

The Northernner

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Don McCarty/The Northernner

POLITICS AT NKU: Northern Kentucky University was the site for Governor Paul Patton's town meeting. SGA President Chris Saunders spoke on behalf of seven of the eight SGA Presidents endorsing his higher education reform.

SGAs Support Patton

By Diana Schlake
Editor in Chief

Student Government presidents from the state of Kentucky showed up on Northern Kentucky University's campus to show support for Governor Paul Patton. As a collect body, they passed a resolution supporting Patton's higher education reform proposal. One president was noticeably missing.

The largest university in Kentucky, the University of Kentucky did not have representation. Melanie Cruz, UK's SGA president said they weren't invited until the day before the event.

"Because of the short notice, neither Allan Aja, [UK's former president] nor could make it," Cruz said. "They let us know at the last minute, and I don't know why."

Chris Saunders, NKU's SGA president said everyone was informed by Derek Somerville, Murray State's SGA president.

"UK is in descent with our position, which we respect. That is why they didn't show up," said Somerville. "He [Aja] declined our offer. He's just defending his institution."

Cruz said UK is not happy with some of the issues covered in Patton's reform, two of which are stripping

UK of its community colleges and the lack of student representation.

"I think the reform has a lot of merit," she said. "I need to know why students aren't mentioned. I need to know how he will make UK a top 20 research facility without the community colleges. I need to know as to why this plan is feasible. I just need answers before I can support a resolution."

Cruz said she is personally meeting with Patton on Friday to get those answers. But until then, she said, "I can't consciously support any reform I am confused on or don't believe in."

The statement which each president signed and read by Saunders during a press conference last Wednesday where Patton had stopped during his Patton to the People tour, read in part:

"As students have more than just a vested interest in the outcome of Gov. Patton's initiatives... We are prepared to collectively support his agenda."

Somerville said Patton will list students because, "These are the faces that will pass or block the reform."

Patton said he was ecstatic that the seven presidents passed the resolution.

"These are the people who will be affected the most... the students of Kentucky," he said.

Reform First On Patton's Agenda

By Diana Schlake
Editor in Chief

Governor Paul Patton is not happy with the current state of Kentucky's postsecondary education system. As he toured the state and many colleges and universities, he explained why he was not satisfied with the current higher educational system. He spoke of the changes he wants to implement.

"The fact of the matter is, the problems that Kentucky faces today are the direct result of a hundred years of neglect of education," he said. "That means we need to make it better. By definition, that means we need to change. How can we take our current system and fix it... by a unique Kentucky solution."

Patton spoke at Northern Kentucky University last Friday during his state tour, Patton for the People.

"I and a lot of people around me have spent the better part of last year, and particularly these last three months studying our system of higher education... trying to figure out how to take our unique system, and adjust it to make it serve us better," he said.

Patton is proposing numerous changes,

including a new funding formula for schools, ditching the Council on Higher Education and establishing a new council, the Council on Postsecondary Education (CHE). He stated in his plan, "An Agenda For The 21st Century," that the Council on the Higher Education is not effective because the political leadership does not listen to nor respect the advice received from the Council, universities and regional constituencies circumvent the Council when the Council decisions are not consistent with university objectives and the Council does not effectively address critical issues and long-range solutions.

"Our people deserve a system of postsecondary education that is not politically driven and one that will operate efficiently and effectively in the long-term," he stated.

The issue that has caused the most controversy is the stripping of the University of Kentucky's 13 of its 14 community colleges.

It is Patton's idea to allow UK to become a top 20 research college by eliminating the "burden" of the community colleges. Charles Wethington, UK's president has rallied support from those community colleges.

Derek Somerville, Murray State's Student Government President said that Wethington has launched a campaign against Patton's plan.

"At no time has Charles Wethington been supportive, in fact, he has tried consistently to knock the plan any time he can, calling the plan 'fundamentally flawed,'" Somerville said. Wethington could not be reached for comment.

Unlike UK's president, NKU's new president, Dr. James Votruba said he is happy with the governor's proposal.

"I expect that the Governor is going to be supportive of NKU because NKU is going to be supportive of this region and all the goals that he has for the state," he said. "I think we will work together very well. This university's future is going to be tied to his success."

Votruba said he discussed his vision of NKU with Patton's vision and they coincide.

"Jack [President Moreland] and I are already talking... and Jack is a strong supporter of this agenda."

Patton's plan will be voted on during the May special session of the General Assembly.

Spring Has Sprung



Anna Weaver/The Northernner

DAFFODIL DELIGHT: Flowers outside of Landrum Hall show NKU that spring is here. Spring is the time of year that people start thinking about the wonders of the earth and how precious they are. Earth Day, celebrated annually in April, is a day set aside to keep people aware of the degradation of the Earth and ways to counteract the destruction. See page 3 for more Earth Day news.

All The Presidential Money

By Diana Schlake
Editor in Chief

Northern Kentucky University has spent a small fortune on presidents this year.

In the past year, over a quarter of a million dollars were spent on presidents and a presidential search.

According to each individual's contract, President Emeritus Dr. Leon Booth is receiving \$117,936 this year and Interim President Jack Moreland is making \$95,000.

When Moreland was named Interim President, Booth had one more year on his contract so the Board of Regents were obligated to pay him his contractual amount for the 1996-97 school year. Jim Poston, chairperson of the Board of Regents said. That is why both Moreland and Booth are on salary this year.

Because Moreland is serving as interim for a one year period, NKU had a nation-wide presidential search and the Presidential Search Committee was budgeted \$114,000 to find the next president.

In addition to that amount, the next president of NKU, Dr. James Votruba, will make \$160,000 his first year.

Poston said that even though

that much money was allotted for the search, "We are projected to be below that amount when the final bills come in."

So far, Poston said that the consulting firm that was hired to help find presidential candidates was given \$50,000 plus expenses. In addition, there were airline and hotel expenses, advertising costs, federal express/postage costs, dinners and portions of salaries if an NKU staff person was assigned to work full-time on the committee along with Poston said.

One candidate, Dr. Donald Mash said he received many items from NKU to inform him of what was going on. "It seemed that everyday I received something from NKU."

Votruba will be receiving something from NKU as well-the honor of being the highest paid president ever at NKU.

Even though there is a jump of \$42,000 for the salary of NKU president, comparatively, he is about average in the state of Kentucky. According to the Council on Higher Education's Database Report, the University of Kentucky's President makes \$179,846, the University of

Louisville's President makes \$173,250, Eastern Kentucky's President makes \$149,374 and Murray State's President makes \$125,491.

