

Perry cites 'personal reasons and issues' as reason for leaving SGA President resigns office

By Audrey Kunkel

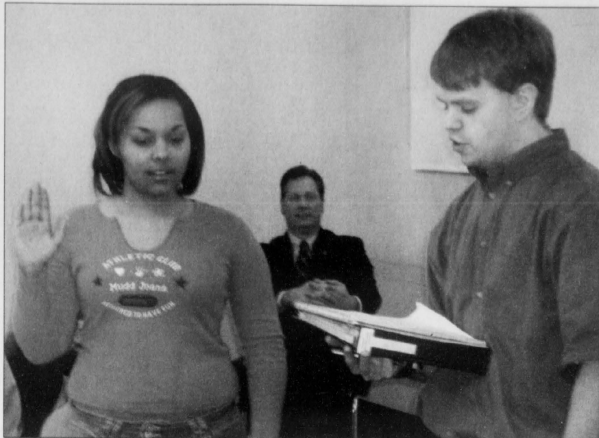
News Editor
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Due to medical reasons, Student Government President Jennifer Perry resigned from her position March 27. In a prepared statement read by the new SGA President Sheena Dunn at the March 27 SGA meeting, Perry said, "because of personal reasons and issues I have dealt with throughout the semester, I'm submitting my formal resignation."

Perry's brief statement did not elaborate on the issues that forced her to resign. Former Executive Vice President Dunn was sworn in as SGA president for the remainder of the term.

"Jennifer had a combination of health issues," Dunn said. "It's going to take time to pinpoint what is wrong with her. Jennifer doesn't even know at this time."

Dunn said Perry has also withdrawn from classes. "I respect Jennifer's decision," Vice President of Public Relations Jeff Fox said.



Sheena Dunn was sworn in as the new Student Government President on March 27; a student resident has yet to be elected.

"I wish her the best in recovery and in the future," Chief Justice Brett Hardebeck swore Dunn in only as the SGA president and said she will not auto-

matically fill the position on the Board of Regents that the president usually does. The SGA constitution makes no provision for filling the Student Regent

position in the event a president resigns. "Our hands are tied," Hardebeck said. "We can't give Sheena the position because the constitution

doesn't say we can." Hardebeck said the Judicial Council is discussing how to elect a Student

See SGA, page 2

Media degree offered

By Danieliah Blackburn

Reporter
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Northern Kentucky University's College of Informatics will launch the new media informatics major as a Bachelor of Arts degree this fall.

The college created the new major to prepare students for career opportunities, new possibilities and positions in demand because of changes in the industry.

According to visiting associate professor Gary Ozanich, "we can now download music to our phones and soon the internet could soon converge with television. We are at the forefront recognizing that technology is changing and with it curriculum must also change." Ozanich was deeply involved in the creation of the program and said Northern Kentucky University is only one of three schools in the nation to have this type of program.

An inter-department committee of faculty from the information systems, art, communication and computer science have been working together since August to create the curriculum. The committee surveyed similar successful programs at several universities and presented the program to a focus group

See DEGREE, page 2

Brown: More students than space in dorms

By Amy Ehrnreiter

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For the first time in Northern Kentucky University's history, more than 700 students have requested to remain living on campus, and as a result, more than 160 returning students have been placed on a waiting list for fall 2006.

University Housing decided last semester to limit for the first time the number of returning students who could live on campus, in order to guarantee rooms for first-time freshmen. University Housing Director Matt Brown predicted the waiting list would consist of fewer than 50 students.

Returning residents had two options for requesting to live on campus: squatting, which is keeping the same room, or choosing a different apartment. Students choosing to remain in the same room registered for housing Feb. 20 through 24, a week before stu-

dents switching rooms.

"More students squatted than ever before," Brown said. "This is the highest number of returning students we've ever had."

In the first four hours of registration on Feb. 25, the first day returning students were able to choose a new room, all but two spaces filled.

NKU has 1,390 spaces total available for students to live on campus. Of these spaces, 550 have been reserved for returning students and about 100 are reserved for athletes, international students and scholarship students, leaving about 740 spaces for first-time freshmen, Brown said.

"We have more students who want to live on campus than we have spaces," he said.

Brown also expects a waiting list of about 100 incoming freshmen. He said NKU guarantees housing for incoming freshmen who apply by May 1, the priority deadline. After this, the applicants are prioritized by geography, giving pre-

ference to applicants who live far away from campus.

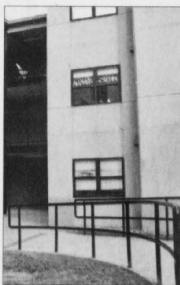
For returning students who are on the waiting list, Brown said he expects some cancellations and hopes to move some people from the waiting list to the residence halls.

"If you're student number 166 on the list, I don't think you'll be getting a room," he said.

All students who submitted applications will be notified by May 1 as to whether their names have been transferred from the waiting list to a space on campus.

Brown said University Housing plans to keep limiting the number of returning students to 550. In order to help the students who will not be allowed to return to campus, Brown said he plans to organize an apartment fair to help the students become familiar with living opportunities surrounding campus.

According to Brown, returning students are more likely to find an apartment near campus and continue at NKU than a new stu-



Nicole Jones/Photo Editor

NKU may turn some students away this fall due to space restrictions in the dorms.

dent, who would be more likely to attend a different college if denied residency.

Though Brown said it's unfortunate that students will be refused, he said he sees this as an opportunity to show that more housing is

See HOUSING, page 2

Donors restore quartet

By Audrey Kunkel

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Just after Northern Kentucky University announced it would be dropping its residence string quart due to lack of funds, a handful of donors stepped up to supply \$100,000 and save the quartet. NKU announced last week the Amari String Quartet's contract is being renewed.

The quartet — comprised of two violinists, a cellist and a viola player — was founded in February when NKU announced it would be discontinued July 1. The quartet's members, Christina and Rebecca Merblum, Meghan Casper and NikTe Wu are in their second year at NKU.

Although the donors wish to be anonymous, Christina Merblum said the quartet knows the individuals very well. "They are all wonderful, wonderful people," she

See QUARTET, page 2

Sculpture unveiling brings 'bittersweet moment'

By Amanda Joering

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The Kentucky Civil Right Hall of Fame sculpture was unveiled in a "bittersweet moment for us here at the university," said President James Vorhees.

The sculpture, unveiled Thursday, March 23, 2006, was meant to honor local civil rights leaders, and also to mourn a recently deceased Northern Kentucky University professor.

"Anne Braden will be missed at NKU, we had the good fortune to count her as one of us...she will forever be a part of our campus and our values," said Vorhees in his opening remarks.

Braden is pictured on the sculpture along with many other civil rights activists. The crowd of approximate-

ly 50 people was "gathered here to memorialize, recognize, and acknowledge the tireless efforts of notable Kentucky men and women who struggled to advance the cause of civil rights for all Americans," stated keynote speaker Dr. Prince Brown Jr., Director of the NKU Institute for Freedom Studies.

The sculpture is brought to NKU's campus through the work of the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights. "It has been a long time dream of ours to share this important exhibit with all of Kentucky," said Judge Linda Strite Murnane, Executive Director of the Commission. Murnane's speech emphasized how rich in history Northern Kentucky is, and her hopes that bringing the sculpture here will broaden the public's realization of the area's past.

One striking realization occurred when NKU senior Bryan Barnett

walked past the sculpture earlier in the week and saw that it had his grandfather, Arthur Walters, pictured on it. He knew of the things his grandfather had done, but had no idea that he was going to be on the sculpture. "I am very proud to see my grandfather honored like this," said Barnett.

Through its honoring those leaders of the past, the sculpture will also benefit people in the future. "It will serve as a reminder of what these civil rights pioneers accomplished and be a signal to point to the future work to be done," said unveiling attendee Thomas Zaniello, Director of the honors program.

Dr. Brown stressed the importance of civil rights and its leaders, and said "we who live the fruits of their struggles must now bear the mantle

See SCULPTURE, page 2



Nicole Jones/Photo Editor

Dr. Prince Brown Jr., Robert Asseo and Connie McCoy reveal the Kentucky Civil Right Hall of Fame sculpture on March 23.

morenews

SGA *Continued from page one*

Regent.
He said there will be a special election and it may be combined with student government elections April 12 and 13. All NKU students can run for the Student Regent seat and are eligible to vote for a candidate.
The Board of Regents is comprised of 12 members, with the Student Regent lending the sole student voice. The board makes all final decisions for the university. "Students need to think about this," Harbeck said. "If they are fed up with certain policies that have been passed like plus and minus grades, now is the time to step up because the position is vacant." The Northerner was unable to reach Perry for comment.

Quartet *Continued from page one*

said.
"I'm excited and relieved this has all been resolved," Rebecca Merblum said.
Christina Merblum said after the quartet's jeopardized situation was publicized, people stepped forward to express concern.
"It was flattering," she said. "I think personal voices helped make a good ending."
"We got all kinds of e-mails when people found out," Casper said.

