

THE NORTHERNER

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DPS and Kentucky State Police searching for attacker

By Forrest Berkshire
News Editor

There is a dangerous sexual predator on the prowl on the campus of Northern Kentucky University. In the early morning hours of Nov. 26, a female resident of Woodcrest apartments was the victim of an attempted sexual assault.

According to DPS, the assailant entered the room at approximately 5:55am with no sign of forced entry and placed a towel over the victim's head. She struggled with the victim and reportedly bit him on

the hand, causing him to flee the scene and leave her unhurt but shaken.

According to DPS Director Don McKenzie, he believes it to be the same person responsible for two previous attacks,

one in March and another in August.

"We don't want to lock ourselves into that," McKenzie said. "We're looking at each one individually on its own merits."

However, McKenzie said because of the similarities of the attacks there is good reason to believe it is the same person.

"All of the attacks occurred during the

hours of darkness, each of them in a single [occupancy] unit, the victims were asleep, each involved something being placed over the victim's head, and each victim fought and caused him to flee the scene," he said.

The description of the assailant is a male with medium build, wearing dark clothing. No further description has been possible, McKenzie said, because in each attack something was placed over the victim's head.

"We don't even know what race he is," he said.

Attacker must have key

"I think it's someone internally that we're looking for," he said. "It's pretty obvious he's watching his victims and is aware of his victim's activities. This is not a spur of the moment [activity]."

One reason McKenzie said they believe it is someone involved with the university is the fact that in two attacks he gained access into locked rooms.

"He has to have a key," he said.

According to Patty Hayden, director of residential life, there are no keys missing, but she admitted the facts "Don't leave you with a lot of conclusions."

According to Hayden, there are three types of keys that could unlock a resident's door.

There are two individual keys, one held by the resident and a spare in the residential life office. The spare key is available to Residential Advisor in the case of a resident locking themselves out of their room.

Next are the submasters. These are coded to open any door of a particular

building. They are held in the office and must be signed out to authorized personnel. They are used for room inspections and by cleaning crews during the summer.

"The number of sub-masters varies depending on the need," Kim Vance, assistant director of residential life, said. She said that in the past there could be up to two or three at a time, such as during the summer when maintenance crews need access to several rooms in a building.

Master keys are held by only a select few, and are capable of opening any door. They are only distributed to professional staff members, such as Hayden and select DPS officers, and are kept by them at all times.

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Tuition date moved to give students a financial break

By Forrest Berkshire
News Editor

Need some extra spending cash for the holidays?

Got some bills coming up that you're trying to scrape together the cash for?

Well thanks to some of the administration at NKU, you can put at least one of those bills on the back burner.

Last week NKU announced that Spring semester '99 tuition due date had been moved to Jan. 14 from the previous schedule of Dec. 8.

Those students that have already paid can contact the Bursar's office and receive a refund so they can pay later.

The move was a result of a recommendation by the Student Recruitment and Retention Taskforce, a group of faculty and students that are looking for ways to attract more new students and keep current students here at NKU.

"In an effort to provide a holiday treat to students, we've decided to roll back the spring tuition payments," Dr. Mark Shanley, vice president of student recruitment and retention, and chair of the committee, said.

For some students, this was a welcome surprise.

"The more time you give me to pay a bill, the more I like it," John Lunn, senior anthropology major, said about the new scheduling.

"It sounds to me like some one in the

administration pulled their hat out of their butt and is running something right," he added.

For other, however, the news was no big deal.

Junior Justice Studies Major Brian Simmons said "It really didn't make a difference to me, I have to pay eventually anyway."

According to a press release from student affairs, the new policy was enacted to meet four goals:

-To support the University's commitment to access with the opportunity to succeed.

-To encourage continuing progress toward completion of degrees by current students.

-To simplify the billing process.

-To maintain consistency with tuition payment calendar for spring semester '97

"Sometimes finances can get in the way of attaining a degree," Shanley said. "We are committed to alleviating this burden as much as we can."

He also said that under the Dec. 8 tuition structure it caused unneeded and complicated fees.

This way, he said, all the payments for one semester will be due at one time and can be paid at the same time, instead of numerous trips to the Bursar's office that many experienced students are more than familiar with.

The same scheduling process was tried last year with what Shanley called great

success, due to a new federal tax law that gave people paying tuition a tax break.

It is the committee's goal to keep the continuity of the tuition scheduling to avoid confusion between years.

Shanley said that the administration is also trying to do away with class cancellation.

This refers to the deadline for students to pay their tuition bill before their name is dropped from the class roster and they lose their seat.

"Over half those students (who are dropped from a class for missing the deadline) come back and re-register," he said. "We're trying to avoid the unnecessary burden."

He also said that further plans for simplifying and streamlining the enrollment process are under way.

One of the goals is to establish an Enrollment Service Center.

"In a one-stop service center the operations of registrar, bursar, and financial aid with an admissions welcome center on the third floor of Lucas [Administrative Building] is our plan.

However, due to physical modifications to the building, it will probably be spring of 2000 registration before it is up and running.

He also said that the hardware and software for on-line registration and phone registration have been purchased, and may be ready to use by registration the 1999-2000 year.

Holiday voices



Suzanne Fleming/The Northerner
Members of campus ministries sang Christmas carols in the UC lobby on Dec. 2 as part of a week long series of activities called Northern Noel. Other events included a bookstore fashion show and a Kwanzaa celebration.

Social justice activist Angela Davis to speak at NKU

By Tom Ramstetter
Staff Reporter

On Friday, December 11, 1998, prisoners' rights activist Angela Davis will be at Northern Kentucky University to present "Beyond the Prison Industrial Complex" from 7-8 p.m. in the University Center Theater.

All students, faculty, staff and community members are welcome, free of charge. There will be a reception for Professor Davis from 6:15 to 6:45 p.m.

Davis is one in a series of scholars presented by the Office of Affirmative Action and Multicultural Affairs.

"NKU embraces multiculturalism as a core value," said Cheryl

Nunez, Director of the Office of the United States and around the world. She has been active as a student, teacher, writer, scholar and activist/organizer.

Davis began her political activism in Birmingham, Alabama as a child and continued through her high school career in New York.



Angela Davis

She did not gain national recognition until she was removed from her teaching career in the Philosophy Department at UCLA.

Davis was fired because of her social activism and membership in the Communist Party of the United States.

In 1970 she campaigned to free the Soledad brothers, sparking one of the most famous trials in U.S. history and leading to her arrest and imprisonment.

She was acquitted in 1972 and has since been an advocate of prison abolition and is a critic of racism in the criminal justice system.

Currently, Davis is a tenured professor in the History of

Consciousness Department at the University of California.

She has lectured throughout the United States and the world and is the author of numerous journal articles, anthologies and books.

Her books include *Angela Davis: An Autobiography*, *Women, Race and Class* and *Blues Legacies*.

In late 1980s or early 1990s, a collection of her writings from the past three decades, called *The Angela Y. Davis Reader* will be published.

According to Nunez, the depth of Davis' commitment and scholarship in the area of prisoners' rights is important, though not everyone will embrace her

perspective. "We are a learning community, faculty, staff and administrators, joined with students and community members, seeking to expand our understanding of the issues our times," Nunez said. "We should all be interested in the visiting scholars."

The speakers brought to NKU by the Office of Affirmative and Multicultural Affairs look at the multiplicity of the "isms," classism, sexism and racism.

"Multicultural affairs are meant mainly to bridge human understanding," Nunez said. "It seeks to promote an awareness of the complex inequities that confront people in this country and around the world."

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Association to represent non-tenure track faculty for higher wages

Jimmy Ferguson
Staff Reporter

At Northern Kentucky University there are part-time faculty teaching a full-time class load, making about \$6,000 a year, and have no medical or dental benefits. Some are even forced to rely on welfare.

For example, a part-time teacher in the history and geography department who teaches a full-time schedule of at least four classes, does not receive health benefits. This anonymous source said, "I am lucky to be married because if I did not receive health and dental benefits from my husband it would be a great concern. It would be extremely difficult to make it because it is very expensive to get medical benefits." This teacher has not been offered a full-time salary although they teach a full-time schedule.

Another part-time teacher who teaches a full-time schedule in the theater department says, "the reason I do this is because I love to teach. I can work for a low salary because I work two or three differ-

ent jobs during the semester." It is hard for me to work this much and I may have to quit in the near future, the part-time teacher said. This teacher has not been offered a full-time salary either.

The Association in Support of Non-Tenure Track Faculty is a new organization on campus representing approximately 373 part-time faculty on campus. This association has come together to search for plans and proposals to better the situation for non-tenure track faculty and the entire NKU learning community.

NTTF's is in line with President Votruba's "Defining Our Future: Northern Kentucky's Five-Year Strategic Agenda." Before this association came together, the non-tenure track faculty was the only group on campus without representation in the governance process, says the NTTF's first newsletter.

The NTTF wants to ensure the incoming freshman's experience is positive one with quality teachers and quality teaching. The NTTF says it wants to make student's freshman year a positive one with

impressive faculty because, sometimes, part-time faculty may be the only faculty incoming students encounter.

During a meeting in May 1998, the executive committee of NTTF met with the dean of all colleges (except professional studies) to discuss its wants and needs. The association introduced President Votruba to a five-year developmental package for *Non-Tenure Track Faculty*. Some of the issues discussed at the meeting included:

- The need to pay non-tenure track faculty competitively with the University of Cincinnati and the University of Miami.

- To provide health and other benefits similar to other universities in the area.

- Ways to maximize the talents of the non-tenure track faculty effectively by being creative during the creation of new positions. Combining a part-time counselor with a half-time faculty position to one full-time or permanent position.

- Ways to get and keep valuable faculty without losing them to bet-

ter paying universities.

- The possibility of tuition breaks for faculty who might be interested in taking classes at NKU (because right now current faculty have to pay to take classes).

- Things such as erratic pay periods, arbitrary parking costs, little advance notification of whether or not one is teaching next semester were recognized as examples as unfair treatment received by the NTTF.

NKU's administration will develop a multi-year plan for increasing the compensation and the opportunities for the part-time and NTTF.

- State policies may also need to be discussed regarding part-time usage.

Since the meeting, the NTTF has seen some progress, says Association President Darlene McElfresh. The NTTF says it knows it will be a multi-year process because NKU did not get this far in one year.

Shortly after the May 1998 meeting, all part-time faculty received a

10 percent pay increase.

The part-time teachers who are in their first year of teaching now make \$1,155 per class. The teachers who have experience here or have taught at other universities make \$1,272 per class. The teachers who have done community service, have gone above and beyond their duty as part-time faculty make \$1,503 per class.

"We hope to have another minimum of a 10 percent increase so that we can continue towards a five-year goal of being equal to Miami and UC's pay scale," McElfresh said.

The NTTF's second newsletter said this raise is by far the largest raise the NTTF have received in years. They think this also illustrates Dr. Votruba's commitment to improving their conditions.

University personnel are also considering a new procedure which would automatically provide part-time teachers who teach nine hours or less with a free courtesy parking pass for the academic year they teach at NKU.

The most important problem still unresolved right now for the NTTF to deal with is health benefits, says McElfresh. Department chairs have been told to tell the NTTF members and lecturers directly when a tenure-track position is available to be filled. This will give the current part-time faculty a chance to move into a full-time position, have more job security and the chance to obtain health and dental benefits.

The issue of health benefits will be addressed this fall with the Greater Cincinnati Consortium of Colleges and Universities.

An open forum will be held Dec. 2 and 3 to discuss the remaining issues at hand and to hear how President Votruba's Task Forces of Reform '98 are progressing.

"The NTTF realizes all the changes are not going to take place overnight," says McElfresh. "Now that the university has a new administration with new objectives working along with a determined Association, they can work together to accomplish the same goals."

"RELIVE THE MAGIC"



Earvin "Magic" Johnson will
be the speaker for
Homecoming in 1999.

Date: February 7 Time: 7:00

Place: Regents Hall

Tickets can be purchased at the
start of spring semester in the
Bookstore or Fine Arts building.

Average 1997-98 Faculty Salary Levels* All Comprehensive Public Universities Versus Northern Kentucky University

	All Comprehensive Public Universities	Northern Kentucky University	Difference
Professor	\$61,839	\$58,446	- \$3,393
Associate	49,577	45,171	- 4,406
Assistant	40,762	36,684	- 4,078
Instructor	31,065	27,205	- 3,860
Lecturer	31,111	25,886	- 5,225

*Source: SACSCOC, March/April 1998 and "Northern Kentucky University As A Class," Fall 1997

NKU lags behind other universities not only in part-time professor's salaries, but also in full-time positions

NKU has lowest paid non-tenure track professors in the tri-state area

By Joseph Hargett
Staff Reporter

Changes are coming for the part time and non-tenure track faculty at Northern Kentucky University. A collaborative effort between NKU's Presidential Office and the Association in Support of Non-Tenure Track Faculty of NKU is dedicated to meeting the goals of part time and non-tenure faculty.