Poston said he won't compare what Votruba will make to either what Moreland or Booth made. He just said, "He's [Votruba] worth it." The Board of Regents knew they would have to spend more money on a president, Poston said.

"Each candidate had a salary and compensation package so we knew what to expect going in," Poston said.

"There is a trend for presidents living away from campus," Poston said. "We left that up to the individual candidate to decide. We didn't make living on campus mandatory."

Because Votruba and his wife Rachel won't be living in the President's house on campus, an additional \$3,000 will be given to them for suitable housing and \$1,000 for maintenance and cleaning. Votruba's contract stated:

"There is a trend for presidents living away from campus," Poston said. "We left that up to the individual candidate to decide. We didn't make living on campus mandatory."

Budget Blamed For Art Theft

By Pamela Boris
Staff Reporter

The recent theft of art work from the Fine Arts Center's Main Gallery leaves many people with the question, "How?"

Isn't there a security system? Shouldn't there be?

"We've had minor thefts in the building before—a purse or supplies missing from an office or studio—but never anything like this," said Art Department Chairperson Barbara Houghton.

Two pieces of art were stolen from the Main Gallery on Wednesday, March 5.

Artist David Mesple's "Nailed" and "Timeline" disappeared from the gallery between 2:30 and 3:30 p.m.

"We really need an alarm system or something, but the money just hasn't been there," Houghton said.

Houghton said the department has requested money for a security system several times.

"I don't feel that the department is given any input in the budget planning," she said.

"A security system isn't in the annual operating budget right now," Elzie Barker, director of the Office of the Budget said.

The budget office has very little to do with what funds are actually approved, Barker said.

"The department chair identifies needs for his or her own department and, with the dean, sends those requests on to the provost." Together with the Dean's Council, the provost determines which requests receive what degree of priority.

Then, it's up to the president's cabinet to approve the requests from every campus department.

"It's a very decentralized process," Barker said.

The budget is reviewed once a year.

"Everyone has concerned about theft on campus," Barker said.

"This is much less a budget issue than an administrative one. There just isn't sufficient funding for everything a department wants."

In the meantime, the gallery's hours are hit and miss.

"Now, the gallery's only open when we have students available to sit in the room and monitor what's going on," Houghton said.

Regional Champ



Photo Supplied by Steve Ingram

Miss Black and Gold: Antreece Sims won the regional Miss Black and Gold Pageant.

Sims' next challenge will be the National Pageant in July.

She is one of five contestants still in the running for the national title, and has the chance to become the first Miss Black and Gold ever to win from the state of Kentucky.

Sociology Department Teaching Internet Skills At Forum

By Mimi Rook
Northernner Contributor

Sociology Professor Joan Ferrante and students from the applied social research classes invite you to a trip on the Internet at the University Center at Northern Kentucky University on Saturday, April 19.

Ferrante and her students have been busy setting up an Internet book-signing event featuring their published books *Sociology.net*, and *Let's Go Sociology: Travels on the Internet*.

There will also be advance copies of their Internet sociology resource guides, *Let's Go Anthropology* and *Social Issues on the Internet*. As an added incentive, *Social Issues on the Internet* will be available free to those attending the event, while proceeds from the other books sold will go to support student travel and research.

Ferrante hopes for a good turnout. The

group extends an invitation to alumni from sociology, anthropology, and applied science, to family, friends, and anyone on NKU's campus interested in learning more about the Internet. Invitations were also mailed out to local high schools and libraries to try and attract local teachers.

Lindsay Hixson, senior applied cultural studies major, calls it, "An introduction to the Internet...to help them (attendees) get acquainted...sort of like a crash course."

Beginning at 4 p.m., the group will have a demonstration and question-and-answer period to show people how easy it is to access the Internet. Teachers who attend the event

can also sign-up for free e-mail accounts at NKU.

Senior Angela Vaughn, English major, first hired on with Ferrante as a research assistant on the book *Sociology.net*, and helped write Chapter 17 in that book, "The Internet Home Library." On the next effort, *Let's Go Sociology*, she gained co-author status, and used the book as the basis for her Honors Program thesis project.

She said, "You could go on indexing the Internet and never be finished... This has been wonderful for me, I'm totally happy with it now."

Ryan Huber, a sociology major, says that taking Dr. Ferrante's Sociology 321 class, *Applied Research Methods*, was his first introduction to the Internet.

"I wouldn't have considered the World

Wide Web an option for getting information before I took these classes... I did a complete 180-degree on the whole issue," Huber said. Huber currently updates sociology addresses, called URLs, on a website he designed after he learned how to construct one from reading and downloading manuals he picked up off the Internet.

Huber said he does most of his work at home, occasionally visiting the campus computer lab to scan in graphics for the site. Ferrante's interest in the Internet came from the realization that it didn't just generate data about social issues, but it also provided users with access to groups who were actively collaborating to solve those problems.

One of the reasons this event is so important to Ferrante is that it is an opportunity for local high school and university instructors to experience active learning and collaboration.

Lindsay Hixson's experience with Dr. Ferrante was enough to convince her to change her journalism major to applied cultural studies.

"Before this, I didn't know the difference between PCs and Macs," Hixson said.

After graduation, Hixson plans to pursue her studies. "Doing this has totally written me a ticket to graduate school... This was a rare opportunity, I think, and it's given me a head start on graduate school," Hixson said.

Ferrante says writing and co-authoring these books with the following students was an opportunity to make the term "applied" cultural studies a reality.

Julie Anthel/ Melissa Cox/ Jenny DeBerry/ Jenny Decant/ Patricia Gaines/ Lindsay Hixson/ Ryan Huber/ Vince Lemaster/ Phyllis Miles/ Lauren Norris/ Julie Rack/ Renee Riegler/ Grant Smith/ Jacob Stewart/ Angela Vaughn/ Kristie Vise.

Honors Program Highlights Student Research

By Jennifer Thurnau
Staff Reporter

The Conference of Honors Day will be a double feature this year: the honors program seniors are up first, followed by an award-winning documentary film maker.

The annual conference, which will take place on April 21, will feature the senior honors thesis project presenters, followed by a special presentation and speech by director and producer Ann Lewis.

Dr. Tom Zaniello, director of the Honors Program, and a professor of film studies, is excited about hearing Lewis' speech. "I use her films in my classroom because they are simultaneously rooted in our region, but also deal with the serious, national social problems occurring today," Zaniello said.

He predicts that Lewis will speak about just that aspect of her films, by introducing to students documentary film making as a way to tie national social problems to our local concerns.

