering for the holiday, you should make an appointment as soon as possible.

Michael Jasper, a junior at Northern Kentucky University, has a mother working as a flight attendant for ComAir.

He said she is not home very much and they do not spend much time together.

When asked what he planned on doing for his mother this year, he said,

"I'm going to get a vase of flowers and take her out to eat to show her how much I appreciate her."

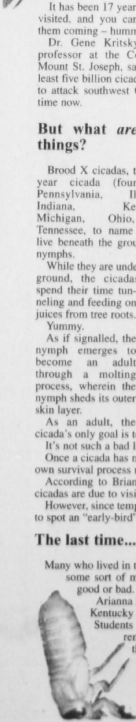
Jasper added, "She works, I work, and she has to spend time with my younger sister and brother."

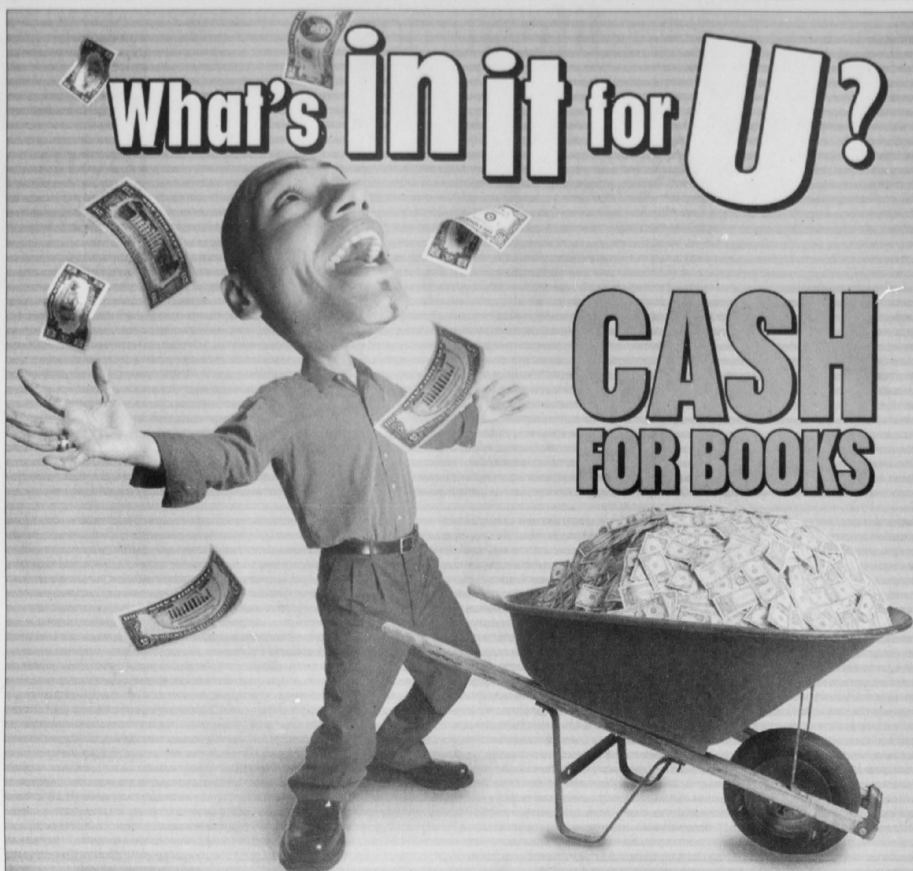
"I think I owe it to her for dealing with all of us."

Mother's Day is a day of celebration.

It is a day to show mothers everywhere that even though it may not be shown the other 364 days of the year, mothers are important and valued.

They sacrifice to bring out the best in their children. Mothers are love.





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