One of the major issues concerning the Association is the matter of pay rates.

"(NKU) has the lowest pay rate for part time and non-tenure faculty compared to the rest of the Tri-State area," said Darlene McElfresh, president of the Non-Tenure Track Association.

At about \$20 per class less than the University of Cincinnati, NKU non-tenure and part time faculty make at most \$1,500 per class per semester. That averages out to less than \$10 per hour.

President Votruba approved a 10% increase in pay for part time and non-tenure faculty as a show of good faith that NKU is dedicated to resolving the pay rate issue. A survey conducted by the Association, however, revealed that out of the 180 faculty who returned the surveys, 99 felt that they could not make enough money teaching only at NKU.

"The survey also showed that 51 of the non-tenure and part time faculty teach at other locations like Xavier, UC and local high schools to make ends meet.

At a Dec. 2nd meeting between himself, Provost Paul Gaston and Association members Votruba admitted that 10% was no where near enough of an increase. He went on to reinforce his 5-year

plan, "Defining Our Future", by assuring members that the increase was not a token increase and that plans for next years budget should bring pay for these positions up to a competitive level with local colleges.

"Votruba's plan is almost an exact overlay of our own," said McElfresh.

Survey forms are already being sent out to all part time and non-tenure faculty to assess their preference and desire for health care coverage.

"Response to this initiative has been positive," said Votruba. "We hope to be able to implement the health care plan as soon as possible."

The health care issue is important to the Association, said McElfresh.

Part time and non-tenure faculty currently receive no health care benefits.

Part time faculty are an important and heavily relied upon portion at NKU, according to Votruba. "We must be able to staff in a variety of ways," said Votruba.

But with 30% of all student hours being taught by part time faculty and an equal amount of part timers teaching freshman classes, Fran Zaniello, director of first year programs, feels that percentage needs to change.

"No university can afford to have 30% of its classes to be taught by part time faculty," said Votruba.

According to Zaniello, the loss of freshman directly reflects the percentage of part time faculty teaching freshman and general studies courses.

"We lose as many freshman from fall to fall as we do all other

years together," said Zaniello.

Zaniello began the learning groups program which reports high retention ratios of students from year to year. Unfortunately there are not enough full time faculty to expand Zaniello's learning groups program. "I feel bad asking already under paid part timers to help out with work that I can pay them for," said Zaniello.

Eliminating this problem would mean creating much desired full time faculty positions.

Alberti mentioned in his report during the Dec. 2nd meeting that full time positions were important to a majority of the part time faculty at NKU.

"Temporary can mean anything from 1 semester to 20 years," said Alberti.

The Association's survey backed up Alberti by stating that 118 part time faculty were interested in a full time position.

There are, however, problems that still need to be directly addressed.

Alberti's subcommittee is working on plans of action for benefits and working conditions, more full time jobs, and standardized job descriptions with consistency in length of contracts.

Though there are many issues to be addressed at NKU concerning the part time and non-tenure track faculty, its not as bleak as it looks.

Before the founding of the Association, part time and non-tenure faculty had no representation in the governing process at NKU.

"We have only been in existence and addressing these issues for the past 9 months," said McElfresh. "We have accomplished a lot for only 9 months."

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ATTACK: Third attack in Woodcrest dorms in six months

From Page 1

Both Hayden and Vance said they felt the security of the keys was more than adequate.

However, Vance said that as a precaution, all the sub-master codings on the locks were changed following the most recent attack.

According to Vance, this was the first time since August of '95 that the sub-masters were recorded.

She also stated that no sub-masters have been issued to RA's since July of this year.

We did it to take liability off of them," Vance said. "Now access to that is very limited."

Four RA's contacted by The Northerner stated they were under strict orders from the office of residential life not to comment on any aspect of the case, even the policy regarding keys.

University condemns attacks
This act of violence has been universally condemned by the university.

"I'm outraged, the campus is outraged, this is unacceptable in our community," President James Votruba said. "We have zero tolerance and will prosecute to the fullest extent of the law when this person is caught."

"We are pursuing this matter as aggressively as possible. Vice-President for Student Recruitment and Retention Mark Shanley, said.

The Kentucky State Police have agreed to aid in the investigation, and DPS has an officer assigned solely to the case.

University tightens security
"We have an excellent DPS," Shanley said. "But we're looking for the expertise and experience the State police have to offer."

He said he has asked Residential Life to review their



Anna Weaver/The Northerner

At the public forum on December 3, students had the opportunity to ask administrators, including Leo Calderon and Dean Lamb, about the attacks on campus.

key protocol. He said the issue is balancing "convenience v versus safety."

"It may err in being too student friendly," Shanley said.

He said they have tried to make it easy for an RA to gain a key to allow a student locked out back into their room, but they are looking for more restricted access.

"This may cause more prolonged work," he said.

"But it's worth it if it keeps our students safe."

Besides reviewing the key protocol, the university and DPS are taking further methods to increase student's safety.

"In the future, there will be two officers assigned to the dorms during the hours of darkness," McKenzie said.

During the weekend of the

attack, there was one officer on duty. McKenzie said they normally downsize during the holidays.

The two officer patrol will remain through the end of the semester, but neither McKenzie nor Shanley said there were any definite plans on whether they would remain over the upcoming Christmas break.

Additional lighting, warning signs, and new coding on the locks were other areas McKenzie said they were enhancing security.

"It all comes down to people using their heads," Vance said, pointing out of her office window in the direction of Norse hall.

"There's a window open right there," she indicated a half open ground level window letting the bright sunlight in on a warm day. She said that at that time of day that wasn't a problem.

But she added "I could probably come back here at 10 o'clock tonight and find it still open."

McKenzie said students are their most valuable resource for student safety.

"Women should be aware of their surroundings," he said. "If they see something suspicious or strange activity, they should report it, no matter how vague."

"If your instincts say something's not right, then it probably isn't."

"Trust your instincts," he advised students.

Students getting involved

Leo Calderon, assistant director of DPS, has begun organizing a student safety committee.

"The response was overwhelming," he said.

"We would like to form this committee to share information and concerns between the students and DPS."

He said that the is to identify problems, and try to come up with solutions.

"If we can't address them on our level, we will pass it on to the administration," he said.

The key, he said, is two-way communication.

Several ideas have already been discussed, such as student safety patrols, but he said they would first have to explore the safety concerns of such a venture.

The committee is still in the organizing phase.

For more information on it and their meeting times students should contact Residential Life.



Suzanna Fleming/The Northerner

Jon McSorley and Jennifer Von Hagel of Fidelity Investments, talk to RTV major Crystal Smith about employment opportunities.

Fidelity recruiting student workers

By Rob Howard
Staff Reporter

sessions being phased in shortly thereafter.

The dotted line was signed in mid-October, renovation began November 1, and applications are being accepted.

Fidelity Investments will open its inaugural college call center at Northern Kentucky University in February 1999, offering part-time work to full time students.

Kevin Canafax, Fidelity's director of midwest communications said. "This is a winning situation for all parties involved." Northern Kentucky University students get the opportunity to have a great job with significant career options and Fidelity gains valuable top notch employees to join our corporation."

As stated originally in the October 14 issue of *The Northerner*, Fidelity's call center will be located on the first floor of the Lucas Administrative Center. Students will fill the position of participant service group representative, whose primary focus will be handling phone calls from clients regarding their 401(k) plans or mutual funds.

According to an advertisement in the November 4 issue of *The Northerner*, benefits include starting pay of \$7.50 per hour with potential to reach \$11.75, paid vacations, quarterly bonuses, and others.

Canafax stated that the hiring process and renovation are going according to plan. He also confirmed that the initial training session will begin November 30 at Fidelity's call center in Covington, with several other

Jeff Chesnut, coordinator of student employment, said that the Career Development Center has received over 160 applications to date. Interviews have been taking place since October 15 and are continuing.

Fidelity would like to open the campus call center with 184 employees, 52 of which are to begin with the first training session. Canafax said Fidelity would like to be able to select from over 300 applicants if possible, which is why Fidelity representatives have been so visible on campus.

Fidelity recruitment desks are being set up on the University Center lobby through the end of the month from 11am-1pm. Several representatives have set up information desks in Landrum and were located in the Lucas Administrative Center.

Canafax said, "Our arms are wide open to all students. This is a great way to find part-time work on campus while taking classes and perhaps lead to future with Fidelity Investments."

Chesnut added, "I believe Fidelity coming on campus will serve as both an attraction and retention factor for Northern Kentucky University. In fact, I'm not aware of any other university that has partnership with two such large corporations (Delta Air Lines being the other)."

Fidelity plans to set up the call center's hours as 8am-10pm weekdays. For further information, students can call 572-5900.



'Tis the Season to REGISTER EARLY and Pay Later!

Tuition deadline extended to January 14

In an effort to respond to students' financial needs and concerns during the holiday season, the University has extended the tuition payment deadline for spring semester 1999 to

JANUARY 14.

Take advantage of this opportunity to complete your early registration, going on now through December 24, and delay payment of tuition and fees until after the holidays. As always, Schedule Request Forms must be obtained and processed in person in the Registrar Service Center, Lucas Administrative Center 301. Students who have already paid their tuition for spring semester and would like to take advantage of the extended payment deadline should contact the Bursar's Office, second floor of the Lucas Administrative Center, or call 572-5204.



**Register early and pay later.
Now that's a Cool Yule!**

(Kind of makes you want to register, doesn't it? We thought so, too.)



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Artists soon to be known as 'Prince'

By Kelly Sudzina
Managing Editor

Don't think *The Prince of Egypt* will shy away from religion, because it won't.

The PG rated animated feature film by DreamWorks is the story of the life of Moses based on "The Book of Exodus" in the Bible.

Its soundtrack reflects this, since it's deeply rooted in complex adult themes dealing with religion. Besides the official soundtrack, there are two additional albums: "inspired by" the movie, *The Prince of Egypt: Inspirational* and *The Prince of Egypt: Nashville*. Together all three combine the work of top recording artists from gospel, R&B, country and pop music.

Overall, it truly seems to be an eclectic collection of works meant to inspire. I suppose whether or not it does inspire depends on how deeply you choose to listen.

The soundtrack itself has some spectacular scores composed by Hans Zimmer and produced by Hans Zimmer and Adam Smalley. It seems to use a range of musical emotions that almost make you feel, for example, the excitement of a chariot race. Of course, I haven't seen the movie yet, because it's not out, but I'm counting on the movie to really increase the impact of the scenes within this movie.

The song you're most likely to hear on the radio — over and over again — once the movie hits theaters is "When You Believe" by Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey from the original motion picture soundtrack. Other artists on this album include Boyz II Men, Amy Grant, and a duo featuring Steve Martin and Martin Short.

The Prince of Egypt Nashville is a collection of gospel-reminiscent country songs inspired by the movie that keep the same melodic, peaceful tone of all the music related to the movie. And even though it's country, it's still religious. Some of the songs seem a little obscure, as if they are searching for some kind of deeper meaning. One of the more obscure ones was "Somewhere Down the Road" by Faith Hill.

Somewhere down the road there'll be answers to the questions/Somewhere down the road, though we cannot see it now/They will have the answers at the end of the road.

An example of one of the songs that I thought sent a clear message was Vince Gill's "Once In Awhile" which gave a valiant try at inspiring the listener to have hope:

Don't you ever stop believing/Believing in the truth/You might think that dreams don't come true/But every once in a while they do.

What does that tell me?

Overall, I thought they were not too twangy for country songs and made use of a broad range of background instruments. For example, one song used a Kenny G-ish saxophone and another used piano as the dominant background instrument. *The Prince of Egypt Nashville* includes songs from: Alabama, Reba McEntire, Wynonna, Faith Hill and Clint Black.

The Prince of Egypt Inspirational sounded like R&B, but with a deeply religious purpose with songs like "As Long As You're With Me" by Trin-lee 57 and "I Will Get There" by Boyz II Men. *The Prince of Egypt Inspirational* includes songs from: Brian McKnight, Cece Winans, Jars of Clay and Cristian.

Out of the three, I was the most impressed with the original motion picture soundtrack. Although I enjoyed the other two derivatives, I have to admit they're not my usual genre.



Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston sing their hit song, "When You Believe" off of the new *Prince of Egypt* soundtrack.