Many of Lewis' films over the last 20 years reveal different aspects of the coal mining industry in eastern Kentucky, as well as other regions. "Chemical Valley," a film exploring

the unsafe coal mining areas in West Virginia, was honored at three film festivals and shown nationally on the Public Broadcasting Station.

Another of Lewis' films is titled "Fast Food Women." The film depicts women struggling to support their families in dead-end, low-paying, no-benefit jobs. In a *New York Times* review of the film, Barbara Presley-Noble wrote, "It is impossible to watch the women's tired testimony without wondering about the social costs of a cheap burger."

Prior to Lewis' speech, senior honor students will be presenting their senior honors thesis projects, which they have been working on for a year.

Among the seniors presenting their thesis projects dealing with computers include Chuck Meyer, whose research project is about human identity in the age of computers.

"It deals with how the internet has affected people's views of identity," Meyer said.

"One thing I think makes it interesting is that I'm actually designing the thesis as a web page rather than a paper," he said.

To check out Meyer's web page and thesis project progress, go to <http://www.iac.net/~longshot>.

"A lot of the concepts that I'm exploring deal with how the internet has given us a more fragmented, decentralized view of identity."

The web page lets me put the information in a similar format. It's not linear like a paper," he said. Lindsey Hixson will be presenting her research on the world wide web as a forum for social issues.

Thesis presenter Mimi Rook will be presenting her project about a bottom-up management strategy for service industries. She said she will be using the restaurant she works at, Arborea, as the model for her project.

A fourth senior project will be presented by Rob Kallmeyer. His research project is titled "Lucid Dreams."

Zaniello said he is proud of all of the senior thesis project presenters. "These are all really interesting pieces of work," he said.

The Conference of Honors begins at 1 p.m. with the senior presenters, and concludes with Ann Lewis' speech beginning at about 3 p.m. The conference will recognize honor students in all majors and present awards and scholarships. All NKU students are invited to attend. For more information, please call 572-5400.

On The Move



Jeff McCarty/The Northernner
LENDING AN EAR: Student Marlene Gerding asks Governor Paul Patton for tips on campaigning on his way out of Graves Hall. Gerding is running for the Student Government position of Vice President of Official Records.

Athletics Dept. Sorting Through Football Coach Applications

By Shannon Graham
Staff Reporter

The search for Northern Kentucky University's first head football coach is just beginning.

The first organizational meeting with the coach's search committee was held last Wednesday, according to Jane Meier, director of athletics at NKU.

Meier said that the athletics department has already received over 90 applications for the position.

Meier said there are several key qualifications the head coach should possess. "We're looking for someone with a background that shows a variety of experience in football," she said. This background, she said, should include a history as either a successful player or coach.

Communication and fundraising skills are also important, she said.

Rodney Jackson, a junior sociology major, said NKU's new football coach should make the players a priority. "He has to be completely ethical in terms of the students," he said.

Jackson also said that the coach should be unbiased against minorities. "I think they should consider hiring an African-American in order to be fair," he said.

Meier said it will probably take a while for the search committee to make its final decision. "It takes time if you're going to do it right. Once we narrow the pool down, then there's reference checks," she said.

Meier said that the search committee will submit its final recommendation to her and to NKU's Vice President for Student Affairs, Norleen Pomerantz.

Kelly Durham, an undeclared freshman, said she doesn't care at all about NKU's football situation. "It doesn't matter to me who they hire to be the coach. I was against bringing football to NKU in the first place," she said.

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EARTH TUESDAY



DAY 1997

APRIL 22

Little Things Can Make A Big Difference

By Carie E. Bauer
News Editor

In honor of Earth Day, here are some suggestions that you can do to help cut down on pollution and waste that is taking a deadly toll on our natural resources.

*Save on paper and plastic. Bring your own bag to the grocery store. Most health food stores sell nice burlap bags for this or you can reuse the grocery bags from your last trip.

*Spring is the season when a lot of you will begin to work on your cars. If you're one of the 60% that change their own motor oil, take that extra step and recycle the oil at your neighborhood recycling center. Motor oil is toxic and pollutant.

*Styrofoam contains the chlorofluorocarbons that damage the Earth's ozone layer. Do your part. Bring your own mug to school or work. Most places will give you a discount, too.

*It takes almost 20 valuable trees to produce a ton of paper. Reduce paper use. Use both sides of paper. Recycle paper when you're done with it, or even think about making your own paper as a summer project.

*Don't Litter. Much of that litter ends up in our lakes, rivers and streams polluting the water and the life in it. Pick up other's litter when you can.

*Buy products that use minimum packaging. Less packaging, less waste.

*Turn lights off when you're not using them. This will save energy and save you money on your next electric bill.

*Recycle cans, plastic and cardboard at your local recycling center. Every little bit counts.

*Find out what local parks are doing to celebrate Earth Day. They can always use more volunteers to help with trail maintenance. It's fun and rewarding to know you're making a difference.

*Celebrate Earth Day!

No Big Deal?

By Becky Bergman
Co Features Editor

April 22 is Earth Day. Big deal.

Who cares?

So what if one billion people don't have access to safe drinking water? Who cares that the ozone layer is depleting rapidly with each day that follows? What does it matter that despite a three-fold increase in pesticide use, 30-35 percent of all foods are lost to insects, weeds, and plant diseases? And it is no big deal that 12 percent of mammal species were classified as threatened in 1990.

So what?

Some of us choose to ignore the seriousness of these problems affecting the earth until it effects our own lives directly. Fortunately there are those who choose to see the bigger picture and the need for change. These people see Earth Day as a way to make a difference in their own unique way.

Jen Campbell, senior RTV major, said that she wishes she had more time to contribute to helping the environment. She said that she does try to do little things to help out.

"When I go to the grocery store and they say paper or plastic, I say paper," she said.

"I also use a non aerosol hair spray. My friends at work and I agree that with as much hair spray as I use, that this decision is extremely crucial to the ozone layer," she added.

Elementary education major Lori Nichols also feels that Earth Day is a holiday that should be celebrated every single day. She sees it as a celebration of appreciating what we have, and recognizing the possibility that man could destroy it.

Nichols said she tries hard to be environmentally conscious by recycling and doing little things at home that may make a difference.

She is also teaching a unit on Earth Day for her kindergarten class as part of her student teaching at NKU. She said that it lasts five days and it includes teaching her students to go outside and pick up litter, keeping recyclables separate. They are also acting out a play on why recycling is important.