"A lot of students and even parents of students wrote letters to the president (Votruba)."
We had a positive outlook on the near-termination of the quartet's residence at NKU.
"I think that a lot of good things have come out of a bad situation," she said. "We said the interest people took in the quartet's fate and the generosity of the donors was tremendous."

Degree *Continued from page one*

made up of local businesses.
"Job placement with such a degree is already two times the average for college students. We already have companies telling us they have positions to fill right away for people with this degree," Ozanich said.
Both Ozanich and Dean of Informatics Patrick Moynahan said media informatics is a broad degree that will allow students to fill positions in communication and other fields.

The degree can be used in fields such as gaming.
As technology continues to converge, the need will increase for people with this type of a degree in the corporate business world.
Media informatics will be part of the communication department but students will also take classes in computer science and art departments to complete the degree.
Moynahan pointed out com-

munication majors would benefit from taking a class or two in media informatics to broaden their skills.
"In all fields in the communications major there are positions that require more knowledge in technology; however the current majors don't adequately prepare students for those positions," Moynahan said.
According to Moynahan, many students in the communication, art and computer sci-

ence majors are afraid changes were going to be made to their majors to accommodate media informatics.
The College of Informatics assures students that no such changes will be made.
"We know there is a demand for it in businesses. We know that technology is evolving. We know that this will open up lots of opportunities for the students and for the university," Ozanich said.

Sculpture *Continued from page one*

that they have passed on, for there is still much work to be done." Brown stressed that through education, the university can show its commitment to preparing students to carry on the work pioneered by the persons whose names are engraved on this sculpture.
President Votruba agreed that this sculpture was a step towards passing

the torch of civil rights to NKU's students, and how universities have the responsibility to prepare students for "a lifetime of civic duties." In his closing remarks, he pointed out to students and faculty that civil rights leaders started out just like them and made certain choices in their lives that made them the heroes we recognize today.

Dorms *Continued from page one*

needed.
Brown said he is "confident that we can fill another residence hall next year if we had one."
A new residence building is in the works and could be open in fall 2008, Brown said. For fall 2006, no changes will be made to try to accommodate more students, such as "tripling" rooms, which is placing three students in a room that was originally designed for two.
The students who will be returning in the fall can also expect about a 3 percent increase in housing and an undetermined increase in meal plan costs, Brown said. These increases are due to health care, utility and salary increases.
"Students get hit hard with tuition," he said. "My goal is to keep our rate increase around 3 percent."

'Overworked students' begin retention program

By Amy Bridewell
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Students at Northern Kentucky University may be unprepared for college because they were overworked during high school and neglected their studies.
The 2002 Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) survey found NKU students worked more and studied less during their senior year of high school than students at other four-year colleges.
31 percent of NKU students worked 20 hours or more

more when they were in high school, compared to only 21 of students from other four-year public colleges. Students from other colleges are also likelier to have studied more in high school.
Only 22.3 percent of NKU students have Federal Pell Grants, compared to 30 percent nationally. This may explain why students at NKU work more than those at other public colleges.
"It's important to work, but it is not OK when work takes away from education," NKU student Brian Berger said. NKU's Vice President of Student Affairs Research Analyst Stephanie Baker con-

ducted a survey in fall 2004 on first-semester freshmen and found 25.3 percent worked 21-30 hours per week and 18.3 percent worked 31 hours or more per week.
"I think students who work 20 hours a week can not possibly devote enough time to homework," Dr. Brad Scharloff, professor of communications said. "I think that if more students do not make it out in four years," he said.
NKU Student Lindsey Yoder works 20-25 hours per week. "I find it really hard to give 100 percent to either work or school," Yoder said. In order to help NKU stu-

dents keep their grades up, the office of the Associate Provost for Student Success is working with the Computer Science and Biological Sciences departments this semester to pilot a peer mentoring and tutoring program for students who are taking the first courses in their major. "The peer mentor-tutor program hopes to enhance graduation rates," Dr. Dennis Weatherly, Associate Provost for Student Success said.
This program began in February and consists of a learning group session of up to nine students (protégés) who are enrolled in the same section of a computer science

or biological science course. The group is tutored by three upper-level students for 90 minutes each week.
The program also offers one-on-one mentoring for the students. Each peer mentor-tutor is assigned three protégés and is expected to conduct 30 minute sessions with each of them every two weeks.
Weatherly said NKU's graduation rate is 41 percent, but the freshmen retention rate is about 63 percent. "A significant portion of students who make it through their freshman year do not make the grade in their field of study," he said.
Each peer mentor-tutor

will be provided with \$400 to be applied to their fall 2006 bursar account. Each protégé who was mentored and earns a grade of "B" or higher in the course will also receive \$400 to be applied to their fall 2006 bursar account.
This semester the program has 10 peer mentors-tutors and 30 protégés participating. It will be assessed by evaluating the students' grades, persistence in their major and graduation rates versus students with the same preparation entering the same major.
"If all goes well, we hope to expand the pilot program next semester," Weatherly said.

nkubriefly

Celebration of Freedom Day March 29...

The Celebration of Freedom Day is on March 29. Two Rivers Middle School students who have worked with NKU student-mentors will showcase their freedom projects in the U.C. ballroom, 11 a.m.-noon, following a short program in Otto Budig Theater at 10 a.m.
Freedom-Focused Service Learning is housed in the Scripps Howard Center for Civic Engagement.
Partners include NKU's Institute for Freedom Studies, Covington Independent School District, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, LINK and the Library Network of Greater Cincinnati.

Videotaped preview of N*W*C - The Race Show March 29...

On March 29 at 1:15 p.m. in the Otto Budig Theater, Van Ackerman from the Aronoff Center and Michael Beck from MidwestLatino will show a videotaped preview of the theatrical presentation N*W*C - The Race Show, scheduled for March 31 and April 1 at the Aronoff. Blending elements of hip-hop and stand-up comedy, three ethnically diverse friends tackle a hot issue: race. N*W*C aims at depowering racial slurs in a thought-provoking theater experience.

Thought the looking glass

By Mike Pingree
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The magic has gone out of our magic.
A couple in the indigenous Mayan Indian town of Oxkutzcab, Mexico, got into a domestic disturbance the likes of which is rarely seen.
After they hurled knives and fired shots at each other, the husband ended the dispute when by throwing a homemade gasoline bomb, injuring her and burning down the house.
When arrested, the husband said he was glad he burned his wife, and she said her only regret was that she hadn't "backed off his manhood."
Well, what, what have we here?
As Portland, Maine, police prepared to release a man after booking him for assault, he threw up 31 bags of heroin.

After complaining that his burrito tasted funny, he refused a free replacement and insisted on keeping the one he had.
He later called a regional manager, requesting money to make his bogus charges disappear. In addition, his girlfriend told authorities she saw him buy frozen mice at a pet store.
Call the police station, your pictures are ready...
Two young men stole the outdoor surveillance cameras at a museum in Prince George, Canada, apparently not realizing that the cameras were recording them the whole time, taking fabulous close-ups of their faces. Arrests were swift.

Oh, as long as you had a good reason...
After being released from jail where he had served a term for carjacking, a Florida man immediately carjacked another vehicle.
He told police who subsequently arrested him that he had been a ride home.
Nice car...hey, wait a minute...
A man stole a car in Hopedale, Ohio, drove three miles, then stopped at a house to ask for directions. By an amazing coincidence, the man who an-


swered the door was the father of the woman whose car he stole. Dad called the cops as soon as he pulled away.
Going somewhere, funny man?
A Chicago bank robber made the mistake of putting on his clown mask and poncho while he was still outside. Mistake No. 2 was going in the door just as an off-duty cop was going out.
The cop and his colleagues were waiting for him when he made his exit.

A widow has got to look her best...
A 32-year-old Florida woman is on trial for poisoning her 23-year-old Marine husband with arsenic.
She used the \$5,000 in insurance money for breast implants.
What if I vaccum it?
After paying a speeding fine in the Uplush Court Courthouse in Virginia, a woman rode up an eight-foot-long hallway rug and made off with it.
Police identified her from surveillance tapes, called her home and told her to return the rug. She asked if they would let her off if she brought it back. They said no.



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Wednesday
 March 29, 2006
 Edition 37, Issue 10

nkubriefly

Vice Provost Paul Reichardt accepts new position

Paul Reichardt, who has served NKU for over 22 years, has accepted a position at Muskingum College in New Concord, Oh. He will serve as vice president for Academic Affairs and professor of English beginning July 1.

Chase College of Law presents public lecture by Trey Grayson

Kentucky Secretary of State Trey Grayson will give a free public lecture March 30 at

noon in room 419 of Louise B. Nunn Hall. Free lunch will be provided.

Student scholarship competition opens in NKU galleries

The annual student-juried exhibition and scholarship competition is open in the Fine Arts Center's main and third-floor galleries and will be on display until March 31. An artists' reception will be held March 30 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information contact David Knight at (859) 572-5148.

Blood drive to be held April 5

NKU will host a blood drive April 5 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. in the University Center ballroom.

To sign up, visit www.hoxworth.org/nku.