A collector's edition music CD with selections from all three albums is part of a gift pack sold at Wal-Mart for \$19.96, through its agreement with DreamWorks SKG. The gift pack also includes: a collector's edition storybook, a limited edition lithograph and commemorative tickets to the movie which are redeemable at any theater at any time during the film's run. This is the first time shoppers have ever been able to buy advance movie tickets redeemable at any theater, according to a press release.

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In *Enemy of the State*, Will Smith stars as attorney Robert Clayton Dean who unknowingly possesses information about the death of a U.S. Congressman.

By Michael Phillips
Staff Reporter

"Privacy's been dead for 30 years because we can't risk it. The only privacy left is the inside of your head. You think we're the end of democracy? I think we're democracy's last hope." Jon Voight as Thomas Brian Reynolds, *Enemy of the State*.

The movie put together an all-star cast including: Will Smith, Gene Hackman and Jon Voight.

Robert Dean (Smith) is an attorney, who leads a happy home life and has a fast-track career, has unknowingly received confidential information on the death of a U.S. congressman.

From the moment he receives the information, the significance of which he knows nothing, his life is never the same. He can't go to his home, and can't see his wife or kid. His life is being watched by the National Security Agency.

Thomas Brian Reynolds (Voight), admin-

istrator of the NSA, plans to commit the perfect crime and conceal a political cover-up of immense proportions. The only way to survive and prove his innocence is from the help of an underground information broker and an ex-intelligence operative known as Brill (Hackman).

The movie dives right into the action, which is non-stop throughout. The action is fast paced and exhilarating. Buildings are being blown up and Mr. Smith is chased by the enemies in his boxers and a bath robe while jumping from floor to floor outside a hotel. The movie contains high-tech surveillance and computer equipment. I did not understand the computer language and its capabilities, though.

The action and the cast were what kept me interested in the movie. Buildings being blown up and bullets skimming by your head are features that make the type of movie that keeps me watching.

Even though Smith plays a serious role, he can still produce some comedy in this

high-tech action movie. Smith's tag team partner is Hackman, considered one of Hollywood's greatest stars. You might think Hackman is getting too old to dodge bullets, but he goes out there full steam ahead. As Brill, he brings intelligence and wisdom to help Dean clear his name from the enemies.

One guy in this movie who plays a real nice guy, but can also portray a villain, is Jon Voight. He portrays an NSA official who sees his role as the national guardian of the United States. When the stakes are high, he believes that the rules should be bent to protect the secrets of America, even if they include murder.

The frightening thing about the movie is that I wouldn't count out the fact that somewhere down the line we will have the technological advancements exhibited in the movie. However, the only saviors in the movie were the actors and the non-stop action. *Enemy of the State* receives 2 candy bars.

Northern Chorale goes carolling for the holidays

By Rob Howard
Staff Reporter

Although many students at Northern Kentucky University don't realize it, there is actually a class that allows you to travel the tri-state area, compete for awards, travel and represent the university all while doing something you may enjoy.

What is this intriguing course? According to the spring '99 catalog, it is MUS 101, or simply, The Northern Chorale.

The 1998 Chorale consists of 115 vocalists who will receive 1 credit hour for their dedicated work, which sometimes could include practice five days a week.

The Chorale's conductor is Randy Pennington, who is a music department faculty member. Although NKU has always had a choral group, since Pennington's arrival in '93, the participation in choral has risen dramatically. In fact, two specific elite vocal groups are considered to be amongst the top groups in the region. These elite groups are the Jazz Ensemble and the Northern Chamber Choir.

All members of these elite groups are in the Chorale as well. However, the Chamber Choir consists of only 36 members, while the Jazz Ensemble features 14. Auditions are held to fill these positions.

Pennington said, "These students work extremely hard, and it's obviously not for the class credit. It's because they realize we have something special. These choirs are some of NKU's best kept secrets."

Pennington also added that the Jazz Ensemble and Chamber Choir

act as great ambassadors for the university.

"We generally do between 15 and 20 shows a year, but less than 10 are at Greaves. We're very visible off campus," he said.

In fact, the Jazz Ensemble and Chamber Choir have performed at such events as a Cincinnati Riverhawks game, local high school concerts, Sing Cincinnati!, the Patricia Corbett Gala, and the opening of the Aronoff Center.

The Chamber Choir also presented a demo tape to the Kentucky State Music Educators Convention this past year, which is a showcase for the Midwest's premier vocalists groups.

On December 10, all three choirs will perform at Greaves Concert Hall at 7:30. General admission is \$3.00. However Northern faculty and students have no charge.

The concert will focus primarily on holiday songs.

The literature will consist of classic carols, such as "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" by the Chamber Choir, and "Deck The Halls" performed by the Jazz Ensemble.

The Jazz Ensemble, itself, recently performed on December 4 at Greaves.

The audience witnessed a performance by such vocalist acts as Sweden's The Real Group.

Pennington stated, "These aren't just your typical choral concerts. Our shows are entertaining and possess the variety that makes them at least a little pleasing to everyone's palate."

Sandler quenches audiences thirst for laughter

By Tom Ramstetter
Staff Reporter

"The Waterboy," Adam Sandler's latest comedy film, will not win movie of the year honors or most probably any awards. But it will send moviegoers into fits of laughter numerous times during the movie.

The film, produced by Touchstone pictures and directed by Frank Coraci, is the story of Bobby Boucher (Adam Sandler). Boucher has been held back from the rest of the world by his Mama (Kathy Bates). Mama has home schooled Bobby and characterizes everything outside their home in the swamps of Louisiana as "the devil's work."

The only contact Bobby has with the outside world is his waterboy job with a college football team

where all the players make fun of him and the coach (Jerry Reed) doesn't let him fight back. However, when Bobby loses his job and goes to another team to be waterboy, his new coach (Henry Winkler) allows him to fight back and become the best collegiate linebacker in the country. The only problem is hiding his new football career and his new girlfriend, Vicki Valencourt (Fairuza Balk) from his over-protective mama.

Seeking to make the audience laugh hard and laugh often, "The Waterboy" does just that. The film appeals to all ages.

"This was the funniest Adam Sandler movie yet," said moviegoer, Beth Steigerwald. "It didn't have the deep plot that 'The Wedding Singer' had, but it kept me laughing."

According to a press release, Walt Disney Pictures and Pixar Animation Studios shared the Scientific and Technical Achievement Award at the 1992 Oscars for joint development of a revolutionary system for animation. With the \$360 million box office success of their first effort *Toy Story* in 1995, Disney/Pixar solidified a five picture deal which included *A Bug's Life*.

One of our main goals at Disney is to expand the boundaries of our medium and to stay on the cutting edge of telling interesting new stories with different techniques. The goal of filmmakers is to convince the audience that what they're seeing could happen, should happen, did happen." President of Walt Disney Feature Animation Peter Schneider said in the press release.

A Bug's Life failed on all counts. The story was not new and neither was the technique. The story line is admittedly a spin-off of the classic Aesop's fable about a carefree grasshopper begging food from industrious ants and the technique looked no different than the anima-



In *Waterboy*, Bobby Boucher, played by Adam Sandler, thinks his job dispensing water to dehydrated athletes is life's greatest calling, despite being the constant target of jokes.

For a good laugh this holiday season, "The Waterboy" will fit the bill. Each gut-wrenching blow to quarterbacks, receivers and running backs is hilarious

'A Bug's Life' is a real bite in the rear

"One of our main goals at Disney is to expand the boundaries of our medium and to stay on the cutting edge of telling interesting new stories with different techniques. The goal of filmmakers is to convince the audience that what they're seeing could happen, should happen, did happen." President of Walt Disney Feature Animation Peter Schneider said in the press release.

A Bug's Life failed on all counts. The story was not new and neither was the technique. The story line is admittedly a spin-off of the classic Aesop's fable about a carefree grasshopper begging food from industrious ants and the technique looked no different than the anima-

tion in *Lion King* or *The Little Mermaid*. There is nothing new or exciting about this film. Even the children in the audience got quickly bored and began playing in the aisles.

Disney/Pixar is trying very hard to ride this film into the profit margins on the saddle of *Toy Story*. Don't be fooled by their marketing ploys. Until next year when *Toy Story 2* hits the theaters and hope for the interesting new stories with different techniques promised but not delivered in *A Bug's Life*.

If you must have a taste of *A Bug's Life*, go to Micky D's and get yourself a Happy Meal. At least there you will get a cute, little bug in every meal.

Miss Black and Old Gold crowned at Greaves

By Hlevani Baloy
Staff Reporter

The fourth annual Miss Black and Old Gold Pageant, hosted by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity was held in Greaves Concert Hall on November 21, 1998.

The pageant was introduced in 1994 to allow black women at Northern Kentucky University to express their creativity, display their beauty and expose their dignity and pride as black women.

The program began with Ingrid Rachel, an NKU student, singing the Black National Anthem to start things off. The judges were introduced, who were mostly graduate members of Alpha Phi Alpha and their sister sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha.

The pageant was kicked off with an inspirational African dance performed by the contestants with the theme, "Unity", choreographed by Lillian Olenbo. The six contestants were introduced in business attire and gave personal speeches about their character and what they planned to do in life.

The ladies modeled with elegance and grace. However, it was not until the ladies performed their talent that the audience received a sense of each

contestant's own personal expression. The ladies performed a variety of talents such as reciting poetry from black poets, interpreting a song in sign language and even reciting their own personal works.

This was merely the beginning of the challenge the ladies would have to rise to when modeling the evening gowns. The gowns were exquisite and the contestants carried themselves with confidence while they exhibited the gowns for their roaring audience.

The pressure was on when the contestants were brought out for the dictation expression. The questions asked addressed mainly focused on education, respect and communication. The contestants were anxious and nervous to learn who would have the crown of Miss Black and Old Gold 1998.

Nevertheless, the reigning 1997 Miss Black and Old Gold had to grace the stage one last time before giving up her throne. Laura Turner, Miss Black and Old Gold 1997, had these inspirational words for the contestants, "I wish you all good fortune in all of your endeavors and just remember if your heart can conceive it and your mind can conceive it then you can achieve it!"

As the results were handed to the

master of ceremonies, Romin Carey, the ladies waited in anticipation. The second runner-up was LaDorna Nelson, a freshman from Cincinnati, Ohio, who is majoring in Sociology. The first runner-up was Crystal Steele, a second semester freshman from Cincinnati, Ohio who is majoring in Elementary Education and minoring in sign language.

And finally, the moment of truth: The winner of Miss Black and Old Gold was Crystal Collins. Collins is a freshman from Cincinnati, Ohio and a political science major. She was overjoyed to have won the pageant and had these words to say about how she felt about winning, "I feel like it is an excellent opportunity to meet new people, and show other universities and people at NKU that not all black women are bad, there some of us doing positive things for our community and our school!"

Crystal stressed that it was long hours preparing for the pageant and how she enjoyed working with the other contestants. Her mother was so proud of her and emphasized how Crystal went through a lot of emotional stress when her father died but she refused to give up and is here to prove herself as an intelligent strong black



Crystal Steele (second from the left), seen here in the opening number to the Miss Black and Old Gold Pageant, was crowned this year's winner.

woman! Precious Lindsay, one of the contestants, expressed her happiness for Crystal and said she felt she made a lot of friends in the course of the preparation period.

Tomisha Lovely, mistress of ceremonies and organizer, emphasized how the contestant and committee

members spent a great deal of time and effort preparing for the pageant.

Anthony Beatty, a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, talked about the organization of the pageant, "I appreciate the contestants being cooperative and was thankful to the committee members and to my brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha."

Are YOU prepared for final exams?

By Emily Steffens
Staff Reporter

Exam week, December 14-19, is quickly approaching. Do Northern Kentucky University students know the best ways to prepare?

Ian Smith, a junior radio and television major, said he usually

waits until the night before to study for exams. "I'm pretty lazy and I do everything at the last minute," Smith said. "But it's worked out pretty well for me so far."

This is not the most effective way to prepare for exams, according to Paul Ellis, director of the

Learning Assistance Program.

Ellis said students should begin studying for their exams early and not try to learn all the material at once. He also suggested students do all the required and suggested reading for each class and study in groups.

While studying for exams, according to Ellis, it may be helpful for students to recite and repeat material or create a mental picture to help visualize information. Ellis also recommended students make sample questions and practice writing essay answers to questions that may appear on their exams.

Ellis said creating a mnemonic, which is a memorization device, can also be helpful in preparing for exams. For example, an easy way to remember the names of the Great Lakes is by using the word SHOME. Each letter stands for a

one of the lakes: Superior, Huron, Ontario, Michigan and Erie.

Students can also read *Becoming a Master Student*, a book written by David B. Ellis. This book contains helpful hints on note-taking, memorizing and other study methods. According to Ellis, students can find this book in the Steely Library or in the Learning Assistance Program office.