Tony Helton is the president and founding member of the Northern Kentucky Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America. This national organization which originated in 1922 works at the grass roots level of environmental issues which effect us locally.

According to Helton their slogan which says, "Partners in making the U.S. and Northern Kentucky a better place to live," is the main purpose of the organization. Some of it's many accomplishments include, "Save our Streams" efforts, "Adopt a Highway Program," aluminum recycling funding activities and the "Abandoned Car Program."

On Earth Day the Izaak Walton League is sponsoring a tree planting

demonstration.

Helton said, "It adds a unique twist to Earth Day."

We teach people how to plant seedlings properly since most people in Northern Kentucky live in the suburbs and have not been taught how to do it the correct way."

Helton feels that Earth Day is a time and opportunity to focus upon the earth. He said that it is much like a religious holiday in that you go back to the basics. He also said it is a time to realize how fragile the ecosystem is.

"If you pick up at least one good habit from earth day it has done it's job," he added.

According to Helton the majority of the members in his organization are middle aged adults. He feels that young people have a lot to offer and wishes that they would become more involved and committed to long term projects.

Researchers say that Earth Day may not matter to some until they are running on a track on a 90 degree day and stop for a refreshing glass of water, and there is none. Or when they decide to take a dream vacation to a warm sunny beach and can't bask in the sun because of fear of cancerous melanoma. Or maybe they will have to sit down for dinner and wonder if the tomato they are about to ingest is infected with life threatening pesticides. What will be the next species that will become threatened or extinct?

Homosapiens!



Deforestation Damaging Ecosystems Animal and Plant Species' Balance At Risk

By Margie Wise
Staff Reporter



When the press talk about the deforestation of the Earth, they are usually talking about the tropical rain forests. However, there is another forestland belt here in the United States which is being depleted at a rate four times faster than the rain forests, according to the World Watch Institute.

The Boreal Forests circles the Northern Hemisphere, reaching from Canada and Alaska to Russia and Scandinavia. It makes up almost one third of the world's forest area.

It is the world's largest ecosystem, and has become the world's main source of industrial wood and fiber. Plants and animals (including people) depend on it for survival. In Siberia the vegetation supports animals such as many mammals, birds, fish, as well as the insects they feed on. Animals such as wolves, lynxes, and the endangered Siberian Tiger, of which there are only 250 left, live there.

Do you think you're safe because it doesn't affect you? I mean, really, who cares about

some stupid bugs and wolves, right? Wrong. It does affect us, and probably every type of life on the planet. The forest, occupying almost 11 percent of the earth's surface, contains enormous amounts of carbon. That carbon is turned into oxygen, which we need to breathe. Not only that, but the destruction of the plants, which convert the carbon, is one of the causes of the "Green House Effect."

However, there are things that can be done. Some suggestions include halting large-scale logging, exploring alternatives to wood fiber, and recycling.

Right now, only around 35 percent of the world's paper is recycled, according to information off the Internet.

What are we doing as a campus to do our part? Northern Kentucky University recycled over 100,000 pounds of office paper during

1996, said Carol Crowley at NKU's physical plant. There are also yellow recycling bins distributed across campus. The physical plant can make arrangements for people with larger loads of recyclables.

However, the most obvious way to help is to consume less paper. Using the back side of papers, copying on both sides, and even using E-mail can make a difference. A United Nations study predicted the world's paper consumption will double over the next 20 years. If this is true, then just recycling won't help. We need to reduce the amount of paper we use in our every day life.

So, I hope you realize that the issue of recycling, and the deforestation of the forests are more than just "Earth" issues. They are life or death issues, and they need to be more than just "Earth-Day" issues.

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FEATURES

Becky Bergman/
Justin Lynch
572-5260

Theatre Department Giving Birth to Y.E.S. Festival

By Gabrielle Dion
Executive Editor

The Year End Series Festival is the theatre department's "baby." Northern Kentucky University produces the Y.E.S. Festival biannually, and it's giving birth this week.

"(The Y.E.S. Festival) is a unique chance for an audience to be there at the birth of a new play," said Program Director Mike King.

Theatre department faculty read several hundred submissions of plays that are sent in hopes of being produced in the festival from all over the world.

Theatre professor Mary Jo Beresford has read every play sub-

mitted in the eight years that the festival has put on the festival. She said it's her claim to fame.

From the hundreds of submissions, three are chosen each year based not only on how well the play is liked, but on what the department is capable of doing, said theatre department chair Joe Conger.

After the plays have been selected, the cast is selected and rehearsal begins on each production. Two productions will take place in the Corbett Theater and the other will be in the Black Box Theater, all concurrently.

"It takes the department doing double-duty to get three plays up at one time," Conger said. King agreed. "That the design staff

can mount three productions at one time is an incredible feat."

"Just about everybody in the department (80-100 people) is involved in some way," he said.

King said the Y.E.S. Festival is an opportunity for playwrights to get their work produced for the first time. It's rare to see this opportunity at a university, King said. The idea for the festival came from a similar series called the Humana Festival done by the Actors Theater of Louisville.

King said the goal of the festival is threefold: First, one goal is to give NKU theatre students a chance to work with materials that's never been done before.

The next goal is for the audience to

go see the plays and have a great time.

And the last goal is to give encouragement to plays and playwrights, and hope their plays go on to be produced elsewhere.

"If we want our art to stay alive, we have to nurture new playwrights," Beresford said. She said that professional companies can't afford the risk of producing new plays by new, unknown playwrights.

But, Beresford said, theater cannot survive without new plays.

Professionals from around the country come to the Y.E.S. Festival and if they like what they see, then we will produce the play next.

"It's our way to do our part to keep

the art of theater continually growing," she said.

Another plus of being the first to produce these plays, Beresford said, is that if and when these plays scripts go on to be published, the information about the first production is published with the script.

That means the names of the theaters, the faculty directors and student actors all get recognized in the publication, which Beresford said is great publicity for NKU.

"It's our finest moment," Beresford said about the festival.

Conger, who is directing one of the shows along with helping plan the whole event, said he is anxious for the festival.

"It's very hard, very frustrating and the best thing we do," he said.

The shows this year include a musical called "Dorian," a historical drama called "Rebel Yells," a drama about a contemporary family called "Love Among the Aurochs," and a staged reading (not a full production) called "Summer Games."

The Y.E.S. Festival begins April 17 and the three shows and staged reading run at various times and in various theaters and ends April 27. For ticket information call the box office at 572-5464.

"We're sort of like expectant fathers," Conger said. "We're in rehearsal all the time now, waiting and holding our breath."