Music faculty concert to be held April 6

The Elise Showalter Music Faculty Concert will be held April 6 at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center. General admission is \$5 and \$3 for NKU students, faculty, staff and seniors.

International Potluck Dinner to be held April 8

The International Potluck Dinner will be held April 8 from 6 to 9 p.m. in Regents Hall. Tickets are available for \$10. Attendees can bring one main dish or dessert per person in exchange for a free "Food Admission Ticket." For more information or to make reservations, call Heather Kilgore at (859) 572-6517 or e-mail at kilgoreh1@nku.edu.

NKU Philharmonic Orchestra performs

The NKU Philharmonic

Orchestra will perform April 10 at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center. General admission is \$5 and \$3 for NKU students, faculty, staff and seniors.

NKU hosts Kids' Night Out

The NKU Student-Athlete Advisory Committee will hold its annual Kids' Night Out in the Albright Health Center from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. The event is open to students in first to fifth grades. The cost is \$10 and covers a T-shirt and a snack for the event. Applications are available in Albright Health Center room 250 or by calling (859) 572-5193.

Kent Kelso receives doctorate

Dean of Students Kent Kelso completed the Doctoral Program in Higher Education Leadership at Indiana State University March 22.

NKU athletes screens

NKU will be screening athletes during National Alcohol Awareness week held April 3 through 8. NKU will also hold Alcohol Screen Day for the campus community March 30.



The following reports were compiled by the Northern Kentucky University Police Department between the dates of March 21 and March 27.

Tuesday, March 21

12:45 p.m. Subject reported book bag was stolen from Norse Commons. The book bag was later found and returned to owner.

5:51 p.m. Subject reported a minor non-injury accident at University Drive and Johns Hill Road.

Thursday, March 23

3:11 p.m. Subject advised of a minor non-injury accident at University and Nunn drives.

Friday, March 24

2:50 p.m. Subject reported lost 2006 NKU Parking Pass.

7:33 p.m. Subject advised of a minor non-injury accident at University Drive.

Saturday, March 25

3:34 a.m. Thomas Collins, 29, of Cold Spring, Ky., ran a traffic light at U.S. 27 and Hidden Valley Drive.

Collins was determined to be under the influence of alcohol and was arrested.

He was issued a Kentucky State Citation for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol.

10:07 a.m. A smoke alarm was activated in the University Center. The alarm was determined to be caused by smoke from a grill in a restaurant.

Sunday, March 26

3:35 a.m. Karrie Gribble, 27, of

Elsmere, Ky., and Dena Keitofski, 25, of Erlanger, Ky., were stopped on Martha Layne Collins Blvd. for a traffic violation.

A strong odor of marijuana was emanating from the vehicle and both Gribble and Keitofski were arrested and charged with possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Monday, March 27

11:53 a.m. Medical assistance was requested for a subject in the Fine Arts Center. The subject was transported to St. Luke Hospital West for evaluation and treatment.

Committee supports guest-worker immigrants

By **Dave Montgomery**
 Knight Ridder (KRT)
northerner@nku.edu

WASHINGTON — The Senate Judiciary Committee, rushing to craft a comprehensive overhaul of the nation's immigration laws, voted Monday to create a guest-worker program that would admit up to 400,000 low-skilled foreigners a year.

The workers could stay up to six years, then they'd have to return home unless they'd petitioned and been accepted for permanent residency and eventual U.S. citizenship. The panel approved those terms in an amendment sponsored by Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass.

The committee also agreed to a pilot program that would allow 1.5 million undocumented immigrants over a five-year period to hold agricultural jobs under temporary visas. They, too, could apply

for green cards to become permanent residents. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., said that program would ensure a source of legal workers for thousands of agricultural jobs now largely held by undocumented workers drawing low wages.

With Chairman Arlen Specter, R-Pa., pressing to finish a bill before the full Senate plunges into the immigration debate Tuesday, the panel struggled to find middle ground between those calling for tougher enforcement and pro-immigrant groups who seek to protect the estimated 12 million aliens now in the United States illegally.

The panel approved an amendment by Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., to shield church and charitable groups from criminal prosecution for providing aid to illegal immigrants, rejecting a more hard-line approach in a bill that the House of Representatives passed.

It also voted to nearly double the number of border patrol agents, calling for 12,000 more over the next five years, to bring the force to 23,000. At one point, Specter unveiled a "potential, theoretical" compromise that offered a path to permanent residency for many, but not all, illegal aliens who met certain conditions. But he dropped it after finding few takers.

"It was worth the effort, but it's not going to come to fruition," Specter lamented, underscoring the immense challenge of trying to find accord on a volatile issue that's dividing Congress and the American people.

Nearly 60 percent of U.S. citizens oppose allowing illegal aliens to apply for legal temporary-worker status, according to an NBC News-Wall Journal Street poll. A Time survey found that three-fourths of Americans favor more border safeguards.

Continuing a chain of re-

cent massive demonstrations across America, several thousand immigrants and activists gathered at the sunlit West Front of the Capitol to demand greater legal protections and denounce the House bill, which threatens illegal immigrants with felony prison sentences.

Demonstrators joined hands to sing "We Shall Overcome," the anthem from America's civil rights protests, and brandished signs proclaiming "We are America" and "We are all immigrants." Many were undocumented immigrants who spoke little or no English.

Specter's committee had one day to finish its work under a deadline imposed by Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., who planned to start Senate debate with his own measure, a tough border-enforcement plan, if Judiciary didn't produce a more comprehensive proposal by the start of business Tuesday.



Activists gather to show disapproval of the new immigration laws. KRT



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staffeditorials

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

Corrections In the March 22 letter (Abortion actually saves lives), the first sentence of the sixth paragraph should have read "Also, Katie needs to brush up on the law."

inmyopinion:

Drugs in the Viewpoints

by Joseph Szydlowski

Cocaine not as dangerous as it's cracked up to be

March saw an expansion of America's War on Drugs. Now the Drug Warriors have found a new place to police: our sewers.

The Washington Post reported March 26 that the White House asked workers to collect samples of Fairfax County, Va.'s sewage, hoping to determine how much coke Fairfax consumes.

I pity the workers collecting the samples. But at least the War on Drugs is right where it belongs: in the toilet.

Murray David, special assistant to the U.S. Drug Czar, agrees. But he thinks the program "will be very, very useful."

The anti-drug Website, Freevibe.com, describes cocaine, the drug being investigated, as "powerfully addictive."

Indeed, the Greater Dallas Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse Website says that, "up to 75 percent of people who try cocaine will become addicted to it," and "only one out of four people who try to quit will be able to do so without help." The site added, "each day, 5,000 more people will experiment with cocaine."

I used to love it when the prohibitionists contradicted themselves, but it happens so often that I've become jaded.

According to their 'statistics,' 3,750 people become addicted to cocaine every day.

One out of every 14 Americans who has tried cocaine during their lifetime. However, less than 1 percent of respondents have used cocaine within the last month.

One out of every 14 Americans who has tried cocaine, used it within the last month. That's 7 percent.

Contrast that with the percentage of alcoholic Americans. The same survey classifies 6.7 percent as heavy drinkers with over 80 percent of Americans having tried an alcoholic beverage.

Thus, cocaine may addict about the same number of people, per capita, as alcohol.

Suddenly, it doesn't sound like the voracious monster prohibitionists claim it is. I never plan to try cocaine, nor do I want anyone else to. Dependence isn't as likely as prohibitionists describe. But, like any other substance, addiction still poses a threat.

Nevertheless, America can gain a lot from legalizing drugs.

Marijuana, America's number one cash crop according to author Eric Schlosser, yields \$24 billion each year. But the

cocaine market dwarfs that of opium, having garnered up to \$77 billion each year from 1969 to 1998 according to the Office of National Drug Control Policy. The only other kind of money and harming America is the Republican Party.

Right now, the cocaine money funds Colombian Cartels and Rebels, aka terrorists.

These terrorists have killed innocent people who didn't cooperate. America gives money to Colombia to stop cocaine production, but every plan instituted inevitably fails.

Herbicides sprayed from planes to kill the coca plants destroy all crops, including legal ones. Substituting legal crops doesn't generate enough revenue, either.

So, farmers turn to growing cocaine. The cartels take it, refine it and ship it to the United States where billions of dollars are spent on it.

But legalizing cocaine would cut off that enormous money

from the terrorists' treasury.

Before anyone says it, I'm thinking of the children. I'm thinking of the children who are mutilated by Colombian guerrillas and poisoned by the spraying of toxic herbicides of the young women who must risk death to smuggle condoms filled with cocaine

into the United States and of the children murdered in gang wars and heroin, not to mention the taxes from it, would affect our economy. Add to that the \$36 billion the government annually spends waging the War on Drugs.

Imagine how the \$123 billion spent on cocaine, marijuana and heroin, not to mention the taxes from it, would affect our economy. Add to that the \$36 billion the government annually spends waging the War on Drugs.

But more importantly, imagine what the terrorists couldn't do without that money.

America has experimented with prohibition. Banning alcohol in the 1920s didn't keep people from drinking. Instead, it drove people to secret speakeasies and back-alley bars to score their bootlegged booze. Organized crime profited while innocents paid the price.