Students can receive help writing papers in the Writing Center, in room 230 of the Business, Education and Psychology building. Faculty and upper-class students are available to work with students to help them understand assignments, think and write clearly and revise and edit papers.

The Learning Assistance Program also offers course-specific tutoring, said Ellis. However, students who want help from a

tutor should come in early and work regularly with one throughout the semester.

"The early bird gets the worm," said Ellis. "Tutoring right before exams is not the best way."

To do well on final exams, Ellis said it is also important for students to get a good night's rest.

Students who live on campus at NKU will be able to get enough sleep due to the 24-hour quiet period that will be enforced in the residence halls during exam week. According to Patty Hayden, director of Residential Life, this quiet period starts on the Sunday right before exams. Students are expected to keep a low noise level during the day as well as at night.

Students who do not follow the 24-hour quiet rule, according to Hayden, can be removed from the building and asked to leave campus.

Fall 1998 Final Examination Schedule

TIME OF	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8:00-10:00	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	7:30 AM	8:15-10:00	8:00-9:00
10:10	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:15-11:00	10:15 AM
11:10	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:00-11:45	11:00 AM
1:00-3:00	1:00 PM	12:00-1:15	12:00 PM	12:00 PM	1:00-2:45	1:00 PM
3:10-5:10	3:10 PM	3:10 PM	3:10 PM	3:10 PM	3:00-4:00	3:00 PM
5:10-7:10	5:30 PM	5:30 PM	5:30 PM	5:30 PM	5:15-6:00	5:15 PM
7:10-9:10	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	7:15-8:00	7:15 PM
9:10-11:10	9:30 PM	9:30 PM	9:30 PM	9:30 PM	9:15-10:00	9:15 PM

The end of the semester will soon be here!

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Campus Book & Supply.

For all your holiday needs, get a wide variety of Norse apparel.

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Next to BW3, in the County
Square Shopping Center
(606) 781-7276

Campus Calendar

Wednesday, Dec. 9:

- Free Swing dance class sponsored by LALINK, 3-5 p.m.
- Norse Commons Recreation Room.
- Hora de conversacion, Spanish conversation hour, 2 p.m.
- Landrum 531.
- Wednesday Lunch Seminar, "The Perpetual Incarceration Machine," Stephen Richards. Noon. UC Faculty/Staff Dining Room.

Thursday, Dec. 10:

- Choral Concert. Randy Pennington, Conductor. 8 p.m. Greaves Concert Hall.
- Phi Beta Lambda meeting. 3:15 p.m. UC 303.
- Students Together Against Racism. 7:30 p.m. Norse Commons Room 117.
- Student Council for Exceptional Children Bake Sale. 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. BEP.

Friday, Dec. 11:

- Speech, "Beyond the Prison Industrial Complex," by activist/scholar Angela Davis. 6:15 p.m. UC theatre.

Saturday, Dec. 12:

- Last day of classes.
- Northern Kentucky Community Chorus. John Westlund, Conductor. 3 p.m. Greaves Concert Hall.

Sunday, Dec. 13:

- Northern Kentucky Community Chorus. 1998 Christmas Concert featuring harpist Elaine Christy Bejani. 3 p.m. Greaves Concert Hall.

Wednesday, Dec. 16:

- Holiday Open House for NKU faculty and staff. 1-3 p.m. UC lounge.

Friday, Dec. 18:

- NKU Preparatory Department. String Ensemble Holiday Concert. 8 p.m. Greaves Concert Hall.

Saturday, Dec. 19:

- Commencement.

Tuesday, Dec. 22:

- NKU Men's Basketball vs. Kentucky State. 7:45 p.m. Regents Hall.

Saturday, Jan. 2:

- NKU Men's Basketball vs. Missouri-St. Louis. 3:15 p.m. Regents Hall.

Wednesday, December 9, 1998

THE NORTHERNER

Zero Tolerance

Student response to recent attacks

By Anna Weaver
Executive Editor

The third time is not a charm. It's not even close. I, along with every other woman living on campus, am scared to death of the reoccurring attacks taking place at NKU. I am also one of the many who feels that the precautions taken after the first attack were not sufficient. As a woman I wonder how seriously my safety on this campus is taken. I'm scared and I want answers.

In a public forum last Thursday, students who live on campus had the opportunity to ask questions about the recent attack. The attack was the third in six months. At 5:55 Thanksgiving morning, an assailant entered a woman's locked apartment in Woodcrest. This attack was carried out in a similar fashion to the previous two, and the assumption is that they are all related.

The key here is the key. An assailant entered a woman's locked apartment. That's the scary part.

When I first heard about the attack, I was more cautious about walking from my car to my room and I made sure that I always, always locked my door. I

thought that if I took the universal precautions that all women should take, then I would be okay. Apparently not.

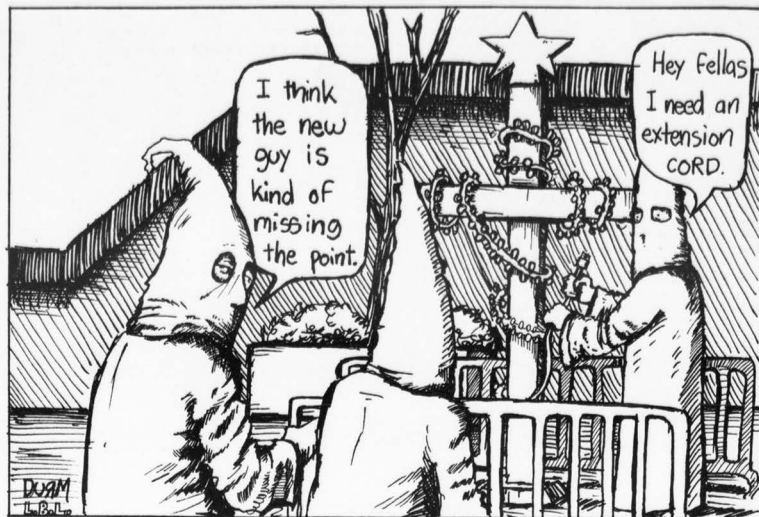
At the forum, many students voiced complaints about the escort service on campus, the blue emergency phones, and the conduct of patrolling officers, which according to a Residential Advisor had been less than professional.

My question to the administrators was this, "Even if I do make it to my room without trouble, I'm not at all protected when I'm in there with my door locked, so how can I possibly be safe anywhere?" I wanted to why master keys to my room were floating around, and what they were doing about the lock system.

I was told that all the master keys were accounted for and the codes had been changed to the sub-master keys.

But here's the thing: the recent attack was the second attack in which the assailant gained access to a locked room. So why weren't the codes changed after the second attack?

As a new precaution, two officers have been assigned to patrol the residential village during



hours of darkness. Again, why weren't the officers assigned this duty after the initial attack?

But no matter how many officers patrol, and how many emergency phones are installed, and how many lights are put up, women living on campus will not be safe until we can lock our doors. I've never lived anywhere before where there was only one look on my front door. Anybody that knows anything about safety knows how important extra chain locks are.

I've heard that extra

locks are not installed because they violate fire codes. Since the recent attack, I have been moving my couch in front of my door every night.

I can guarantee that moving furniture in front of the only exit is a fire hazard, but apparently I have no other choice. It's the lesser of two evils, get raped or burn.

All I ask is to be safe walking to my room and to be safe when I am in my room. It shouldn't take three attacks for serious changes to occur in the lock and patrolling systems

of the dorms. I am glad to see the positive changes that have occurred since the beginning of the semester, but desperate times call for desperate measures.

I encourage all women to look out for one another, and form buddy systems. Look out for your friends when they come home late at night.

Remind them to lock their doors or call an escort. Maybe even spend the night with a friend that lives alone. Take a self defense course.

Call DPS when you see

anybody on campus that look suspicious. Carry mace or a body alarm. Always be cautious and alert.

And further more, call on the administrators to take a "zero tolerance" stance on the attacks that are taking place.

President Votruba has said just this, and we need to make sure that attitude towards our safety is always this passionate, even after the attention to this case dies down.

I know that I take a zero tolerance stance on being a sitting duck.

North Poll

What are you most looking forward to doing during the winter break?

Mark Haap
Cincinnati
Anthropology

"Reading books other than school books."



Jenny Janson
Ft. Wright
Undeclared

"Going caroling and sled riding."



Tricia Miller
Cincinnati
Social Work

"Sleeping and taking the GRE."



Julie Weltzer
Edgewood
Undeclared

"Not having homework and the stress of exams being over."



Inna Pylyayeva
Kharkiv, Ukraine
Marketing

"Seeing how Americans celebrate Christmas."



Steve Feldhaus
Independence
Undeclared

"Working to get more money for school and having time off from school."



THE NORTHERNER

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EDITORIAL POLICY

The Northerner welcomes all letters to the editor and editorials. We request that they be less than 600 words, typed and sent preferably via e-mail to northern@nku.edu. The Northerner reserves the right to refuse any letter to the editor or editorial and to change spelling and grammatical errors.

CLARIFICATION:

In the Nov. 25 issue of *The Northerner*, a cutline for the picture of the Soul Food Festival incorrectly stated that the Office of Affirmative Action and Multicultural Affairs, Black Faculty/Staff Association, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., and the Delta's sponsored the event. Although all these groups participated in the event, the official sponsor was the Office of African-American Student Affairs and Ethnic Services.

Wednesday, December 9, 1998

THE NORTHERNER

Final four hopes decided in two Men split in conference games

By Chad Aulick
Sports Editor

Northern Kentucky University's volleyball team traveled to Keesimie Florida last weekend to battle University of Tampa in the Elite Eight.

NKU was two games away from a Final four appearance.

After dropping the first game 15-1 the Norse regained composure taking game two 15-13. After getting even NKU led the next two games 15-6, 15-12 and its season ended.

Gomez led the Norse effort in kills with 12. NKU head coach Mary Biermann says she was pleased with the way the freshman stepped up and she is looking to go back to the NCAA tournament next season.

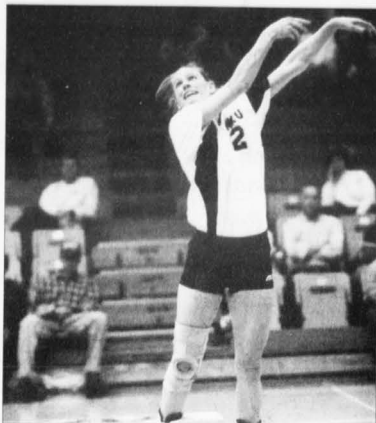
But what about this year?

The Norse took the Great Lakes Valley Conference crown. A task its accomplished in three of the last four seasons. Its won the Great Lakes Regional title advancing to the Elite Eight. A task until this season, had never been accomplished.

NKU bagged a 29-4 team record this season which hasn't come without individual achievements.

Mary Biermann has been named the American Volleyball Coaches Association G at Lakes Region Coach of the Year.

Molly Donovan and Jenni Long



Jenni Long flails her arms toward the ball in the Regional Tournament. Long was named All-Great Lakes Region this season.

have been named All-Great Lakes Region by the AVCA.

Donovan was also named second team All-America by the AVCA. She led NKU with over 1,200 assists this season. The senior setter is NKU's all time leader in assists with more than 4,900.

Long compiled over 300 kills

and 300 digs. The senior outside hitter was named GLVC Player of the Week twice this year.

The season has ended, but a lingering thought remains.

The Norse were three games away from a national title heading into Florida, and like this year 1999 could bring a list of firsts for NKU volleyball.

By Elden May
Assistant Sports Editor

The Northern Kentucky University men's basketball team fought four Great Lakes Valley Conference wars and emerged with victories against Bellarmine and Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and lost to nationally ranked Kentucky Wesleyan and Southern Indiana.

On Saturday, November 28, NKU hosted Bellarmine College at Regents Hall. NKU jumped out to a 17 point lead and withstood a furious Bellarmine rally for a 70-69 win.

The Norse shot 50 percent from the field in the first half, including 7 for 14 from three point range. This, coupled with Bellarmine's 33 percent shooting, allowed NKU to cruise to a 37-26 halftime lead.

Bellarmine improved to 51 percent shooting in the second half while forcing NKU into 14 turnovers.

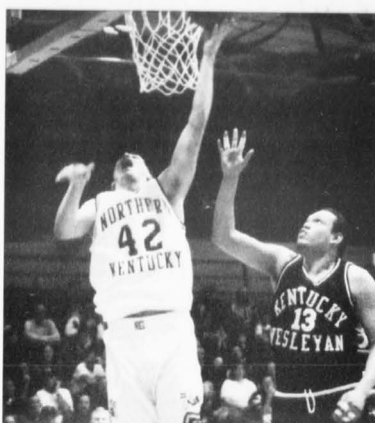
Adam Norwell returned from an early season knee injury to score 16 points. Norwell was also NKU's leading rebounder with seven. Craig Conley scored 13 points while Brian Lawhon and Charles Nixon added 12.