Where It Was At: Millett Hall 4-1-97

By Jason Gargano
Staff Reporter

For the past four years, Beck Hansen, better known as just plain Beck, has received more critical praise than any artist on the musical landscape.

Fresh off his puzzling yet deserved double Grammy win and having topped virtually every year-end album poll, it was time to see if he could translate the multi-layered cut and paste textures of his latest album *Odelay* to a live setting.

Taking the stage to a sold out, mostly college-aged crowd, Beck sported his usual fashion savvy. Decked out in white from head to toe, he pipped to the audience, "Ya'll look way too sexy for a Monday night," and opened the show with "F--- in With My Head (Mountain Dew Rock)" from his 1994 debut album *Mellow Gold*.

Beck's musical carousel is made up of an eclectic mix of influences. From the folktinged stylings of "Truckdrivin' Neighbors Downstairs (Yellow Sweat)," which was more straightforward than the studio version, to the Jon Spencer Blues Explosion styled rave-up of "Burnt Orange Peel," he bounced from genre to genre with impres-

sive ease.

Backed by a band of characters with names like Stagecoach, Hounddog, Showboat, and Smokestack, Beck cranked out most of his better known songs ("Devil's Haircut," "New Pollution," "Loser," "Where It's At," "Beercan") with the cock-sure attitude of a seasoned arena rock performer. Only the out of place "Feather In My Cap," from the recent *Suburba* soundtrack, and "Discobob," from the UK version of *Odelay*, failed to satisfy.

The highlight of the evening was a little-known song from his album *Stereopathic Soulmanure*, "One Foot In The Grave," in which a solo Beck remained on stage with only his harmonica and proceeded to tear into a toe tapping honk rap version of dead blues.

Energetic throughout the 90-minute set, Beck pogoed all over the stage and repeatedly urged the crowd, "You got to represent!"

With his 80s break dance moves and the continual rap, "Are you ready to regulate?" it looked as if he were preparing to audition for *Breakin' 2: Electric Boogaloo*.

Before coming back on for the obligatory encore, Beck's DJ returned to the stage,

stripped down to only his underwear and cowboy hat to give the audience a lesson in the finer points of turntable as instrument.

The show ended with a rousing version of "High 5 (Catskill Rock)," with Beck shaking his booty so hard that his pants ended up around his ankles as he left the stage.

I'll tell you what, Mr. Hansen can regulate my party any time.



Rolling Stone Magazine
BECK HANSEN: No loser here.

Rites of Spring Soon To Bloom

By Michelle Levine
Staff Reporter

Winter is gone. Spring is here and a popular Northern Kentucky University tradition is ready to bloom.

April 21-24 NKU has the chance to shake off that post-tax, winterized funk. It's The Rites of Spring.

Mary Chesnut, coordinator of Student Activities, said the event is a celebration of spring. It is a time when students can shake off the doldrums of winter and kick back in the sun. Angie Gabbard, a senior English major said, "It is a great way to end the year."

Gabbard said beginning Monday, April 21 there will be the Starving Student Expo. Free samples of food will be available, and Q-102 will be there as well. The Rites of Spring is organized and funded by the Activities Programming Board.

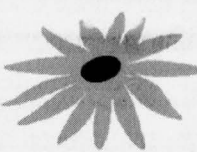
"The Rites of Spring is one of the main reasons I joined APB," Schmidt said. "It is a campus-wide event that everyone is involved in and students enjoy."

Gabbard said plants will be given away on Tuesday in honor of Earth Day. She said there will be Micro Racer Stock Car Racing on Tuesday as well.

According to Racetime Promotions, this activity allows participants to experience the thrills, spills, and spectacular crashes of real stock car racing on a portable speedway.

The Ninth Annual wheelchair basketball contest will take place on Wednesday. Members of the women's and men's basketball teams participate in the game, which is sponsored by the Culture Connection Club and Student Government Association.

Gabbard said 20-25 student booths will be set up on Wednesday and Thursday. Chesnut hopes the weather is good, because that means there will probably be many participants.



Action, Adventure, and Adultery

By Josh Sneed
Movie Critic

What do you look for in a movie? Do you like those hot, steamy love scenes? Do you like watching people's legs getting blown off? Or do you like to get rid of those huge laughs nestled deep within your stomach?

Well, I have a couple of movies you may be interested in. Last week's quote, "I'm here Huckleberry," was from "Tombstone." This week's quote is dedicated to David DeAngelo, facility coordinator of NKU's Albright Health Center. The quote: "I figure in five or six years I'm gonna be head groundskeeper." And if you're at the video store this weekend, check out "The Shawshank Redemption" or "Clerks." I highly recommend both of them. And now, off to the movies.

Bette Midler gets 'That Old Feeling'

A movie about a young politician-to-be, Keith (Jamie Denton), who proposes to his longtime

girlfriend, Molly (Paula Marshall). She accepts his offer, but informs him of one problem: her parents. They have been divorced for 14 years, remarried to others, but still have a bitter hatred toward one another. Lilly (Bette Midler) is a movie star, and Dan (Dennis Farina) is a journalist. Never have two people been so happily divorced.

Dan and Lilly have some heated words at the reception, and are sent by Molly out of the house until they can "behave and act like adults." As the argument continues outside, they suddenly find themselves in a passionate affair as their old flame is rekindled. They decide to run away from their families, and have a lustful adulterous affair.

Molly desperately wants to find her parents, so she calls on the help of Joey (Danny Nucci), a photographer for the paparazzi who is obsessed with Lilly. The lives of everyone in this movie unfold, but the director was a little too generous about giving away the ending.

For the most part, I enjoyed this movie. I can't say that I'd recommend it to everyone, but if your parents are looking for something

to do, and you'd like to have the house to yourself for a while, I'm sure they'd like this movie. I'll give this movie the "bonbon" rating. It's something you may like if you tried it, but generally it's the older ones who dish out their money on it.

Van Damme and Rodman 'Team' Up

"Double Team" is the latest from Jean Claude Van Damme and the debut of Dennis Rodman. If you like action films filled with scenes that could never happen in real life, go see this movie.

Van Damme plays Jack Quinn, an agent who specializes in anti-terrorism, who has settled down with a wife. These two are expecting their first child, a son. Rodman plays a high-tech arms dealer named "Yaz," who eventually teams up with Quinn.

Quinn was on a mission to destroy his enemy, Stavros (Mickey Rourke). During the mission, Stavros gets away, but his six-year-old son is killed. Quinn waxes up, and finds himself in a colony that consists of former agents who have botched up their missions.