Prohibition is a jaihouse of cards supported only by broad generalizations, ridiculous research and hypocritical principles. The only person who should decide what you put in your body is you.

Soon the War on Drugs will hopefully be circling the drain. Until then, stand up for your right to control your body.

You also might want to be careful what you flush, in case Uncle Sam starts poking his nose around your septic tank.

npr

norse pool responses

Compiled by Sean Dunn

What should our news editor Amanda Joering's new baby girl be named?



Norke Sherpa
Senior, Computer Information Technology

"Dakine."



Brent Murphy
Sophomore, Construction Management

"Sara."



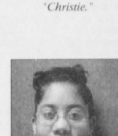
Abdul Latif Faivre
Senior, Biology

"Josephine."



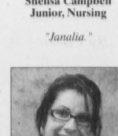
Brook Schweitzer
Sophomore, English

"Christie."



Shelsia Campbell
Junior, Nursing

"Janalia."



Diana Truta
Senior, Graphic Design

"Zara."

Bardgett defends research

Explains practical uses of animal testing for his students

I want to thank The Northerner for their unbiased coverage in the Feb. 15 of the issues surrounding the use of laboratory rats in my Biopsychology Lab course and convey my appreciation to Northern Kentucky University students and staff for expressing their opinions in the paper.

Witnessing this debate in the halls has been refreshing and thought provoking. For the most part, this debate has been rational, considerate and healthy.

However, the letter from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) that was published March 22, 2006 added nothing except threats of "action," egregious hyperboles and blatant misrepresentations.

First, PETA greatly exaggerated the effects of the lab procedures on our rats' well-being. The NKU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, which examines all

work with animals at NKU and operates under strict federal guidelines, reviewed and approved every aspect of the research performed in the biopsychology lab. It's no use to study the behavior of rats that experience unnecessary pain or distress. Researchers cannot generate high-quality and reliable data unless they meet the highest standards of animal care. I have been adamant throughout my career about ensuring quality care for our rats and mice.

Second, PETA stated that our research is "unnecessary" based on the erroneous premise that "beginner-level training experiments are not legitimate disease research. They produce no original scientific data."

On the contrary, my students have generated original scientific data that have helped them to better appreciate the biological aspects of mental and neurological disorders. One of my former

students will publish an article this month in the *Norse Scientist*. The experiment determined how changes in a specific region of the brain alters a preference for alcohol.

Another former student presented experiments, based on data generated in the lab, at three regional scientific conferences. His studies determined if changes in a different region of the brain affected behavioral responses to psychostimulants. Both of these studies are legitimate disease research that addresses important issues regarding the biological basis of drug abuse and addiction.

Finally, PETA indicated undergraduate students in Biopsychology Lab are "wasting their time on archaic methods that will not be useful in their careers." However, several students have applied the research skills and experiences they acquired in the Biopsychology Lab course on similar projects in graduate school or in their

current careers.

While I feel strongly about the life-saving knowledge acquired through the use of laboratory rodents in research and teaching, I feel equally strong that we must be vigilant in justifying such research and ensuring that it is performed with the highest ethical standards.

I will remain open to considering changes in the format of the Biopsychology Lab course, but my first priority will remain that my students are provided with reasonable yet real experiences that allow them to gain meaningful knowledge about the brain. Such knowledge could ultimately improve the lives of people with mental and neurological disorders.

Mark E. Bardgett, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Psychology

PETA overreacted to testing

or their careers?

Many opportunities exist for careers involving animal research, which could help discover successful cancer or Alzheimer's drugs, etc.

If Mongiello needed surgery, I think he would prefer the doctor had practical experience, not just working on computer models. One role of an animal researcher in psychology is finding animal models that exist in human illnesses. In doing so, animal

models can be tested to find solutions.

I wish Mongiello would channel his energy into a cause that will not harm scientific research, etc.

Inhumane treatment of both humans and animals exists today. I fail to see any reason for PETA to get alliled up about a small biopsychology lab teaching students how to conduct beneficial research.

As for studying inhumane treatment of the animals, he is

wrong. The animals are treated humanely. Mongiello, for some reason, left out the fact that the rats are put to sleep during the surgery.

It seems as if Mongiello was reluctant to include the whole truth in his letter. I always wonder about listening to someone who only hands out partial truth.

Timberly LaMontagne, Senior Psychology Journalist

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Timberly LaMontagne, Senior Psychology Journalist

Abortion always destroys life

The March 1 edition of The Northerner explored a few questions about abortion and the fetus ("Is the Right to Choose wrong?")

One student presented those who support abortion rights, and the other meant to appeal to those who are anti-abortion.

I base my opposition to abortion on scientifically testable data.

When the male's sperm successfully penetrates the female's egg, each containing half the genetic information necessary to create a life, a

zygote is formed. That zygote contains a complete blueprint of the organism's physical characteristics, its functions and any propensity for pathological abnormalities. When the donor organisms are human, the product is a human zygote. That human zygote grows into a human fetus, which in turn becomes a human infant. Soon, the infant grows into a human toddler.

Next comes the human child, which should be enjoyable in comparison to the trouble normally associated with human adolescence.

Ultimately, the human zygote becomes a human adult. Abortion of life anywhere along the line of development would mean killing a human being.

Considering the liberal reference to "testable scientific data" when refuting the teaching of creationism in public schools, one wonders why the same principle wouldn't apply to defining the beginning of human life. Or for that matter, their own view of Darwinism?

Aside from the Supreme Court's ideological shift and

the fact that abortion rights supporters are mostly liberal democrats, the current trend is that conservative thinkers, on the whole, decide to have children more often than their liberal counterparts. Of the couples who do have children, conservatives produce a greater number of children per family. Be patient, anti-abortion activists. Things are getting better. The competition is killing itself. Literally.

Jay Vinson
Junior Radiologic Technology



JOB EXPO 2006

By Drew Chalfant and Brianna Bodine

Northern Kentucky University students, like others college students, go to school for more than an education. Students are looking for careers, futures and job prospects. With so many college graduates entering the job market, students need to get an edge on the competition if they want to land their dream job. To give students a step up, the annual NKU Job Expo will be held April 4 at Regents Hall.

The Job Expo is the biggest event for the Career Development Center (CDC) at NKU, with more than 100 employers attending. "The job market for college graduates is the best it has been in the past five years," CDC Director Keely Smith-Keller said. "Our Job Expo sold out three weeks sooner than it has in previous years."

The event is a bridge between interested national and community employers and willing student workers. Companies attend the Job Expo to fill open positions and draw from the large pool of talent that students have to offer.

"NKU students are among the best in the region in terms of earning and learning," Smith-Keller said. "They leave college with tremendous work experience and a great work ethic."

The event is not tailored to any specific field or job type, according to CDC Program Coordinator Karen Chinetti. "There is every-

thing for every major. It's a nice variety," she said. "It's not just professional, full-time jobs. The employers offer part-time, seasonal and co-op positions." The event caters to students looking to do everything from starting a career to finding a summer job.

Making a good first impression is important and the dress for the event is described as formal to business casual. "We strongly encourage dressing professionally so you can really have a positive impact on the employers," Chinetti said.

For students looking to enter the full-time job market a suit is recommended, while those searching for co-ops or internships will find that business casual will suffice. "You're going to be in there for an hour, so go ahead and wear that suit," Chinetti said. "It's not going to kill you."

With a list of employers ranging from banks to hospitals to the military, the Job Expo allows students to network by drifting amongst the vast sea of booths that will be set up in Regents Hall. The event typically draws 800 to 1,000 students, and Chinetti said she hopes these numbers will continue to rise.

The Job Expo is a manifest of the CDC's online Norse-Recruiting program. Similar to career search engines like Monster.com, Norse-Recruiting is a service open exclusively to NKU students who are looking to make contacts in the job market. Offering full-time jobs, co-ops and internships, the Norse-Recruiting program is the best way

to get ahead in the career hunt, according to Chinetti. "Employers are looking for students and college graduates to fill entry-level positions in their businesses," she said of the employers who use Norse-Recruiting to search for prospective employees.

For students planning on attending this year's Job Expo, Chinetti said to prepare for controlled chaos. "It's so loud," she said. "There's that buzz of excitement as students mingle with employers, resume in hand."

Students should also prepare a resume and bring multiple copies to the event. If you need help with preparing to meet employers or constructing your resume, the CDC specializes in smoothing the transition from student to employee. Located on the second floor of the University Center, the CDC is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday from 8:15 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The annual Job Expo is presented by NKU, the CDC and Gateway Community and Technical College.

The Co-op Advantage

Merely going to school is no longer enough to get you a great job or a decent salary. If you want to do more than start off at the bottom rung of the company climb, co-oping and interning are excellent ways to distinguish yourself from competitors in your field, according to Karen Chinetti, program coordinator for Northern Kentucky University's

Career Development Center (CDC).

NKU marketing major Brittany Tooson is taking full advantage of the co-op system, having worked as a co-op employee at the CDC and d4DIRECT, a data infrastructure management company. She said her appeal to employers is dramatically increased by her workplace experience. "You're already in the door, and that gives you a big advantage," she said.