On Monday, NKU hosted the number one team in the nation in Kentucky Wesleyan. NKU stayed close to the Panthers for 30 minutes before KWC All-Americans Antonio Garcia and Dana Williams took over and led KWC to an 86-77 victory.

Williams and Garcia both scored 19 points, while Garcia pulled down 18 rebounds and Williams added 16. The two out-rebounded the entire NKU team, 34-26.

NKU rode the hot hands of the Craigs—Conley and Sanders, to keep NKU close. Conley scored 13 of his 21 points in the first stanza, while Sanders hit for 15 of his 27 after halftime.

Sanders said the Norse accuracy didn't really surprise him. "We do that every day in practice, so I wasn't surprised," Sanders said.



Adam Norwell scores over 1997-98 GLVC Player of the Year Antonio Garcia. Norwell notched eight points in the game against KWC.

KWC coach Ray Harper had nothing but good things to say about the Norse after the game.

"Give Kenny (Shields) and NKU credit. They are well-coached. We knew exactly what they were going to do and we didn't stop it," Harper said.

The game was marred by a post game incident. As the final horn sounded, Wesleyan players Dana Williams and Gino Bartolone refused to shake hands with the NKU team. NKU coach Ken Shields said the incident is no longer an issue.

"Dana (Williams) came over and shook hands and apologized for leaving the floor," Shields said. "It was a hotly contested game. This was a big one."

Thursday, NKU traveled to Evansville to take on the fifth ranked USI Screaming Eagles.

The Norse shot a blistering 67 percent from the floor in the first half and trailed USI 48-37 at the intermission. The Eagles took over in the second half on the way

to a 97-76 whipping of NKU.

University of Illinois transfer Leighton Nash led USI with 24 points and 11 rebounds. Guard Junior Bond also added 15 points. NKU was led by Craig Sanders with 25 points. Brian Lawhon added 15 and Craig Conley added 12. The USI defense shut down the NKU perimeter game in the second half as the Norse shot 29 percent on 10 of 34 shooting.

NKU wrapped up the road trip with an 80-67 win at Southern Illinois at Edwardsville. The Norse led 43-25 at halftime and held off a late Cougar rally. Adam Norwell led NKU with 25 points on 10 of 11 shooting.

NKU is now 4-3 (2-2 GLVC) on the season.

The NKU women's basketball team posted an overall 6-1 record after losing its first game of the season against Edwardsville on Saturday.

The loss came after the Norse upset Southern Indiana on the road.

Three NKU players named All-Central Region

Betsy Moore, Kelly Magee, and Lindsay Smith honored

Three Northern Kentucky University women's soccer players—Betsy Moore, Kelly Magee and Lindsay Smith—have been named All-Central Region by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

Moore, a freshman forward and graduate of McAuley High School in Cincinnati, led NKU with 16 goals and 12 assists this past season. Moore was also named the Great Lakes Valley Conference's Freshman of the

Year.

Magee, a senior defender and graduate of McNicholas High School in Cincinnati, anchored an NKU defense that surrendered just six goals against GLVC opposition in the regular season.

Smith, a junior midfielder and graduate of McAuley High School in Cincinnati, scored 10 goals and had three assists this season as NKU posted a 16-3-3 record and captured the GLVC championship.

MINORITY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY HOUSING AND TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS

NOTICE TO CONTINUING STUDENTS: In the category of institutional scholarships/awards for continuing students, The 1999-2000 Scholarship Award Information Booklet lists incorrect eligibility and renewal information for the Minority Educational Opportunity Housing and Tuition Scholarships. The correct requirements are listed below and apply to both scholarships, except where noted.

Eligibility: Must be a minority as defined by federal guidelines. Must be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S. Must be an entering freshman with a GPA of 2.0 or better; a continuing student or transfer student with a GPA of 2.75 or better. Must have evidence of academic achievement such as transcripts, references, achievement on ACT, or rank in graduating class. Applicants must adhere to all University policies and regulations related to University residence halls.

Amount: Housing Scholarship offers full room rental fee for Kentucky or Commonwealth Hall and the nineteen meals per week meal plan coverage. (Recipients are responsible for the damage deposit.). Tuition Scholarship offers full tuition at in-state or out-of-state rates.

Duration: One academic year, excluding summer sessions. Renewable for up to three additional years with a GPA of 2.5 or higher.

For more information or to obtain a scholarship application: Contact the Office of Student Financial Assistance.

Deadline is February 1, 1999.



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-TV-CHALLENGE



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

ACROSS

1. Catherine Bell's role on *JAG*
4. Search; Ed McMahon series
8. Modern jet, for short
11. 1978 Tony Kendall movie
12. *Rivera*
13. Member of a funny trio
14. Series about Mr. Greene and his family (2)
17. Lead role on *Switched* (1964-72)
19. *Caroline in the City* role
19. Word in the title of Geoff Pierson's series
21. Walker
24. *Star Trek*: The Undiscovered Country; '91 film
25. Initials for Popeye's love
26. Ms. Corby's monogram
27. Late actor Nigel's initials
28. Ward
30. Swenson of *Benson*
32. Club member
34. Year for Julio Iglesias
35. The _____ current game show
41. Kimono accessory
42. Dr. Zivago's love
43. *Dude* (1989-91)
44. Cable network letters
45. Student's ordeal
46. Saul _____ Marie

DOWN

1. Janitor's item
2. On the _____; 1992 Ian Buchanan sitcom
3. Eric of *The Magnificent Seven*
4. _____ Pickens
5. _____ the season _____



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Custom Features

HOROSCOPE

By C.C. Clark - eTVData Features Syndicate

December 6 through December 12, 1998

Aries (March 21 - April 19)
Budgeting and money matters should take priority. This is not the time to take on any risky ventures. The good news is your love life is picking up.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)
Be clever when deciding on gifts for co-workers and friends. Keep your feet on the ground where matters of the heart are concerned.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)
Check all your figures twice and make certain you look closely at bills. Shake off feelings of restlessness with a brisk walk.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)
This is a good time to present new ideas to those around you. State the facts and let people make their own decisions.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22)
Invite a close friend to visit a museum or art gallery with you. Go out on the town and dance the night away.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
Stop playing games. It is important to let people know exactly what you want from your relationships.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)
Jealousy causes big trouble in an already shaky relationship. Rein in those emotions and try to think more clearly.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)
People don't always live up to expectations, but that is no reason to treat them badly. Patience is an important virtue.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
Music can lift your mood faster than anything. Take some time to pick out your favorite tunes, and let them play.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
If you aren't certain how you feel about a relationship, it is important to be honest. There is nothing wrong with saying, "I don't know."

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
Avoid potentially stressful situations whenever possible. Don't push loved ones into something for which they are not ready.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)
Stop spinning around in circles. Find your focus and concentrate. A special outing turns out to be more fun than expected.

Born this week:

- Dec. 6 - Tom Hulce, Janine Turner
Dec. 7 - Larry Bird, Ellen Barkin, Tom Waits
Dec. 8 - Kim Basinger, Teri Hatcher, Flip Wilson
Dec. 9 - Beau Bridges, Kirk Douglas, Donny Osmond
Dec. 10 - Kenneth Branagh
Dec. 11 - Teri Garth, Rita Moreno
Dec. 12 - Bob Barker, Dianne Wiest

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- * Cartoonist
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CAMPUS CLIMATE

Wednesday



High 43
Low 30
Partly sunny
today. Chance of
rain is 18 percent.

Thursday



High 47
Low 31
Partly sunny
today. Chance of
rain is 17 percent.

Friday



High 48
Low 30
Mostly cloudy
today. Chance of
rain is 29 percent.

Saturday



High 50
Low 34
Cloudy today.
Chance of rain is
30 percent.

Sunday



High 46
Low 35
Cloudy and rainy
today. Chance of
rain is 58 percent.



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Northern Holidays

Volume 28 Number 15

Special Section of *The Northerner*

Wednesday, December 9, 1998

Queen city displays its finest



AND THEY'RE ON: A festive Fountain Square lights up for the season.

Jeff McCurry/*The Northerner*

Hanukkah: A holiday of dedication

By Jeffrey Williams
Staff Reporter

Hanukkah means dedication. "On the 25th of Kislew we celebrate the eight day Festival of Dedication, our wonderful Jewish holiday," Gloria Sosin said in her Internet article, "Happy Xanuka." Jewish people continue to use the lunar calendar instead of the solar calendar, most commonly used in the United States. The Jewish calendar has 29 or 30 days in each month, as opposed to 30 or 31 days. For this reason, Hanukkah does not fall on the same day of the solar calendar every year. Christmas is always on the 25th day of December of the solar calendar and Hanukkah is always on the 25th day of Kislew of the Jewish calendar, said

Robert Appleson, the assistant vice president of Northern Kentucky University.

Sosin said, "We retell the story of the Maccabees to our children, about Mattathias and his five sons who fought against King Antiochus and the Syrians. When Mattathias grew too old, his son Judah Maccabee led the Jews to victory and reclaimed the Temple of Jerusalem. Only enough oil was found to relight the Ner Tamid, the Eternal Light, for one day but it continued to burn for eight days. We light the candles each night as we recall our divine deliverance from persecution."

Celebrating the Festival of Dedication embodies the telling of the story of the Maccabees and the lighting of nine candles. Two of the candles will be lit on the first

evening and one candle will be lit every evening until all the candles are burning. A ceremonial, nine candlestick holder called a Menorah holds the candles until the evening of the ninth day, when the celebration ends.

According to Appleson, the ninth candle is used to light the other candles and to brighten the room so that the ceremony will not be contaminated. "Jews believe any article involved in a religious ceremony should not be used for anything else," Appleson said. He said someone reading from the light of the eight candles would contaminate the ceremony if the ninth candle was not present.

The proximity of the dates for celebrating Christmas and Hanukkah and the gift giving

common to both associate Hanukkah as the Jewish equivalent of Christmas to some non-Jewish people. According to Appleson, this is a misconception. He said Hanukkah has been celebrated for about 2200 years and the gift giving is a relatively new custom not practiced by most Jews.

Sosin said that from a simple custom of giving money, the Jews, in an effort to equal or eclipse the gentile custom and not deprive their underprivileged children, began also to give presents. Not just one present, but one for each night, and each night the present has to be more grand than the last.

Hanukkah begins at sunset on Dec. 13 this year. "All Jewish holidays begin and end at nightfall," Appleson said.

Traditions revisited

Stealing from the Winter solstice

By Margie Wise
Production Manager

"The impulse to spend seizes everyone. People are not only generous themselves, but also towards their fellow men. A stream of presents pours itself out on all sides..."

Does this sound familiar? It was written in the fourth century by the Roman writer Libanius. He was discussing Kalends, an ancient Roman festival. During the three days of Kalends, houses were decorated with lights and greenery, said John Matthews in the book *The Winter Solstice*.

Like many other cultures, the Kalends festival was a celebration of the winter solstice, which is the shortest day of the year. It represents the beginning of the new solar year and occurs around Dec. 22. According to Saeed, a website dedicated to the winter solstice, the idea is older than history. Susie said the solstice was a down time between two seasons of heavy work, making it a natural time to have a party.

Egyptians celebrated the rebirth of their sun god Ra at this time of the year. They set the length of the festival at twelve days to reflect the division of their solar calendar. They decorated with greenery, twelve-shooted palms represented a complete year, according to the site.

The website said we also get many of our holiday traditions from the Druids and the Celts, whose customarily placed mistletoe, which was supposed to ensure fertility, around a fire during the solstice.

The origin of the Christmas tree also comes from pagan tradition. It was intended to celebrate the renewal of nature. Some of the other symbols that have been borrowed from ancient festivals include red candles to symbolize fire and the returning sun, lights, wreaths, the solstice colors of red, green and white and bells, which were used to greet the sun on the morning following the solstice.

Matthews said that even Santa Claus entering through a chimney originated from the Shaman of many ancient cultures. This figure would descend ladders or a pole into the smoky fires of the ancestral world and bring back gifts of wisdom.

"From the time of the first neolithic farmers, through the Celtic tribes, and later the Romans who invaded the land of Britain... the common practice was the celebration of the Midwinter sun," said Matthews.

In fact, according to Tom Flynn in *The Trouble With Christmas*, Christianity has contributed the least of all the influences surrounding the holiday of Christmas.

The book, *Holy Blood, Holy Grail* said that it was the Roman emperor Constantine who first moved the date of Christmas to Dec. 25, because he also followed a sun cult which had a celebration on that day.