Their families and friends have been told they are dead. They can't leave this colony, but Quinn is determined to save his wife when she becomes the pawn in Stavros' evil plot. Explosions, killing, and some funny lines from Rodman make this an enjoyable "escapism" movie. Even the famous Coliseum in Rome gets blown up. I'll give this movie the "Starburst" rating. You liked it, but you wished that you'd waited until you were at the store where it's a lot cheaper. (You know, where it's \$1.75 instead of \$7.25.)

Rodman does a lot better job than I expected, but don't look for any Oscar nominations to come his way. He should stick with the two things he does best: playing basketball, and hanging with New World Order. But as always, don't take my word for it. Enjoy the show.



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Women's Walk To Help NKU Women's Athletic Programs

By Gabrielle Dion
Executive Editor

The No. 1 fund raiser and "friend raiser" that Northern Kentucky University does annually will take place next week.

The NKU Women's Walk for Women's Athletics has raised over \$150,000 for women's sports scholarships in the past seven years, said women's basketball coach Nancy Winstel, who is helping to coordinate the program. This year's walk will be on Saturday, April 19.

"It's a fund raiser, but it's also a friend-raiser," Winstel said, "It's as much a celebration of women's sports as it is

anything else."

Participants raise money by asking sponsors to donate money for every lap walked or run around the quarter-mile track in 30 minutes.

"It's not a marathon walk," Winstel said, "We only walk for a half an hour, then there's brunch, a jazz ensemble and door prizes."

Prizes are also given to the oldest walker, the youngest walker and the best dressed team.

Regent Alice Sparks said she has been a team captain since the second year of the women's walk mainly because she likes to support women's athletics.

Sparks said NKU was the first university in Kentucky to give women's athletics scholarships, and this is a way to keep up a good tradition.

Another team captain, University 101 professor Fran Zaniello, said she feels strongly about supporting the women's walk because when she went to college there were few opportunities for women in athletics.

"I think it's a terrific event and a very important program," Zaniello said.

The women's walk was a very important program to founder Nancy Boothe, who died in January.

"This was an event that was very near and dear to her heart," Winstel said.

The walkers will be wearing a patch with Mrs. Boothe's initials on their sleeves as a tribute to her efforts in starting the program.

"It's a way to say 'thank you,'" Winstel said. "She is gone, but not forgotten."

Mrs. Boothe's husband, former NKU President Leon Boothe, will be walking in her place.

"The faculty and staff have been very supportive as captains and donors," Winstel said. She also said the athletics department alumni have been very supportive. "They feel they've had a good experience and they want to help."

Winstel said the walk, which is the women's counterpart in terms of fund rais-

ing to the Gus Macker Basketball Tournament, hopes to raise \$35,000 to \$40,000 this year.

They have 38 team captains right now and hope to have 400 walkers.

"If anybody still wants to walk, we'll take walkers up until the minute we start," Winstel said. The walk begins at 9:30 a.m. To sign up, call the Athletics Office 572-5195.

"We will walk, rain or shine, unless there's lightning and then we'll walk inside," Winstel said.

"It's a fun day," Sparks said. "It's extremely well-organized. It does not require a great deal of time and it's a great cause."

Here We Go Again...

Campbell Gets In On NKU's No-Hit Action

By Kevin Goheen
Northerner Contributor

Freshman pitcher Melissa Campbell threw her first collegiate no-hitter in a 4-0 win over Mount St. Joe's last Wednesday. The win completed a doubleheader sweep and improved Northern Kentucky University's record to 23-19.

Campbell was dominating. "Melissa was sharp from the beginning. She had good speed and great location," said head coach Mary Biermann.

She had nine strikeouts and only two walks in seven innings while improving her record to 11-8. In this game, NKU's bats were hot from the beginning.

They stranded runners in each of the first three innings, but took advantage of a MSJ error in the fourth to score two runs. They added two more in the fifth on hits by

Campbell and Stephanie Rowland.

Campbell said she felt confident going into the game. "The first game gave me a chance to watch their batters," she said. "I was able to keep the ball low and put good spin on it."

She said she knew she had a no-hitter going, but tried to keep that in the back of her mind. "I just tried to concentrate on the game."

"They couldn't touch her," said freshman Missy Goodman. "When their best hitter struck out looking, we knew there was nothing to worry about."

Campbell said she enjoyed this no-hitter more than those she threw in high school.

"There's more competition in college," she said. "I couldn't throw many breaking pitches (in high school). It was mostly fastballs."

"I just feel much more comfortable now."

Part of that comfort comes from teammate Lisa Cornett. "She's very helpful, good to pitch with," Campbell said. She said if she gets into trouble Cornett can fill the void.

The Norse came from behind in extra innings to win the first game, 7-6. They scored three runs in the bottom of the seventh to tie the

game at six, then scored the winning run on a bases-loaded single by Goodman in the ninth.

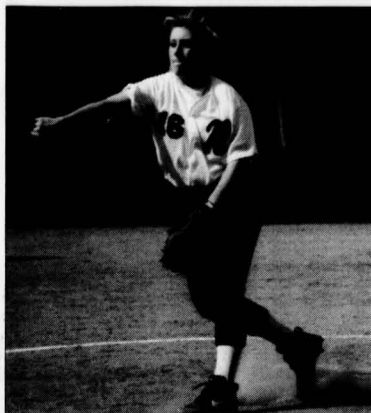
Coach Biermann said the team may have been a little tired and complacent coming into the game. They had beaten MSJ twice earlier in the year and were coming off two victories the previous day over neighborhood rival Thomas More College.

"We'd seen both of these pitchers before," she said. "Our bats were a little slow to start the game. We'd seen slower pitchers the day before."

Cornett, a junior who pitched a no-hitter of her own earlier this season, was breezing along until the fourth inning.

"She started getting the ball up into the strike zone," Biermann said. They would eventually build up a 6-1 lead in the sixth. NKU started its comeback by scoring two in the sixth. The seventh inning rally was capped by a two-out Terri Carter RBI single.

In the ninth, Goodman said she was just looking to get the bat on the ball. "I just didn't want to let the team down," she said. "We've had trouble coming out strong all year.



Jeff McCurry/The Northerner

SHARP SHOOTER: Melissa Campbell pitches a no-hitter last Wednesday against Mount St. Joseph's.

We've been a come back team."

Cornett settled down after the fourth to pick up the win and improve to 12-11 on the year.

The victories gave NKU its most wins in a single season since 1989.