Students may find the challenges of the workplace more rewarding than the mundane classroom experience. "I actually executed my own campaigns toward a target area," Tooson said. "The experience was completely different from a classroom lecture."


When you leave college for the "real world," full of careers and commitments, you don't want to be left in the dust. The cooperative education program at NKU can help you take the lead.

What is Co-op?

Cooperative education programs began close to home at the University of Cincinnati's engineering college. NKU's co-op center started in 1976, and it has become an intrinsic part of NKU and the surrounding area.

Cooperative education is a division of the CDC that allows students to work while earning class credit. The primary focus of

See EXPO, page six



Thank-you notes generate reaction with little effort

By Edward M. Eveld

Susan Fenner is a thank-you note writer. And she knows exactly by how it started.

"My mother insisted that when you got a present, you couldn't play with it, wear it or use it until you wrote a thank-you note," Fenner said. "My notes got out quickly."

While the rest of the country went from casual to hardly ever about writing thank-you notes, Fenner ripped it up. She began buying discount note cards, which she keeps always at the ready.

Asked what situations warrant

a note of thanks, Fenner didn't skip a beat: "Everything."

Most of us may never become Fennerlike in our thank-youing, but etiquette experts say it's past time we take our first baby steps.

The world needs more gratitude, they said, written long hand in a few short sentences and sent by regular mail. Thank-you notes help smooth life's rough edges, just as the gift or invitation did.

"I don't think there's any more important or more underused thing than the thank-you note," said Cathy Corey, etiquette instructor and director of the National League of Junior Cotillions in the Kansas City area.

Corey threw a bridal shower in December, and the thank-you note from the bride brought tears to her eyes. But the topper was receiving another gracious note from the bride's aunt, who drove four hours to be there.

"I felt great," Corey said. "I'm glad to know I'm appreciated." Precisely, said Hilka Klinkenberg, director of Etiquette International in New York. The good feelings created by a thank-you note far exceed the effort to produce it, she said.

"These are not letters," Klinkenberg said. "They're not novellas. They just need to be three or four lines."

There are practical reasons, too, for writing thank-you notes after receiving a gift or in gratitude for a dinner or party invitation. Givers who feel good about their generosity are more likely to give again.

"It triggers the generosity impulse," Klinkenberg said. Plus, she said, ungrateful guests run the risk of not being invited back.

All agree that while a hand written note doesn't take much effort, a thank-you via the telephone or e-mail doesn't represent enough effort. Only a written note is worthy of the giver's generosity, and only a written note leaves a lasting impression.

Fenner said that although friends know her as a reliable thank-youer, some thank-you note receivers are a little stunned to get a thank-you at all.

"I'm surprised when people are surprised that they got a little note," Fenner said.

Fenner thinks she knows why people have fallen away from the practice. They worry it will be too time-consuming, and they worry they won't know what to write.

"Just write what you feel," she said. "And the more thank-you notes you write, the more you can articulate how you feel. That's a side benefit."

Example Resume ☒ Expo Continued from page five

JIMMY VEE

OBJECTIVE

To pursue a career in journalism

EDUCATION

Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, KY
Bachelor of Arts, Journalism, 2004

SKILLS

Computer – QuarkXPress, WordPerfect, Microsoft Word, MS Excel
Languages – Fluent Spanish

ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Sports Editor for The Northerner
- Staff Writer for The Northerner, Spring 2003 – Fall 2004
- Second place KIPA award for Sports News Story
- Student consultant for the NKU Writing Center Spring 2003
- Multiple Dean's List Appearances

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

The Kentucky Post, Covington, KY
Fall 2004
• Covered local high school sports
• Edited copy

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

8/03 – Present Assistant Soccer Coach: Wakefield High School, Delhi, OH
1/01 – 5/03 Cashier: NKU Necessities, Cold Spring, KY
6/99 – 6/00 Food Server: Burger Bonanza, Newport, KY

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

54 Nunn Drive
Highland Heights, KY 41099
859-555-1234
veej@nku.edu

co-op is to prepare students for employment after college. Co-op is like an internship. The students register for the course, which counts as upper-level credit, and they write a term paper at the end.

Students can co-op at a part-time job for three credit hours or go full-time for six credit hours.

Co-op is a requirement for some majors and optional for others.

The jobs are paid, planned, supervised and typically in your field of study. Participating in the program allows you to gain experience, learn new skills, develop connections and get references to void being tossed into the job market unprepared.

Did I mention it's paid? Even better, the CDC has partnerships with non-profit, government, business and education institutions. This offers an array of options from which to choose, without having to muck through the classifieds.

The co-op coordinators will even pair you up with prospective employers in a mutually beneficial situation.

But the student and the employer have to decide if the match fits, Chinetti said.

Why should you co-op?

Co-op allows students to gain experience, develop skills and get a jump on the competition, Chinetti said.

It's a little late to develop job skills or community ties after you've already graduated.

Another part of the co-op experience is test-driving a career. "Sometimes you try something out and realize that isn't what you want to do," Tooson said.

The CDC encourages students to try a variety of co-ops to discover the areas in which they can excel.

"Occasionally you get students who do a co-op and come back hating it," Chinetti said.

But even a bad co-op is still a good experience, because it helps students narrow down what they want to do in a particular field. Co-op students can connect and develop a relationship within the company, which in turn could lead to references and career opportunities.

Employers like to use co-op students to train and fit new people into the workplace, so students can have a

full-time job waiting for them when they graduate, Harper said.

How do you get started?

All you have to do to get started is go to the CDC to fill out an application and complete an information session (a PowerPoint presentation to get you acquainted with the co-op program).

Once you're accepted into the program, you'll meet with a coordinator to work on your resume and references, and go over interview tips and other aspects of getting a job. Then you begin the job hunt.

There are some academic requirements: You must have a declared major, at least a 2.2 GPA and a minimum of 20 credit hours completed toward a bachelor's degree or 15 toward an associate's degree. Keep in mind that many co-ops are tailored to individual companies or specific majors and might have additional requirements.

If you want to grab some experience, you can stop by the CDC in suite 230 of the University Center, or you can call (859) 572-5680.



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Executive Vice President

(President and Executive Vice President may run on a slate)

Vice President of Public Relations

Vice President of Student Involvement

Vice President of Administration

Senator (15 positions available – 2.0 minimum GPA required)

Judicial Council (3 positions available – 2.0 minimum GPA required)

**Election packets must be submitted to the
Dean of Students Office by Monday, April 3 at 10 a.m.**



Election packets are available outside the SGA Office (UC 208) or in the Dean of Students Office (UC 346). Election packets must be completed and returned to the Dean of Students Office by Monday, April 3, 2006 at 10:00am. Student government Association elections will be held on Wednesday, April 12 and Thursday April 13, 2006. SGA meetings are held on every Monday afternoon during the fall and spring semesters starting at 3:30pm in University Center, room 11. Candidates must be able to attend the SGA meetings on a regular basis. Additional information concerning the SGA can be obtained by contacting their office at 859-572-5149.

design by Josh Jacob

By Sarah Sabalos Knight Ridder Newspapers



Dress for Success



FOR HIM (HE HAS IT EASIER):

• Dude, there is no such thing as a short-sleeved dress shirt. You need at least seven cotton, button-down long-sleeve dress shirts in white, light blue and conservative stripes. Pick up a pink one if you are so inclined.

• A few polo shirts for Fridays.

• A week's worth of dress pants in black and navy.

• Several pairs of khakis (which you already have).

• Several pairs of black and brown shoes and belts to go with them.

• If the other guys wear ties, so must you.



GENERAL TIPS

• Use common sense and avoid making a fashion statement: At a new job, it's smart to blend in with everyone else. Fly low; beat the radar.

• Look in the mirror before you go to work. "No extra piercings, no obvious tattoos ... neat, clean and pressed," said Barbara Kelly, vice president of human resources at Blue Cross/Blue Shield in Columbia, S.C.

• Women, don't wear a strapless top unless you put a sweater on over it. "I'd say 'Wear your Sunday best,'" said Kelly, "but nowadays, from what you see at church, that doesn't even hold anymore."

• Check out what everyone else at work is wearing and lean that way (we never said working for The Man would be easy or creatively satisfying).

• If something doesn't fit exactly right, spring to have it tailored.

• Keep your undergarments, bra straps, slips, etc., to yourself.

• Bare midriffs are for the weekend.

• The iron, it is your friend. Also that cool "stretch-out-the-wrinkles" spray in the laundry detergent aisle.



FOR HER:

• One black, knee-length skirt that covers your thighs when you sit. Spring for two more in navy or gray if you can.

• Three pairs of casual, ankle or top-of-shoe length pants in - you guessed it: black, navy, gray or brown. Don't wear them too tight.

• A half-dozen blouses and sweaters in complementary neutrals - Cotton, silk and blends all work, but stay away from anything too shimmery or velvety.

• Several colorful, yet not completely whack, scarves.

• A simple, conservative watch, even if you use your cell phone to check the time.