"They say that [research is] plagiarism from multiple sources." If that's true, then nothing Americans do bears the mark of research more than contemporary Christmas," said Flynn.

Oh, Christmas Tree...

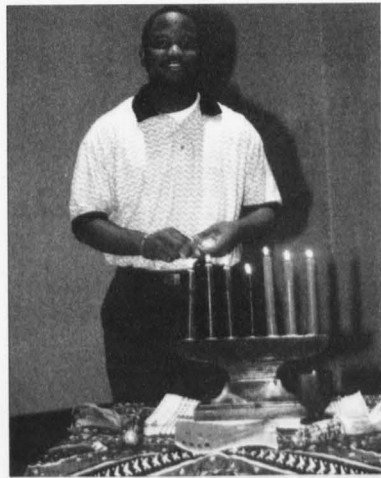


Jeff McCurry/*The Northerner*

Department Stores prepare for a season of shopping frenzy with colorful decorations.

Kwanzaa is more than just a celebration

Holiday encourages appreciation of African American traditions



Anna Weaver/*The Northerner*
Jeff Jordan, Program Coordinator for the Office of African American Student Affairs and Ethnic Services, displays the kinar.

By Anna Weaver
Executive Editor

Strength in the black family, cooperation in the community, embracing of cultural heritage. These are just some of the values celebrated during the Kwanzaa holiday.

Romin Carey, a sophomore social work major at Northern Kentucky University, said that to him the Kwanzaa celebration means "giving back to my community, remembering my ancestors, and celebrating my freedom." Carey helped with the planning of the Kwanzaa celebration sponsored by the Office of African American Student Affairs and Ethnic Services and said he first started celebrating Kwanzaa in 1995. Music and dance are Carey's favorite parts of the celebration.

The program that took place last week incorporated the efforts of NKU students, staff and children from surrounding Cincinnati schools. Children from the Marva Collins Preparatory School in Cincinnati presented the audience with soulful readings of poems

and speeches including, "I Rise" by Maya Angelou and "I Have A Dream" by the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Students from NKU offered dance, drama, poetry, music, and the ceremonies of Kwanzaa to the program.

Jeff Jordan, program coordinator for the Office of African American Student Affairs and Ethnic Services, said that the planning of the Kwanzaa program has been more elementary school-oriented each year. Jordan said that one of the main focuses of Kwanzaa is the joy of giving gifts, and who is better to give gifts to than children? He said the kids really enjoy the entertainment and the interaction of the program.

Jordan has a son of his own, Jeffrey Jordan, Jr. He said that even though his son is too young to understand Kwanzaa, he wants to get his son rooted in his culture, which is an aspect of the celebration. "I want him to know who he is and where he came from," Jordan said. "I don't want him to be secluded from anything and I want him to be well rounded in his life."

See KWANZAA, Page 6

LOCAL

Holiday events around Cincinnati and sponsored by NKU

P2

INTERNATIONAL

Holiday traditions from around the world

P3

GIFTS

The best places to shop and the best gifts to get

P4

Just horsin' around



Jeff McCarry/The Northerner
A horse-and-cart cabby waits for holiday passengers in Cincinnati's Fountain Square.

BSU puts the "Christ" back in Christmas

By Wayne Yeager
Staff Reporter

Festivities and traditions are usually a big part of Christmas celebrations.

The Baptist Student Union isn't any different, as three major events highlight the BSU Christmas celebration.

Deck the Walls started things off on Nov. 30. Students at the BSU decorated the building for the holidays, using tradition decorations — lights, garland and mistletoe — along with a Christmas tree to produce a Christmas atmosphere within the building.

"We present our center in a festive atmosphere and stress the birth of Christ at Christmas," BSU Campus Minister Bill Ellis said.

As part of the tree decoration, paper angels were placed on the branches of the tree. Each angel included a child's initials and an item the child wants for Christmas. This was done in coordination with the BSU Angel Tree, which provides Christmas presents for youth at the Independence Community Youth Home.

Students had the opportunity to

select names from the tree and buy gifts for them.

"We tend to take for granted what we get at Christmas, but there are others who are less fortunate," BSU Missions Coordinator and Angel Tree organizer Amy Ledden said. "We should give something back to the community and allow others to have the same joy as we have."

The BSU Angel Tree began Dec. 1 and runs through Dec. 12, concluding at the final BSU event of the semester, the BSU Christmas party.

The Christmas party begins at 7:00 on Dec. 12 and will feature snacks, hot chocolate, games and traditional Christmas movies.

"We're going to watch traditional Christmas movies — *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*, *A Charlie Brown Christmas* — the good old ones," BSU In reach Coordinator Betsy Blair said. "It is going to be a very homey atmosphere."

Ellis summed up Christmas this way.

"It (Christmas) is more than tinsel, lights, tree and a manger," Ellis said. "If you take away all the toys and dinners, it is still Christ."

Christmas Carrousel returns to MainStrasse

Downtown Covington decorates and celebrates the holiday season

By Tony Casnellie
Copy Editor

The next time you and your friends gather at MainStrasse Village in Covington, don't be surprised if you become filled with the holiday spirit.

MainStrasse is decorated for the Christmas season with thousands of lights, wreaths, ice carvings and holiday music

blaring throughout The Village.

The Village specialty and antique shops will extend their hours until Dec. 25: Mon-Wed. 10 am-6 pm, Thurs-Fri. 10 am-8 pm, Sat. 10 am-6 pm and Sun. 12 pm-5 pm.

The Old Fashioned Christmas Carrousel returns to MainStrasse on Dec. 12-13 and 19-20.

Tickets for the Christmas

Carrousel are available free of charge at any of the participating shops and restaurants.

The carrousel strolls through the village in all its holiday atmosphere. The historic full-sized carrousel is provided by Kissel Brothers Shows.

After visiting the shops and exploring the festive village, you can satisfy your appetite by going to any of the 16 restaur-

ants and pubs located throughout The Village.

Free parking is available in the Fifth Street lot between Philadelphia and Main Streets on the right.

Directions from downtown Cincinnati:

Travel west on Third Street and turn left on the Clay Wade Bailey Bridge. MainStrasse is straight ahead.

Holiday
Community Calendar

Saturday, Dec. 12:

- Dec. 12-13 Christmas Carrousel, MainStrasse Village, Covington, 357-MAIN
- Jingle Bell Run: 5K Race for Arthritis, 10 a.m., N.K.U. Convention Center, Covington, 271-4545
- A Christmas Heritage: A Celebration of the Winter Solstice, 8 p.m., Emory Theater, 731-9898
- Jingle Bell Rock, 8 p.m., Taft Theater, 562-4949

Sunday, Dec. 13:

- Lunch with St. Nick, MainStrasse Village, Covington, 357-MAIN
- Christmas Ice Carving, The Zoo, 281-4700
- Messiah: Northern Kentucky Community Chorus, 3 p.m., NKU, Highland Heights, 572-6399
- Holiday Progressive Dinner, Mt. Adams, 281-2878

Friday, Dec. 18:

- Contemporary Fridays: A Holiday Craft Extravaganza, 5:30 p.m., Contemporary Arts Center, 721-0390

Saturday, Dec. 19:

- Dec. 19-20 Christmas Carrousel, MainStrasse Village, Covington, 357-MAIN
- Dec. 19-20 CSO: Cineroy's Home for the Holidays, 2:30 and 7:30 p.m., Taft Theater, 381-3300
- Opera Outreach Ensemble: Holiday Favorites, 3 p.m., Taft Museum, 241-0343
- Menorah Lighting Ceremony, The Zoo, 281-4700
- Holiday Concert: Vocal Arts Ensemble, 8 p.m., St. Peter in Chains Cathedral, Covington, 556-6600

Sunday, Dec. 20:

- Lunch with St. Nick, MainStrasse Village, Covington,

357-MAIN

- Holiday Concert: Vocal Arts Ensemble, 3 p.m., St. Barnabas, Episcopal Church, Montgomery, 555-6600
- Colors of Christmas, 8 p.m., (Pre-show dinner 6:30 p.m.), Procter & Gamble Hall, Aronoff Center, 562-4949

Saturday, Dec. 26:

- Nutcracker Cabaret Revue, The Zoo, 281-4700

Thursday, Dec. 31:

- Carnival: CSO New Year's Eve Concert and Ball, 7:30 p.m., Music Hall, 381-3300

On-Going events:

- Holiday Junction, through Jan. 3, Cincinnati Museum Center, 287-7000
- PNC Bank's Festival of Lights, through Jan. 3, The Zoo, 281-4700
- Holiday Show, through Jan. 4, Krohn Conservatory, Eden Park, 421-5707
- A Christmas Carol, through Dec. 27
- Cineroy/CSX Holiday Model Railroad Display, through Dec. 31, Cineroy Lobby, Downtown, 287-3367
- Festival of Carols, through Dec. 30, Forest View Gardens, 661-6434
- A Grand Holiday, through Dec. 30, Miami Valley Dinner Theater, Springfield, 1-800-677-9505
- A Christmas in Naples: The Taft Nativity, through Jan. 10, Taft Museum, 241-0343
- Cincinnati Ballet: The Nutcracker, Dec. 18-26
- Nutty Nutcracker, Dec. 27, Music Hall, 241-7469
- Holiday Nooktime Series: Music, through Dec. 23, Lobby at the Aronoff Center
- Holiday in Lights, through Jan. 2, Sharon Woods, 287-7103

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Wednesday, December 9, 1998

THE NORTHERNER

Around the world in 60 days for the holidays

By Kelly Sudzina
Managing Editor

Barcelona, Spain
Angeles Perez Triguero
International student

Christmas is celebrated in most of Spain on Dec. 24, which is called "Noche Buena" (good night). Decorations can include a Christmas tree and "el pesebre," a nativity scene. Children are out of school from Dec. 26 until Jan. 7. Stores are closed on Dec. 26 for San Esteban (St. Steven) Day. Families used to give presents on Jan. 6, but now some people give presents on Dec. 25 so that children have time to play with their new toys.

On Dec. 31, New Year's Eve, the custom is to eat 12 grapes at midnight after the countdown on TV. The tradition says if you finish all the grapes by the last ring of the bell, you will have a good year. After that people generally go out with friends until the next morning and then have breakfast before going home to sleep.

On Jan. 5 after about 7 p.m. three people from town dress up as "los reyes," the three wise men, and in each town there is a parade and candies are thrown out to the children watching on the street. After the parade, kids give letters to the wise men before going home to leave an empty shoe and some water for the camels for when the wise men would come to their houses. In the morning the children would find candy in their shoes and presents in the living room.

Kharkiv, Ukraine
Inna Pylyayeva
International student

On Dec. 31 family and friends in Ukraine come together beginning at about 9 p.m. to celebrate the New Year. They cook and eat, dance and talk and watch the president give a speech on TV. After midnight, people go out all night and socialize.

At night on Jan. 13, they celebrate what is called Old New Year—the new year by the old calendar that was used before 1917.

Christmas is celebrated Jan. 6 and 7. Fur trees are put up before the new year and are decorated with glass toys and lights. Instead of Santa Claus there is Grandfather Frost, who wears a red coat, white gloves and a beard, lives in the North Pole and puts presents under the fur tree. Sometimes parents hire someone to dress up as Grandfather Frost for their children. He will dance, sing and tell jokes with the child as well as give the child the present the parents bought for him or her. Christmas is usually spent with family.

Gifu, Japan
Aiko Ando
International student

Christmas Eve is celebrated on Dec. 24, right after school is finished. Young people spend the holiday with their girlfriends or boyfriends and go out to dinner. There are some decorations and Christmas trees with decorations and lights. Presents are exchanged between children and parents and boyfriends and girlfriends. Ando said, "Christmas shopping is the same as here. Kids always expect to get something from their parents or Santa Claus."

New Year, Jan. 1-3, is the big holiday for the Japanese. They eat traditional food, called Osechi, which is only eaten on New Year's Day. Osechi is made of many foods including: fish, shrimp, vegetables, meat and eggs. They also eat Mochi (rice cake). The family gets together and the older relatives give money to the children. They go to the Shinto shrine to wish for health and happiness for the new year. Usually they buy charms that last for one year. After the year is over you have to burn it and buy and new one for the new year. Decorations are put up and New Year's as well. One of these decorations, called Kadomatsu, is made from bamboo, sunflowers and pine and is placed in front of the gate to the house. They also decorate with Mochi.

Adult Day is Jan. 15, where they have a ceremony for people who turn 20 because that is when they are considered adults. Participants dress up in traditional costumes for this event.