The Norse are now beginning to focus on the upcoming GLVC tournament.

"Every game we concentrate on winning, not just for this record," said Goodman.

Norse Still In Contention

Staff Report

After beating the University of Missouri-St. Louis 10-3 in the first half of a double header last Wednesday, Northern Kentucky University saw the tides turn, losing the second game 10-5.

Strong pitching and a potent offense, which led the Norse to victory in the first game, failed them in the second.

NKU held a 3-1 lead going into the fifth inning. Junior pitcher Scott Wiggins, who gave up only three hits and two walks in the first four innings, couldn't record an out in the fifth.

Wiggins faced five batters in the fifth inning. He gave up a home run, a single, a double, a walk and then hit Todd Schmidt with a pitch.

"I don't know if it was being tired or the weather or what, but I must have lost concentration," Wiggins said.

The Rivermen scored six runs in the fifth, and added three more in the sixth inning, en route to the 10-5 win. Senior pitcher Mike Kiehler recorded the win in the first game.

"I think we can beat anybody if we play well, but we've got to play awful well," head coach Bill Aker said.



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Experience Or New Vision?

It is time again to decide who will be president... this time for Student Government Association.

Chris Saunders is running again, trying to be re-elected for a second term as president, something that has never been done before at Northern Kentucky University. Felicia Shields, Vice President for External Affairs is challenging Saunders for the position.

According to Kentucky Revised Statute (KRS 164.350) SGA and its president has the responsibility to, but not limited to, protect and promote the rights of the individual student and coordinate, maintain and support a well-balanced social and academically-oriented program for the student body. Specifically, the president is to represent the student body on the Board of Regents at all official functions.

A few questions come to mind as campaigning comes to an end and elections are upon the students on campus.

Has Saunders adhered to KRS as well as a president can?

Should Saunders be allowed to run again or should he give other students a chance for the coveted role of president?

Her posters reads, "It's time for a change," so students need to decide what they want: Saunders' experience or Shields' fresh new approach.

Saunders brings experience to the forefront of the elections. As the incumbent, he has the routine of president down. He knows what to expect from the Board of Regents, he is aware of student apathy on campus and is in general, comfortable as president. Shields may bring new blood to an organization that, even Saunders admits, lacks enthusiasm. Could she be the spark needed to fire up SGA?

These are the issues the voters need to address.

It is also well known that most students do not vote. That's not acceptable. During the football controversy, there were plenty of disgruntled people bashing Saunders and his role in it.

Well, if that is the case, do something about it. Vote him out and bring a fresh face into the position. But one needs to remember football is not Saunders' fault. At the open forums, student representation was not in full-force. In fact, many questioned if students were even involved because most of those present were faculty, staff and community members. Not many students showed up to articulate their views for or against the issue.

That is not Saunders' fault. He cannot take each student's hand and walk them to the forum. It is the responsibility of each student to voice their opinion should they disagree with what the administration is doing.

Will Shields be able to do what Saunders couldn't accomplish... getting students involved? That is to be decided if she is elected.

But whoever is elected, they can't do miracles. They need, and Student Government needs, more involvement. After all, they represent students and can't do their job to the best of their ability if students don't open their mouths and voice their opinions.

During bad times, everyone says what's wrong with this and what is wrong with that.

Don't wait until a controversy is brewing, help Student Government now. Vote for the best candidate.

How can they represent you if you don't speak up?

He Could Have Taken NKU Places

Dear Editor,

I very much appreciate the hospitality afforded to me when I visited Northern Kentucky. Thanks!

I enjoyed my visit immensely. Had I been offered the position, I would have given it serious consideration. I thought it was a unique opportunity. My experience at Wayne State, and particularly the 13

years I spent at George Mason University, would have made me an excellent fit for their leadership needs.

I wish everyone connected to NKU the very best. And, I sincerely hope NKU will be able to maximize its considerable potential.

Don Maish
President, Wayne State College



Yes Festival Could Make NKU All It Could Be

There is something very exciting happening here on campus this month. It is something very rare and people from all over the country are interested in this unique event.

From April 17-27, our theatre department will celebrate its eighth biennial Y.E.S. Festival. Some say that the Year End Series of new plays is the best kept secret at NKU. Most of the students don't know what the buzz is all about, even though it has been going on for 16 years. Since 1981, when co-founders Jack Wann and Jim Stacey initiated a project based on Actors Theatre of Louisville's renowned Humana Festival and two past shows, "Laurel" by Dan Doby and "Pig" by Tammy Ryan, both from the '91 festival, have enjoyed New York productions. This year we will present two more plays and, for the

very first time, a musical. As an added bonus, there will be staged readings of another play.

There are few theatrical events as exciting as this for actors, directors, playwrights and audiences alike. This is usually the first chance for our actors and actresses to originate a role and be a part of the original cast. It is quite a thrill if the play gets published with your name in it. Our faculty directors relish the chance to bring these virgin plays to life.

This will be the first time the playwrights get to see their work produced on a stage. No one knows what their reactions will be. The audiences not only get to see a brand new play, but also get a chance to discuss the show with the author and hear expert critiques. It all adds up to a great night of theatre and this year's

winning plays promise that this could be the best festival yet.

From a collection of over 250 submissions by amateur and professional playwrights, our faculty has chosen a diverse montage of shows that cover the whole spectrum of theatre—comedy, drama and musical. There is something for everyone. "Rebel Yells" by Steven Warren is a very moving drama set in an American Civil War novel. "Love Among the Auroras" is a comedy by Albert Sjerdsma that defies description, except that it is centered on a time machine. Sheila Duell wrote the play and lyrics, as well as composed the score for "Dorian," her adaption of Oscar Wilde's tragic novel. There will also be staged readings of James Farrell's "Summer Gales," about two boys dealing with a broken home.

This collaboration between academic and professional theatre is the fertile ground in which the seeds of the future of theatre are planted. The exposure of new work that isn't a commodity of Broadway is a vital part of this art. Our university, faculty and students should be very proud of our school's contribution to the evolution of theatre and they should make every effort to become a part of it. Instead of dreaming of attending the Sundance Festival out in Utah, why not buy a ticket for a premiere right here on campus? Instead of complaining that nothing ever happens here, come experience theatre at its most creative level. You might be surprised just how thrilling live theatre at NKU can be.

Dan Cooley
Theatre Major

Faith Found In Various Entities



Margie
Wise
Columnist

I have heard a lot of talk about the Heaven's Gate cult and how crazy they all were to believe that aliens were following the comet Hale-Bopp. I have heard people comment how insane it was for them to want to kill themselves and board a space craft.