• Hair color can look great, but if you can't maintain all-over color at this point in your fledgling career, try highlights instead.

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Family Medicine



Dawn McNaughton, M.D.
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Presented by Northern Kentucky University's
Career Development Center

Tuesday, April 4, 2006
2 p.m. - 5 p.m.
NKU's Regents Hall



companies and Organizations that will be at Job Expo 2006

AC Nielsen BASES
Accountemps
Ajilon Finance*
American Nursing Care - Homecare
American Nursing Care - Staffing
Americorps VISTA
Ameriprise Financial
Bank of Kentucky*
Bottom Line Services
Brooksource
CBS Personnel
C.H. Robinson
Children, Inc.
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
Cincinnati Bengals Pro Shop
Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Agency
Cincinnati Pool Management
Cinergy
Citicard- A Division of Citigroup*
Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co.
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Drees Homes*
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Federal Corrections Institution
FedEx Ground*
Fidelity*
Fifth Third Bank
First Investors Corp.
Fischer Homes
Gap, Inc.
Great American Financial Resources
Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Services
Hamilton County Job & Family Services
Hamilton County Juvenile Court
Healthsouth Rehabilitation Hospital
Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza
Home Depot
Hydro Systems Company
Insight Media
Internal Revenue Service
Intuit
K-Force*
Kroger Company
Lerner, Sampson & Rothfuss
Lexus Rivercenter
Libby Perszyk Kathman
Martin & Associates

The Midland Company
Morgan Stanley
Movie Gallery
Mubea, Inc.
National City Corporation
The National Underwriters Company
Netherland Rubber Company
Nielsen Co., An RR Donnelley Co.
NKU Graduate Programs
NKU Police/Parking Program
Northwestern Mutual/RPS Financial
On Assignment/Lab Support
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Radio Shack
Red Roof Inn
Remke Markets
SAFY Foster Care Agency
SARK, A division of Software Architects
Sisters of Charity
St. Elizabeth Medical Center
St. Joseph Orphanage
Staples
Steak & Shake
Target*
Team EPS
TGW International
Thomson Learning Publisher Services
Tier 1 Performance Solutions*
Total Quality Logistics
Trihealth (Bethesda & Good Samaritan)*
Turner Construction
United Way of Greater Cincinnati
UPS*
U.S. Army
U.S. Army Healthcare
U.S. Navy Officer Recruiting
Veritude - Fidelity Investments
Villasprings Healthcare Center*
Von Lehman & Company, Inc.
Waddell & Reed
Walgreens
WCPO-TV
Wells Fargo Financial - Cincinnati
Wells Fargo Financial - Kentucky
Western Southern Financial Group-Broadway
Western Southern Financial - Glenway

sports scene

with Seth Millhoan

Opening day
right around
corner

Cincinnati baseball fans wait all year for one day. That day this year is April 3, when the Chicago Cubs come into town for Opening Day.

This day will mark the second time in three years the Cubbies will have rolled into Cincinnati, along with lots of fans, and try to take the steam out of Cincinnati Reds fans across the Tri-State.

Tickets for the Reds home opener are a hot commodity every year. There aren't many events for which fans will camp out a week in advance to secure their chance to attend. Fans lined up as early as Feb. 11 for the tickets that went on sale Feb. 18. I won't be able to go down until the Feb. 15, but hey, I was there. And I left sicker than I've been in a long time from being outside. I like to think that I'm hard core that way.

Opening Day in Cincinnati is about more than going to a baseball game. Festivities and citywide parties lead up to the event. The parade that usually starts at Findlay Market and turns on Fifth Street, will be detoured this year due to construction. Rest assured, because fans will attend the parade to see Grand Marshal Mario Soto.

The stadium itself will be littered with media personalities and politicians alike. Your trusty sports editor met Sen. Mike DeWine in 2003. I even had my picture taken with him. One year, Trisha Yearwood, gave the national anthem. She brought her superstar husband Garth Brooks along with her. Nick LaChapelle did it another year and brought old what's-her-name with him. But, guests don't get as big as the one coming in this year.

That's right folks, if you're planning on attending Opening Day this year, give yourself a little extra time to get through the gate. President George W. Bush, a good friend of new owner Bob Castellini and new General Manager Wayne Krivsky, is scheduled to throw out a ceremonial first pitch. So not only will traffic be backed up because of the parade and the sold-out game, the Presidents' arrival will cause even more traffic congestion.

So, who cares if the Reds haven't had a winning season since 2007? Enjoy the day like it's meant to be enjoyed. It's a holiday in Cincinnati for crying out loud.

If you don't have tickets and don't have the money to scalp them, head to your local establishment for great time. Get out there April 3 and show your Reds spirit; even if it's kind of lackluster like the team.

By Jami Patton

Contributor
northerner@nku.edu

The University of Indianapolis ended the Northern Kentucky University softball team's 14-game winning streak March 25. In the opener, the Norse took the Greyhounds in to eight innings.

The game remained scoreless until Indianapolis got one run in the top of the sixth, putting pressure on the Norse. Sarah King got up to bat with two outs, bottom of the seventh and Kara Lorenz on second base.

The Norse couldn't hold on when Beth Wendlinger's two-run double ended the game 3-1.

In the nightcap, Indianapolis started off scoring seven runs in the first inning. The Norse tried to hold on by scoring two runs in the second inning.

King hit a grounder to the shortstop, but an error on the throw allowed Lorenz to score and tie the game. The Norse couldn't hold on when Beth Wendlinger's two-run double ended the game 3-1.

The Norse came out ready to play, facing Saint Joseph's College March 26. The two teams kept the score even until King had a solo home run in the fourth inning allowing NKU to lead 5-4.

In the top of the seventh, Cheryl Zakowski had an RBI single to tie the game and force extra innings. The Pumas scored four times in



Tim Downer/Photographer

Freshman Shatona Campbell slides homes safely in a game this weekend.

the 11 inning. When NKU got their turn at bat, they could only score one run, giving up the victory 9-6. The nightcap was a different story. Saint Joseph's scored four runs by the top of the fourth,

sliding the Norse 4-0, but those would be the only runs freshman pitcher Candice White would allow them to score. In the bottom of the fourth, Kara Parker smashed a two-run homer which would

start the rally for NKU. Lorenz and Ricki Rothbauer both contributed to the fourth inning rally with RBI hits. This tied the game 4-4.

In the sixth inning, after the Norse scored five more runs,

Rachele Vogelpohl hit a two-run homer, finishing the inning with seven runs. The Norse took the win 11-4. NKU is 19-9 overall and 3-3 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

in the hot seat with Tim Downer

Amanda Smith, freshman first baseman, for NKU softball team has been called for duty as a pitcher because of injuries. She has a 10 wins 4 losses record and a 1.95 era. She hails from Canal Winchester, Ohio.

Tim: Amanda, how much pitching did you do in high school?

Amanda: I pitched the majority of the games all four years of my high school career and had a lot of success, but I thought I was done.

Tim: You are now 10 wins 4 losses as a pitcher did you ever think you would be pitching at NKU?

Amanda: Definitely not, and my parents would always joke with me, that after my last game in high school, I retired from pitching. I just thought I would be hitting and playing first base.

Tim: What is the position on the field that you play best at?

Amanda: I think I am better at first base, but I am such a competitor that I strive to succeed in anything I do.

Tim: Do you prepare differently for a game as a pitcher versus a first baseman?

Amanda: Yes because between the pitcher, catcher and coaches we talk about how we are going to get batters out, and what our game plan is. You have to be more mentally tough as a pitcher, because hitters thrive off of weaknesses.

Tim: What position do you like to play now that you are a first baseman and a pitcher?

Amanda: I like playing first base more than pitching, but that isn't what the team needs right now. Since pitching takes up so much practice time, I just have to make sure I put extra time in to work on other things.

Tim: Amanda, where is Canal Winchester, Ohio? What big city is nearby?

Amanda: Canal Winchester is about 20 miles southeast of Columbus and it's a small town but close enough to Columbus if you need stuff to do.

Tim: What made you come to NKU?

Amanda: The nursing program this school offers is really a good program, and when I had the chance to continue playing softball while I got an education, the choice was fairly easy.

Tim: What special coaching did you receive in high school that has helped you at NKU?

Amanda: My summer ball coaches were great coaches as they always expected us to do our best and they were very intense. We played the best competition out there and expected to win all the time.

Tim: Who is your sports hero you admire the most?

Amanda: I think Michael Jordan was a great player, and I also think Derek Jeter is an awesome leader in their respective sports.

Tim: What does your pre game meal consist of?

Amanda: I am an extremely picky eater so a lot of times it consists of chicken fingers and water even if it's around breakfast time.

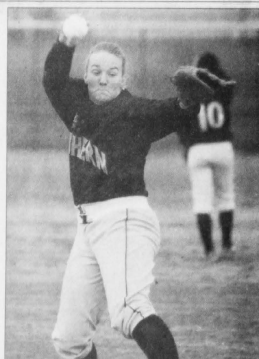
Tim: What is your major and what do you plan to do after you graduate?