Seoul, Korea
Mun-Jung Kim
Suyen Nam
International students

In Korea, Christmas is the smaller holiday celebration where friends and families gather together. Christmas is oriented more around church-going and gathering together. Christmas cards are sent and trees are decorated. Cards are sent for New Year's as well.

The new year celebration is a huge event. Either New Year's Day (Jan. 1) or the Chinese New Year are celebrated, whichever the family chooses. Usually families gather and ritual ceremonies happen before anything else in the morning. They set out a special table for deceased family members and pray that the family will be well throughout the new year, a custom that came from Buddhism. Then children, dressed in traditional clothes bow to their parents, grandparents and uncles and are then given envelopes containing paper money that they put in their pocket, called a Bok-joomoni (pocket of good fortune). After the ceremony, everyone eats food and plays games. Sometimes they play Korean poker games or a game called Yut, which is played like Monopoly, only sticks with numbers engraved on them are thrown instead of dice. After lunch, sometimes people will gather with the other side of the family.

Nairobi, Kenya
Martha Mwania
International student

Christmas in Kenya is celebrated on Dec. 25. In the morning Christian families go to church and in the afternoon they gather for a party, where children play, dance or talk. Presents are put under the decorated Christmas tree that day. Dec. 26 is called Boxing Day, when the presents are unwrapped. It is another day of visiting friends and going to parties. During Christmas, the men of the family slaughter a cow "or whatever you want to eat" and the women cook it to have when everyone comes over. Cards are sent out for both Christmas and New Year's.

On Dec. 31, everyone waits up for the new year and they make wishes at midnight. After that everyone goes out with friends.

Ludhiana, India (state of Pun Jab)
Ritin Dev
International student

Usually around December, in the state of Pun Jab, there is a festival called Gurupurab. It is held according to the time of the eclipse. This year it was the last week of November first week of December. Gurupurab is the birthday of the 10th guru of sikhs. He wrote a sacred book called Granth Sahib. On Gurupurab, people go to Gurudwaras (temples) and pray in front of the sacred book, believing that they will get whatever they pray for. In the Gurudwaras people have a feast and many go to celebrate and sing hymns. They also decorate their houses.

In January, Lohri, the festival of fire, is celebrated for a newborn baby or a newlywed couple. Children go door to door for candy and at night people sit around a fire outside and eat nuts.

Harare, Zimbabwe
Hlaselan Baloyi
Hlevani Baloyi
International students

Most people in Zimbabwe come from rural backgrounds and Christmas is a chance for them to get off work and go home to be with their families. People are off work from Dec. 24 to Jan. 3. The majority of the people celebrate Christmas as a family reunion. Usually there are about 200 people in the reunions. Everyone gathers in the rural area they were born in, where in many cases there is no electricity or running water. Family members bring necessities as gifts, like sugar, water, rice and mealie-meal. A lot of time is spent talking and getting to know all the relatives. There is a lot of special food too, like rice, corn or cabbage and livestock. Usually a cow or a goat, is killed to feed everyone.

Dec. 26 is Boxing Day and family members give elders special gifts, like money or clothes. Hlaselan Baloyi said that in his family they have a day of hymns on Dec. 26 which is a mixture of Christmas and family hymns. They also have skits and plays for entertainment.

In the city there is more of a western lifestyle. People have New Year's parties in the city with a countdown and a drink to celebrate the new year and they dance all night long. Also, a few people in the city have Christmas trees and lights to celebrate the holiday.

St. Catharines, Canada (Ontario)

Hugo Ong
Aaron Ong
International students

Canadians celebrate Christmas with gifts and Santa Claus. Hugo Ong said, "It's the same as here (the United States), only there's a lot more snow." Many people decorate real trees instead of plastic ones. On Dec. 25, family and friends gather to celebrate. Sometimes they sing Christmas carols in French. New Year's Eve is spent with friends or family and the celebration includes a countdown to midnight and drinking.

Port of Spain, Trinidad
Dennis Andrews
Supervisor of Periodicals, Steely Library

Christmas is celebrated on Christmas Day and lasts for 12 days, ending on Jan. 6. It is a time for family with food, drink and parties. Just about everything shuts down for the holiday and "not much is done during the 12 days," Andrews said. There is a lot of music. One particular type is called Parang, which is Spanish music using instruments like guitars, morocos, box bass and cuatros (a four stringed instrument). Dec. 26 is called Boxing Day. On Dec. 31 they celebrate Old Year's Day.

Cali, Colombia
Luisa Gomez
International student

The Novena lasts from Dec. 6 to Dec. 25. During this time, every day the family gets together in different houses in the neighborhood to read passages out of a special book related to the Bible and to sing.

In Cali there is a festival from Dec. 25 to Jan. 5 that people from around the country come to see that includes bullfights, bands and horses.

On Dec. 25 they celebrate the birth of baby Jesus.

They set up what is called a Pesebre—a recreation of the city Jesus was born in. The baby is not put in the manger until Dec. 25 and every day the three wise men are moved up the path until they reach the stable on Jan. 7.

On Jan. 7 the Reyes Magos (three wise men) bring presents and then everyone gives gifts.

There is a huge party on New Year's Eve with food, dancing, drinking and fireworks. They eat 12 grapes at midnight and with each one they make a wish. Other similar practices are to put clothes in a bag and run around the neighborhood if a year of travel is wished for. If a baby is wanted, an egg is put under the bed until midnight, then it is taken out and shaken. If the person sees something inside the egg, then it is said that person will have a baby in that year.

Wednesday, December 9, 1998

THE NORTHERNER

Close to home



Margie Wise/The Northerner
This shopper is going no farther than the NKU bookstore for some of her holiday purchases.

How to shop for the hard-to-shop-for and gifts that you can't go wrong with

By Margie Wise
Production Manager

So, you're wandering aimlessly around the mall, desperately hunting those all-elusive (and all-expensive) gifts for the people on your list this year.

There's the person from work who's name you pulled in the name draw. You don't know this person too well, but somehow you know you won't feel welcome in the office if you don't fork over that \$20 gift.

Then there's your closest friend, who's already purchased your gift. You know because she's been torturing you with it for months, and all you've figured out about it so far is that it's probably not cheap.

There's the significant other who's only been "significant" for about three months, or maybe more like five years.

There's Mom, Dad, siblings, grandparents, a new baby cousin, your hairstylist, and an extra gift for the random person who you never really thought about, but who apparently suddenly felt compelled to give you a present.

Never fear. You can break these people up into three easy and painless (well, sort of) gift-categories. The first type is the generic present. This group includes things like bath/shower gels (Masculine scents are available at many places. Check out stores like Bath and Body Works, The Body Shop or Wal-Mart), candles, potpourri burners. Gifts such as ties, scarfs and wallets also work, but be careful to choose them in solid colors. These things are appropriate for the office person, the hairstylist

and the random person.

It is helpful to buy these things on sale early. This will allow you to keep one or more of these gifts on hand for those people you have to buy gifts for but you don't know that well. Doing this can significantly lessen the stress of your holiday.

The second category is the romantic gift. Unfortunately, this type usually takes a lot more of the three c's (effort, expense and exasperation) than a generic gift. Choosing a present for that special someone can be made much easier by breaking the topic down into two groups. These being the long-term lover and the newbie.

A newbie constitutes anyone you've been dating from zero up to six months. For this person, you want to take one or more of the generic gifts and just put more thought into it. Give them the cologne or perfume they really love (or maybe the kind you really love).

Accessories are good, too. They just need to be more personalized. Get something to go with a specific outfit they wear. Another nice idea is a gift certificate. Think about this person. Are they really into a specific brand of clothing or type of music? Give them a gift certificate to that specific store.

The long-term lover consists of

anything from six months to infinity. This one entails even more creativity. One idea might be to give them the gift of a romantic evening. Wrap up the items necessary for the night - a few candles, bath beads, a CD, lingerie... Let that be their gift.

Another thing to consider with this person is that you might have moved on to the practical gift stage. Do they need a tool set, a stack of blank videotapes, socks, underwear or a watch? Sometimes knowing they need these mundane, every day things can be the sweetest gift of all.

The third gift is the practical gift. This is acceptable for family, long-term lovers and close friends (for casual friendships see the generic gift list). These presents are decided solely on a "what they need" basis, and they can often require the most consideration. Is there something they are always asking you to borrow? Pay attention to what they use and use more of. For example film or paints for those artist types. Be careful, though. Many times they are partial to specific brands. It can get complicated.

But hey, that's what this season's about. In the end, and this applies to all the categories: it's really the thought behind the gifts that counts. Enjoy that you have people like these in your life to buy gifts for.

"You can break...people up into three easy and painless...gift categories."

Top 10 worst presents

By Margie Wise
Production Manager
By Kelly Sudzina
Managing Editor

Every year, without fail, someone is bound to disappoint you by his or her lack of consideration of your good taste. Unfortunately, it usually seems to be the same person each year bestowing the misery of the bad gift upon you. So here's a hint - a very big hint - to everyone who has ever considered, or ever will consider, any of the following as actual gift options. (Unless you want the receiver to hate you and/or throw the gift back in your face, in which case, please proceed to do so with our blessing.)

**Top 10 worst gifts
(to give or receive):**

10. Razors from grandma (don't ask)
9. Make-up
8. Fruitcake
7. "Learning" toys
6. Chia pets/heads
5. Off-brand-name clothes
4. Tacky jewelry
3. Slipper socks
2. Underwear, socks, and all other functional clothing
1. Nothing at all (Christmas Eve can be a good night to break up...)

Presents with presence

Generic Gifts

- Bath/shower gels
- Candles
- Potpourri burners.
- Ties
- Scarfs
- Wallets
- Scented Hand Sanitizer
- Gift Certificate

Romantic Gift

- *long-term lover
- gift of a romantic evening.
- *newbie.
- generic gifts + more thought
- cologne or perfume
- personalized accessories

Practical Gift

- Is there something they are always asking you if they could borrow?
- Pay attention to what they use (and use, and use) more of.

***Remember: The old mantra is true. It is the thought that counts.

Surviving the consumer's battlefield: a guide to shopping

By Kelly Carson
Features Editor

The pushing, the shoving, the yelling and the attacking.

No, it's not a scene from the Jerry Springer show, it's a typical day at a department store during the holiday season.

Christmas is supposed to be a time of joy and love, but these rules don't apply in the game of shopping.

I'm not an expert on shopping. However, I am an avid shopper and I have worked in retail for almost two years.

It would be nearly impossible to avoid the tremendous crowds of holiday shoppers this season, but I do have some helpful advice on when and where to shop.

- Don't shop on the weekends. This is the busiest time in retail. Try to shop Monday through Thursday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

- Look through the Sunday ads in the newspaper. This is a good way to look for gift ideas and compare prices at the same time.

- Start your shopping early. Don't wait until December 23 to buy all your presents. Supplies are low at this time and you probably won't be able to find the perfect gift.

- Make a list of people for whom you

want to buy gifts. Also, try to make a list of possible gift ideas for each person. Carry your list with you at all times; you never know when the urge to shop will arise.

Everyone has their favorite stores, so it is up to you where you want to shop. Here are a few suggestions.

- Superstores like Biggs and Meijer are great for buying housewares, cosmetics and toys.

- If you plan to buy a CD or movie for someone this Christmas, do not shop at or any music store inside a mall. Compact discs from these stores are very overpriced. I suggest shopping at Best Buy, Media Play or Circuit City for cds and movies.

- When shopping for clothes, it really depends on who you are buying for. Many college students like American Eagle Outfitters, Structure, Lerner and Express. Clothes from these stores can be rather expensive, but there are some good deals if you go at the right times. Sale prices at these stores change without notice, so don't pass up a deal when you see it.

Here's another tip: If you apply for a credit card at most of these stores, you can save 10 % on your first purchase. You can always rip up the card when it comes in the mail.

- Department stores like Lazarus, JC Penny and Kohl's are great places to



A shopper wanders among the gift displays in Lazarus, downtown Cincinnati.

Jeff McCurry/The Northerner

shop. In one store, you can find clothes for men and women, shoes, perfume, jewelry and housewares. Most of these stores have special gift ideas in the aisles to make shopping easier. These stores also send out ads every Sunday, so you

can plan gift purchases and compare prices. The only downfall of shopping at department stores is the mess and the crowds. I found Lazarus to be very messy. The jeans and sweaters all over the floor made shopping very difficult.

Just remember that holiday shopping can be fun and stress-free if you prepare. Keep in mind that the true meaning of Christmas is not about getting the best deal, but about giving something from the heart.

“Christmas Story” brings humor to the holidays

1980’s Christmas classic deals with holiday stress in a comedic tone

By Chad Aulick
Sports Editor

The Christmas lights went out, along with the rest of the electricity in the house. But Ralph knew everything would be all right. After all, “the old man could replace fuses quicker than a jackrabbit on a date.”