Amanda: I am a nursing major, and after I graduate I would really like to pursue a physician's assistant degree and work in a pediatrician's office.

Tim: What is your favorite movie on the road trip bus rides?

Amanda: We don't watch the same one on each trip, but so far the movie Radio, and Molly, the pitching coach, brings Breakin' 1 and II that we like to joke around about.

Tim: Who would be the first to get a hit off your pitching. Coach Kathy or Coach Chip?



Tim Downer/Photographer

Smith.

Amanda: Between all the trash talking that would be going on, it would probably be Chip because he would do everything he could to distract Coach Stewart while she was in the batter's box.

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arts&entertainment

theatre review

Play shows too much heart for real comedy

By Katie Walker

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There's a lot of lemonade in Northern Kentucky University's latest production, "Crimes of the Heart." The sour Southern staple seemed to accompany a good chunk of the dramatic comedy about three quirky Hazelhurst, Miss., sisters. They reunite after the youngest shoots her husband in the stomach because, as she says, she simply "didn't like his looks."

But just like the sisters' lives, the show and the lemonade seem to run a little too tart.

The story opens right after Babe, (Emma Robertson), has shot her husband. He lives, but Babe is charged with the shooting and turns to her oldest sister Lenny Magrath, (Christine Marie Walsh) and middle sister Meg Magrath, (Brittany Sullivan) in preparation for a criminal investigation that soon reveals a sordid past.

The eccentric Babe is not the only off-balance family member. Frumpy Lenny suffers from premature old mad syndrome.

After sacrificing much of her life to care for their elderly Granddaddy, she's convinced herself at the age of 30 that no man will ever love her.

If Lenny's love life isn't up to par, Meg's more than makes up for it.

She's just returned from a failed Hollywood singing career and the audience discovers that this is the first time she's been home since Hurricane Camille ravaged the area five years previous. She highlighted it out of Hazelhurst after her boyfriend

Photo Courtesy of the Department of Theater and Dance
Cynical sisters reveal intimate secrets in "Crimes of the Heart," directed by Sandra Forman

Doe's (Timothy Rhoades) leg was crushed in the storm. Meg is the one who convinced Doe not to evacuate. When she returns, the flames rekindle and despite her desertion after the hurricane, his new Yankee wife and two kids, Doe and Meg spend one more night together.

The Magrath sisters are a little off. But that's hardly surprising considering that the sisters' mother gained national attention 15 years before when she hung herself — and the cat.

Walsh, especially, seems uncomfortable in the Southern environment. Get in touch with your Southern self, honey! Much of the cast seems to shy

away from the stereotypes, but those are what make the show funny. Last time I checked, NKU was still south of the Mason-Dixon line. Dixified mannerisms shouldn't be this hard to feign.

But while some of the cast struggled to find their character, Robertson let the poised, passionate and slightly crazy Babe shine. She seems perfectly comfortable with the Southern culture. Robertson's Babe is idealistic and loving, but also selfish and indulgent.

Rhoades proved a perfect fit for the wronged and deep-feeling role of Doe, and S. Justin Terry provided many of the funniest moments with his portrayal of the awkward young lawyer, Barnette.

Switching between the many different emotions and tones

of the show also proved a challenge for the cast. One minute Meg's reading the news coverage of her sister's crime and arrest and the next she's laughing and running off with her old boyfriend. The nearly bipolar, emotional flip-flops were disorienting and confusing.

While Robertson and Rhoades made seeing the show worthwhile, the rest of the production seemed to fall the way of slightly sour lemonade.

Instead of focusing on the three sisters finding strength, support and humor in each other's lives, the production felt more like three distinct storylines that only sometimes interweave when times turned bad. Sure, the sisters share a few good times and bonding, but that little bit of sugar isn't enough to sweeten this pitcher.



Regan Coomer/Photographer

Sophomore history major Jamie Barker wears attire perfect for spring.

Spring: What not to wear

The Fashion Spot
with Regan Coomer

I was walking to class the other day when I noticed a fashionably dressed male walking in the opposite direction. I looked him up and down, grateful for proof that someone has read my men's fashion article — and what did I see? An extremely nicely dressed male student wearing Birkenstock sandals with a pair of woolly socks. I could not help looking toward heaven and thinking, "Forgive them, for they know not what they do." Spring is in the air here at Northern Kentucky University, and one part of getting out of the winter doldrums is showing a little more skin. However, the more skin you show, the more likely you'll stumble into a fashion disaster (Like my friend Mr. Birkenstock). Here are a few things to avoid this spring and summer.

Birkenstock Sandals/Dirty Flip-Flops/Gardening Clogs

I know some people love the Bohemian look and this type of sandal may seem like the perfect accessory, but this is 2006. There are only two people who can wear Birkenstock sandals and get away with it: Jesus and Jerry Garcia. If you're not either one, do us all a favor and leave these at home. Birkenstocks are a favorite of the men because they're easy; men slip them on and go. However, a standard flip-flop is just as convenient and looks better in the modern era in which we live. They also come in a variety of colors and styles unlike the standard blah Birkenstock sandal.

Speaking of flip-flops, I know I've preached this before, but here we go again: if your flip-flops have the dirty imprint of your foot on them, throw them away.

Another thing I've noticed around campus is the girls wearing rubber gardening clogs. Just because they're pink doesn't mean they're fashionable. They are only appropriate for your grandma and the garden. Just don't do it.

Low-rise jeans/skirts/capris

Low-rise everything is in style when it comes to 'bot-toms, but there is a right way to wear them. If you wear these low-rise jeans, skirts, etc. too small, they create the infamous "spare tire" that just looks horrible. Avoid this by wearing the size that fits you. Don't think that "I am a size 10 so all I's should fit me." Wrong. Every brand makes their jeans/skirts/capris differently. Try on at least one size smaller and one size bigger than what you usually wear. Don't get caught up in a number. What's important is that it looks fabulous on you.

Tanks

The traditional problem with wearing tank tops for women has always been bra-strap showing under spaghetti-strapped tanks. In order to avoid one evil, some women avoid the bra-strap issue by skipping a bra altogether! I'm all about feminism, but wearing a bra is an absolute must for the majority of women. The solution to the bra and tank problem is either wearing a strapless bra or allowing a bra with pretty color-coordinated straps to show. Simple!

Shorts

Women, Jessica Simpson-inspired Daisy Dukes are not acceptable for class. The male population will do anything but think about class in your presence, and the attire will raise a few women's eyebrows. Bust out the dukes when school is out and wear them over your bathing suit.

Gays, please avoid all shorts that fall above the knee. The knee or below is the perfect length. Same rule goes for swimming trunks. Anything above the knee is old-man length.

bar review

Neighborhood feel at artsy bar

By Pam Tzopp

Staff Writer
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Located in the northern part of Over the Rhine, Cooper's of Main offers what every bar enthusiast is looking for: a laid-back vibe, tasty food and drinks — all while providing great music. The atmosphere and the people make it feel like a neighborhood bar where everyone knows your name.

Cooper's on Main is a staple to Cincinnati's Main Street bar district. The main focus of the front room in Cooper's on Main is the bar and understandably so, the drink list atmosphere compliments its dark wood.

The décor is reminiscent of a great college house; some include art pieces that have interesting subject matter and a moose's head that sports a Red's baseball cap. The first



Nicole Jones/Photo Editor

In the heart of Over the Rhine, Cooper's serves up good times

room offers the stage, pool tables and a jukebox making it the place to be. Plenty of tables and booths are available in the first two rooms — while the downstairs provides more tables, couches, and another pool table. Cooper's on Main seems like a great place to summer bar drinking, because it offers an outside patio.

Cooper's on Main offers all the bar basics: a mixed drink will cost you \$5 and a beer on tap is about \$3. If you forget to eat or need a snack don't worry because the kitchen is open until 1 a.m.

Besides the great food and drinks, Cooper's on Main hasn't forgotten about the music. Live bands play throughout the

The Lowdown

- Cooper's On Main, 1345 Main St. Cincinnati, Ohio

- Open Sunday 11 a.m. to 2:30 a.m.; Monday through Saturday 5 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.

- No cover charge

- Must be 21 to enter

week for your ears' content, and the weekends a DJ spins downstairs. And, of course, it hosts karaoke on Sundays. Lastly, check out the jukebox if none of the above are happening.

Cooper's on Main has something for everyone. Even if you hate going downtown, once you are inside of the bar will help you forget the headache from trying to find a place to park.

CD review

Young band great live; not on CD

By Melissa Elrod

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The London trio known as The Subways is among the legions of British bands to recently invade the United States, though making its North American debut in a much more trendy way: via the fictional Bat Shop venue located in the cinematic world of "The O.C." The show's depiction of the band's performance was quite favorable, as most of The Subways' live performances are well-received. Unfortunately, the band's full-length debut "Young for Eternity" does not exactly live up to the live show's reputation.