Before Mom and Randy’s gasps could close, the lights were on and *A Christmas Story* was well underway.

Bob Clark’s 1983 classic is based on Jean Shepherd’s memories of being a kid in the 1940’s. Ralph’s objective in the film is to get his hands on a Red Ryder Air

Rifle.

Melinda Dillan, who plays Ralph’s Mom, is against the idea, firmly believing he’ll shoot his eye out.

Shrugging off his mom’s pessimism, Ralph decides to write a Christmas theme on the carbon action BB gun. He is shot down receiving a “C+” and a “You’ll shoot your eye out!” disclaimer. Before turning in his guns Ralph looks to a hopeful alternative to boyhood gloom.

“Of course, Santa,” Ralph said in revelation. “The big man, the head honcho, the connection. My mother had slipped up this time.”

And with that he was off to see

the fat guy.

Can you guess what St. Nick’s response will be to Ralph’s inquiry? I can.

Trying to obtain the gun, however, is not the only enlightening element to the movie.

This story packs in comedy from all angles of the dysfunctional family tree.

Ralph’s little brother Randy and his Mom have their funny moments.

One such “moment” falls when the boys are getting ready for school in the morning. Mom

overdresses Randy for the winter d a y . Having too many layers of clothes on, Randy can’t get up when he trips in the snow. When Ralph and Randy have a confrontation with bullies, Randy falls to the ground once more, playing dead. Ralph

attests it was a heads up maneuver.

“Randy lay there like a slug,” Ralph said. “It was his only defense.”

The old man, played by Darren McGavin, is also humorous with his offbeat responses when the family bot gets rocked.

On Christmas Day the neighborhood dogs, the Bumpers’ dogs, raid the old man’s kitchen, picking the family’s cooked turkey to the bone. This is a bad thing because “it is well known throughout the Midwest that the old man was a turkey junkie”.

McGavin’s response to the bird catastrophe is Chinese cuisine.

Ralph, Randy, Mom and the old man pack up and dine in at Chop Suey Palace, listening to a quartet of waiters sing “Tis the season to be Rorry”.

“That Christmas would live with us as the Christmas we were introduced to Chinese turkey,” Ralph said. “All was right with the world.”

With *A Christmas Story* comes laughs, tears (from laughing) and peace on earth.

O.K., maybe it hasn’t unified the world into Utopia, but there is a white Christmas.

And if Ralph is a very good boy, he could get a gun on the big day.

“This story packs in comedy from all angles of the dysfunctional family tree.”

Northern Noel



Suzanne Fleming/The Northerner

Faculty, Staff and students checked out the ceramics for sale during the Northern Noel Bazaar held in the University Center. The proceeds go to the ceramics club to buy new equipment for the ceramics and sculpture facility.

All Through the Night, a cure for insomnia

A suspense story lacking suspense

By Kelly Sudzina
Managing Editor

Having read books by Mary Higgins Clark before, I was disappointed in the lack of on-edge suspense in *All Through the Night*.

And because, the books of hers that I have read before didn’t star her leading amateur detectives, Alvirah and Willy, (what kind of names are those anyway?) I had no particular love for the characters formerly established.

From reading it, I understand that I’m supposed to have warm memories about the characters in spots where the feeling is given that Clark is referring to a past book. But I think the characters aren’t really developed well if the characterization relies heavily on things that had been said earlier.

Sure, I still get that they’re an aging couple who were now enjoying a pleasant life because they had won the lottery and that Alvirah does some investigating when her curiosity is aroused and poor Willy is just sort of along for the ride. But I’m not sure exactly why I should care.

The story unfolds with two plots running at the same time.

One is that an aspiring, young violin player leaves her newborn on the step of a monastery because she can’t take care of it, and doesn’t know that the baby is accidentally stolen by the robber that was robbing the church at that precise moment in time.

The other plot is that Alvirah and Willy’s friend dies and her

I thought that either one could’ve been a fine (if unusual) plot on its own, but together, they were just too much for a “short” story. True, even with both combined, the book was only 170 pages. But was it really necessary?

I thought the suspicious will plot was very weak. Perhaps this was because it really involved Alvirah and Willy. I thought they slowed down what suspense there was in the story because they muddled over everything so much.

This wasn’t the kind of plot where you try to figure it out yourself along with the main characters. This is the kind of plot where the suspense comes from how fast they can figure it out. Willy and Alvirah are like a garbage truck on the expressway going 25 MPH. It’s frustrating to read because you already know their intuition is going to be right. That’s why they’re the good guys.

I was really enjoying the plot with the baby-theft thing. The bad guy, Lenny Centino, was such an unusual (but still classic) bad guy who used the baby he had taken as his cover when he was working in his drug delivering business.

His evilness is countered by his aunt’s goodness. Although sick,

she raises the baby, who she calls Stellina, and gives the child all the love she can, trying to keep her “father” from taking her away. (She doesn’t know the real circumstances about the baby, of course.)

The two plots tie together in a rather forced way when Alvirah approaches the baby’s mother, a complete stranger, on the street and says they need to talk. The mother doesn’t seem to find that unusual at all and tells Alvirah everything—which she had never told anyone before during the seven years since it had happened. That’s an unbelievable amount of trust for someone to have in a complete stranger. Especially since she hadn’t even told her family.

The end of the story was the best part. Clark managed to tie up all the loose ends rather nicely. The mystery about the suspicious will is revealed after much thought and little work—and also revealing it as a weak plot—one that wouldn’t have been enough to be a story on its own.

What I found to be the moral of the story was clearly stated by Alvirah just before the Epilogue, when she said, “Sometimes it’s enough just to know that if you believe hard enough and long enough, your wishes can come true.” (Isn’t that sweet.)

In the end I was left wishing I had read something completely different, which is evident by my thoughts about how the story could have been changed for the better—and it could have been a lot better.

‘Tis the season for holiday movies

By Chad Aulick
Sports Editor

It’s a Wonderful Life is No. 1 on the list. On Christmas Day, Frank Capra’s masterpiece will be off the bench airing instead NBA games. Jimmy Stewart’s got some playing time.

Let’s not get into why *It’s a Wonderful Life* is the best of the best of Christmas film. It just is.

If you want insight sign up for the next holiday film appreciation class at UCLA, catch a professor’s dissertation, and go through a recurring dream of bells ringing and angels getting wings. Sound tough?

There are other alternatives. Remember, the boys aren’t playing ball this season, so it can always be watched at home.

A Christmas Story has a well deserved No. 2 spot on the charts for many reasons. They won’t be listed here, but I’m sure there is a review out there somewhere expanding on Bob Clark’s classic.

The rest of the list has been thought out for many minutes and is unchangeable. So with nothing else to say other than happy holidays, here’s the top ten.

Margie’s Holiday Rental Suggestions

By Margie Wise
Production Manager

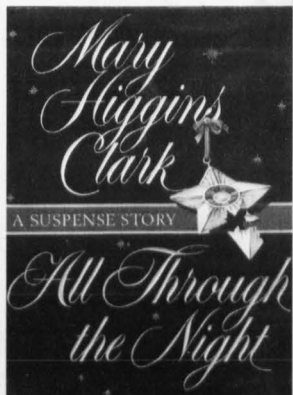
For those people who are not looking for the traditional Christmas movie fair, some

Top 10 Christmas Movies

- 10 - *The Ref*
- 9 - *A Charlie Brown Christmas*
- 8 - *White Christmas*
- 7 - *National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation*
- 6 - *Miracle on 34th street - 1947*
- 5 - *The Grinch who Stole Christmas*
- 4 - *Scrooged*
- 3 - *A Christmas Carol - 1951*
- 2 - *A Christmas Story* -- (see above review)
- 1 - *It’s A Wonderful Life*

other selections may be in order.

- 5 - *Almost an Angel*
- 4 - *Fiddler on the Roof*
- 3 - *It Could Happen to You*
- 2 - *Field of Dreams*
- 1 - *Mr. Destiny*



former tenants suddenly become the landlords with the help of a somewhat suspicious and last-minute new will, leaving Kate, the family of the deceased, with nearly nothing except a lot of hard feelings.

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Wednesday, December 9, 1998

Choir celebrates with song

By Joe Hargett
Staff Reporter

With the music of Christmas filling the air once again, the Anointed Voices Gospel Choir did their part to spread the cheer at a holiday concert at Northern Kentucky University on Saturday, Dec. 5.

The group performed an assortment of Kirk Franklin songs including "Melodies from Heaven" and "Thank You," said Angel Chichester, president of the group and a student from Louisville, Ky.

"We perform original songs also, but I am not at liberty to disclose the names of those songs," said Chichester.

For the holiday season the group included a handful of Christmas songs mostly.

for the churches of group and faculty member, the choir has sung at Northern Noel, the Black Faculty and Staff Association meeting and the dedication of the new lobby in the Administration Building. This schedule along with school work and their annual holiday and spring concerts takes a lot of spiritual dedication, said Michelle Peterson, faculty sponsor for the Anointed Voices.

The Anointed Voices Gospel Choir was founded five years ago in 1993 by NKU students Tracy Wheeler and Antreece Simms, according to Chichester. The choir became officially recognized by NKU that year as a student group and has grown in membership to 25 active members in 1998.

Though they receive no funding from the university, they raise

their money by collecting membership dues and receiving donations. "The choir was formed so that students could keep their spiritual contact while away from home," said Peterson.

Most of the students in the group participated in choral activities at home; Chichester was one of those students looking for a spiritual supplement. According to her, earning the spot as president of the group gave Chichester a better sense of sense of leadership values.

If you missed their Dec. 5th performance you can still catch their spring concert. The choir practices every Sunday from 7:30 to 10:00 at the Baptist Student Union building.

Bill Ellis, Baptist campus minister, said "We are glad to have them."



Suzanne Fleming/The Northerner

The Anointed Voices Gospel Choir performs at a holiday concert last week.

Decking The UC



Suzanne Fleming/The Northerner

The University Center is decorated for the holidays.

Forget about it— Just start over

By Kelly Sudzina
Managing Editor

Whether you have just endured a humbling college experience, or you have just had the most extraordinary semester in the history of your college career, the best advice I can give for a fresh start is to forget this past semester ever happened.

I know that your GPA, whatever it is, won't forget what happened last time. But you'll do a better job if you temporarily "forget" it until you see your cumulative effort. Don't stress about bringing it up if it's not your dream grade point average. Just start over and do your best. It may give you a whole new perspective on the situation.

However, don't get a big head because you did a good job this

time. Remember a lot of this could be a factor of good luck. You may have just gotten lucky when you scheduled this semester.

It seems that every time I think a class will be easy, it turns out to be the hardest class I signed up for. And a lot of times, the classes I dreaded and heard horror stories about turned out to be not so bad. As long as I ignored those stories and gave it my best try, I was okay.

But since most people have no idea what the registrar fairy has in mind for them this year, I would suggest just starting over. Wipe the slate clean (aren't you glad we have notebooks now?) and get a fresh start. Anyway, it can't hurt to get a new perspective on the old school grind. You might just surprise yourself.

KWANZAA: History celebrated

From Page 1

Kwanzaa, a Swahili word meaning "first fruits of the harvest" is an African American spiritual holiday that originated in 1966. Kwanzaa takes place from Dec. 26 to New Year's Day, and is meant to celebrate the growth and development of African Americans.

Kwanzaa does not attempt to replace Christmas or have any ties to religion, but instead is a festival of cultural awareness, self-esteem, spirituality, rewarding, and rejoicing. A main focus is to be able to relate to the past in order to understand the future.

The purpose of Kwanzaa is to gain knowledge of the history and roots of African Americans and help to deal with the past and present struggles of slavery and oppression. Kwanzaa is centered around seven principles (Nguzo Saba) that are each celebrated on the days of the holiday.

The principles are Umoja (unity), Kujichagulia (Self Determination), Ujima (collective

work and responsibility), Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics), Nia (Purpose), Kuumba (Creativity), and Imani (Faith). Each day of Kwanzaa celebrates one of the principles.

Traditions include the presentation of gifts, most are hand made, which come from the heart. Also, on every day of Kwanzaa a candle is lit on a kinara, which is a candle holder that represents the original stalk from which life was created.

The seven candles, Mshumma, represent the seven principles from the Kwanzaa celebration. The traditions also included poetry readings, dancing, music and feasting.

Kwanzaa and the seven principles are not just a once-a-year celebration, but a way of life in the African American community. Jordan said, "Kwanzaa is a celebration of heritage and culture in the African American community. ... it is how we live, support each other, and bond together."

Happy Holidays from the staff of *The Northerner*

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