For what it is — an amateur debut with lackluster lyrics and clichéd music — the album does work to an extent. While the songs aren't incredibly diverse, they are varied enough to get you through one or two enjoyable listens. The presentation, with its abrasive, edgy vocals and gritty rock

instrumentation, is basic enough to make listeners feel as though they are hearing something classic yet innovative. However, the constant use of power chords and persistent drum slamming bring the audience back to the realization that The Subways is only repeating musical history. Such a mundane thrash-rock approach may work for the band in live shows, and even in DJ settings, but the musical techniques get old when listening to "Young for Eternity."

With an average age of only 19, guitarist and band leader Billy Lunn, his fiancée and bassist Charlotte Cooper, and his brother and drummer Josh Morgan, have potential for improvement. Considering the members' experience levels, the group deserves positive acknowledgment for being more musically inclined and more successful than most people are at that time in their lives. But while The Subways may have nearly perfected the art of showmanship, they have not quite mastered the concept of a distinct, solid full-length album.

Photo courtesy of Warner Brothers Records
London trio The Subways falls short on debut CD

arts&entertainment

Students attend Arab women's conference

The FIX

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



"Apprentice" star **Donald Trump** must have caused a gag reflex in the audience of "The View" March 6 when he was a guest on the show with daughter **Ivanka**, 24. US Weekly reports. The 59 year old was asked how he would feel if the ex-model (who holds an M.B.A.) posed for Playboy. He replied, "[She] does have a very nice figure. I've said if Ivanka wasn't my daughter, perhaps I'd be dating her." Eww. Three days later Trump was a guest on "Larry King Live" and said of his creepy comment, "It was obviously in jest." OK, but the next time you decide to jest about your daughter, don't do it on national television!

Singer **Madonna**'s daughter **Lourdes**, 9, has reached the age when she is questioning her parents, and Madonna has recently had to explain some of her past actions to her newly inquisitive daughter. In the April issue of Out magazine, Madonna gave the dirt about her explanation to Lourdes concerning the infamous 2003 Video Music Awards kiss with fellow singer **Britney Spears**: "I am the mommy pop star and she is the baby pop star. And I am kissing her to pass my energy onto her." Umm, I think Britney should be insulted

and Lourdes just might need therapy. Oh, well. Madonna can afford it.

Isaac Hayes, 63, is quitting Comedy Central's show "South Park," according to OK! magazine. The voice of the character Chef since 1997, Hayes, in a March 13 statement, criticized the series' "inappropriate, ridicule of religious communities." Hayes' sudden decision was inspired by a recent episode that poked fun at Scientology (Hayes' religion). Co-creator of "South Park," **Matt Stone** said recently of Hayes, "He got a sudden case of religious sensitivity when it was his religion featured." We'll miss you, Chef!

Quotes of the Week:

"It's an amazing experience. It changes your, everything gets, you know—there are lights. It's very interesting."

—Grey's Anatomy actor **Patrick Dempsey** on losing one's virginity.

"I don't even have a computer...people like email because they don't have to answer it...I prefer letters. I like to write them."

—Keanu Reeves in all his incoherent glory, people!

From March 8 through the 15, four female students, a professor were in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates for a global women's leadership conference. The conference, hosted by Zayed University, brought together women from more than 70 countries.

Daytime conference events were held at the Emirates Palace. Evening events included a welcome reception at Zayed University, a gala dinner and a desert barbecue that included local cuisine, camel rides, henna tattoos, cultural displays, performances, and a spectacular laser and firework display. The following is a general account of the trip from **Lauren Petzlika**, a junior at Northern Kentucky University:

Night 1/Day 1

After traveling for 30 hours, we were exhausted. We arrived at 1:30 a.m., unpacked and went in search of sustenance. Surprisingly, right across the street from our hotel was a KFC; the menu was much like the American menu. However, the meals came with a bun, not a biscuit.

Later that day, we went in search of local food again, particularly a sandwich called "schwirma." We learned schwirma was not served until dinner and settled for Indian food instead.

After we ate, we decided to visit the hotel beach and ventured off to enjoy some time in the sun.

When we left the beach, some of us went to the Abu Dhabi Mall while others walked back to the hotel, stopping along the way in local grocery stores and shops selling hookahs and jewelry.

Afterwards, we had a late night meal at a McDonald's. Like KFC, McDonald's had a menu reflecting its American counterpart, with the exception of a McArabia sandwich. It was like a gyro, except it had either lamb or chicken meat in a patty form I found it delicious!

Day 2

We explored a Dinar Palace (similar to a dollar store), local carpet shops and clothes stores. Then, we walked down the Corniche, a newly developed walkway, and series of parks along the Dhow Harbor, a branch off of the Persian Sea.



Photo contributed by Lauren Petzlika

From left to right: Sue Meagher, Lauren Petzlika, Melissa Trembach, Holly Abner.

We walked through the city on the way back to the hotel and went through the gold market area and saw both modern buildings and more traditional, older buildings. We were all somewhat surprised at how modern the city looked.

That evening, we ate at a vegetarian Indian restaurant and had a wonderful meal for three for around \$15. Another excellent meal! We also went to a mall that primarily sold textiles sewn by tailors. An interesting fact is most people have their own tailor rather than buying clothes off the rack.

Day 3

The first day of the conference, Zayed University transported us to the elaborate Emirates Palace. It was incredibly ornate and gorgeous.

We were greeted by students and escorted to a welcome reception with pastries, coffee and fresh mango, watermelon and orange juices.

The welcoming ceremony featured Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland, Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah, Queen of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, His Excellency Sheikh Nahayan the president of Zayed University and Her Excellency Sheikhha Lubna Al-Qasbi, the UAE Minister of Economy.

The afternoon consisted of speakers that included the Lord Mayor of Würzburg, Germany and journalist Linda Ellerbee. In the eve-

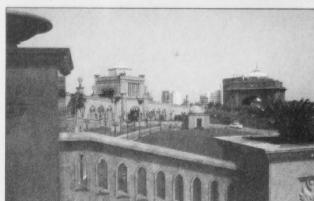


Photo contributed by Lauren Petzlika

Ancient blends with modern in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

ning, we got to socialize and meet other delegates at a gala dinner.

Day 4

The second day of the conference, featured speakers were prominent women leaders in Middle East business and economics.

At lunch, our speaker was Judy Everett, head of Corporate Identity for Shell. That night a desert barbecue was held where I had a great conversation with a student from the UAE discussing the different perceptions that people hold about Muslim women and the Islamic religion.

Day 5

The last day of the conference we opted for a tour of Dubai instead. We visited local cultural sites including the world's oldest mosque

and a historical city in downtown Dubai.

We also visited a gold souk and spice souk, traditional markets. It was great fun to barter with the vendors.

We located that 14 percent of the world's giant cranes are located in Dubai due to the city's increasing amount of commercial growth. On the way to and from Dubai, we saw camel farms on the sides of the road.

At the end of the tour, we went back to the hotel, packed and departed for the airport to head back home to the United States.

In conclusion, we had an amazing trip. We experienced a totally different culture, we tasted great food and learned about the multitude of ways women are impacting and changing the world. I highly recommend visiting the UAE. Attending the yearly conference was an experience I will never forget.

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movie review

Teen flick puts spin on the Bard

By **Meghan Gilroy**
 Staff Writer
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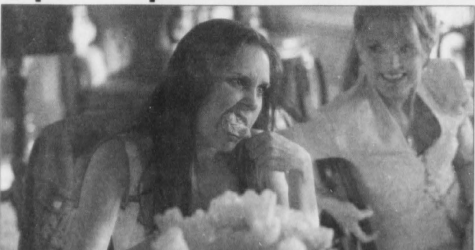
If predictable plot twists, gushy teens in love and nothing but young bodies running around are things you look for in a movie, then "She's the Man" is the right one for you. This PG-13 flick is a youthful story that moviegoers are better off waiting to rent.

As an updated looks at Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," "She's the Man" stars Amanda Bynes of Nickelodeon fame who plays the main character, Viola, a high schooler who loves to play soccer.

Two weeks before her senior year, Viola's soccer team gets cut from her school. Regardless of her talent, the boys' soccer coach refuses to let Viola play.

Willing to do anything to get on the soccer team, Viola decides to disguise herself as her twin brother and try out for his school's team.

While her brother Sebastian decides to ditch school and tour with his band in Europe for two weeks, Viola sneaks



KRT

Viola (Amanda Bynes) chomps her way to manhood.

into his boarding school disguise as Sebastian. She tries out and barely makes the boy's soccer team.

Viola finds herself in trouble when her lab partner, the hottest girl in school, Olivia, finds Viola to be sensitive and irresistible.

At the same time, Viola falls in love with her guy roommate and friend, Duke, who helps her improve her soccer

game. Even though Duke is crazy about Olivia and really thinks Viola is Sebastian.

Viola doesn't realize, but her brother Sebastian, who is oblivious to Viola's transformation, comes home a day early-right before the big game.

This movie is a cross between "Ladybugs" and "Mrs. Doubtfire." Much like those movies, "She's the

Man" has many scenes where Viola avoids blowing her cover in order to make it to the big soccer game. Can she prove to everyone that she's good enough to play with the boys?

This movie is full of fast pace action, beautiful characters and great music. With a little over the top acting "She's the Man" is entertaining yet a bit predictable.