But who is to say what is crazy and what is not crazy? For part of March and April of every year, I honor a God who I believe came to Earth in the form of a man and rose people from the dead.

Stated like that, some people might say that belief was a little, well, weird. However, most Christians will tell you it's simply a matter of faith.

Webster's defines faith as a firm belief in something for which there is no proof.

Based on this definition, it is certain that the Heaven's Gate followers had faith. It took faith for the men to castrate themselves. It took faith for

them to break off all ties with families and friends. It took faith for them to commit suicide.

Based on that same definition, I too have faith. I accept many things that have given me no physical proof of their existence. I believe in the fundamental goodness of all life. I believe there is a purpose for that life, and I must believe in the existence of some higher power. If I didn't, I wouldn't be here. I wouldn't be doing what I'm doing, and I wouldn't be who I am.

In that respect, I do not find the Heaven's Gate followers all that different from me. I only find their convictions a little more extreme.

So, while all my sympathy goes out to the families of the dead, I am cautious about terming the believers "freaks" or "crackpots."

I would rather call them what I think they were—an apparently warm, caring group of unfortunate people who were more misled by a charismatic con-artist.

A "Giant-Size" Thanks To All

Dear Editor,

I would like to take time out to extend those involved with the NKU 2500 foot sub event, a big gigantic thank you. This event would not have been the success it was without the help of a few certain individuals, offices, and groups. Please recognize them as the essence of this event, because that was what this event was about, everyone getting together to complete a goal, and we did!

For those of you who may not have seen, including myself, NKU was on CNN for the event! Thank you for making our university what it can and should be, an arena of growing.

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Chris Boggs

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Hazing: None To Speak Of With NKU Greeks



Gabrielle Dion
Executive
Editor

pledge feel uncomfortable or embarrassed or hurt in any way or holds the pledge up to ridicule.

And, hazing happens, despite being against most university's policies.

For instance, a fraternity pledge at the University of Colorado has filed a lawsuit claiming the fraternity members deprived him of medicine that he needed to take daily for an adrenaline deficiency. The pledge was saved by his parents, who were just in time to give him the medicine to save his life.

A fraternity at Texas A&M University is under investigation for forcing their pledges to work, depriving them of sleep and denying them of food and water.

Both of these fraternities also have chapters at Northern Kentucky University.

Hazing is against the law, and it's been going on for years.

But it's come back into the spotlight recently. A few months ago a mini-series aired on NBC called "Dying to Belong." It was about a girl who was killed in a hazing ritual during sorority pledging. Since then, both Montel Williams and Oprah

Winfrey have featured the dangers of hazing as topics on their talk shows.

I understand that hazing still goes on. Yes, I think it's awful.

I think it's awful that a few "bad seeds" are ruining it for the rest of us.

Many greek organizations have worked very hard to cast off the bad reputation. That's what Oprah and Montel forgot to mention.

It outrages me that these two programs are using yellow journalism tactics (a practice of sensationalism and lack of objectivity) in order to catch the viewer's attention.

Both hosts mentioned (very quickly) that maybe some fraternities and sororities don't haze. But, both of them asked continually why fraternities and sororities who don't haze don't stand up and fight against those who do.

Well, at NKU we do fight against hazing. And it wouldn't have taken Montel or Oprah much research to dig that up.

Fraternities and sororities at NKU (and many, many other schools) are not about hazing, drinking and partying. They are about service

and leadership.

As a member of Theta Phi Alpha sorority, not only do I know for a fact that hazing doesn't go on, but that NKU and my chapter make every effort to ensure that it never will.

NKU and many other colleges have adopted associations that govern the greek organizations and make sure that no hazing takes place. On our campus, all fraternity and sorority members are educated and continually warned about the dangers of hazing from the moment they set foot in the door at their first rush event up to the time they time they graduate from college. There are videotapes and workshops that every Greek organization participates in to avoid the possibility of hazing. There is even an officer in each group, the risk management chair, that is in charge of making sure no hazing goes on.

With all this effort that NKU's Greek organizations put into taking a stand against hazing, I think it's a shame that Montel and Oprah can't take one second in their show to balance out their stories and recognize

the efforts of NKU Greeks and other schools like us.

With all these stories about hazing nowadays, it's giving "good seeds" those fraternities and sororities who don't haze, a bad reputation.

NKU fraternities and sororities do a lot of good for the campus and the community, and I'm sure that Greeks on other campuses do too. It's a shame that due to bad publicity, we're all seen by the public as a bunch of party animals who beat each other up and call it initiation.

I see joining a sorority as one of the best decisions of my life. It has built my confidence, developed my leadership abilities and created several service opportunities in which I have taken part. Being in a sorority has helped me to develop the skills that I'll need in a career.

But, I probably won't put on my resume that I was in a sorority.

Why? Because an employer might believe that as a sorority member I've engaged in bullying and hazing, heavy drinking and reckless partying. That's the image an employer sees of sororities on TV lately. I'm

not going to lose a job opportunity over it.

My friend at UC who feeds people corn now, told me that the hazing is just silly stuff, and that the guys never make a pledge do anything that he doesn't want to do.

But, he knows there are other fraternities that do it worse. He said the reason they haze is because they were hazed. It's a cycle, and it probably can't be stopped in a lot of cases.

On Oprah, an "expert" said that 90 percent of Greeks haze. For one, how can she prove that? I know my sorority wasn't part of her study. And, if this statistic were true, then I guess that makes NKU very, very special.

NKU Greeks aren't like those jerks who still think hazing is cool. NKU Greeks are standing up against hazing, which is something to be proud of. NKU Greeks are hardworking, confident, service-oriented and excellent leaders. The Greeks know it, the university knows it, and now everyone who reads this article knows it. I just wish everyone out there knew it.

Here's a riddle:
How can you get arrested for eating nothing but corn for one week straight?

Sounds like an excerpt from that book of wacky laws, but it's the truth. It's what happens at a friend of mine's fraternity "Hell Week" at the University of Cincinnati. The pledges have to go to the fraternity house and they have to eat corn for a whole week. Pretty stupid, huh? Big deal, right?

Sadly enough it is a big deal, or so it has been made to be a big deal, especially in recent months. It's called hazing and it goes much further than eating corn.

Hazing includes any activity during a pledge period that makes a

Share Visions To Get A Win-Win Situation For NKU

Dear Students,

The 1996-97 school year has been interesting, to say the least. In retrospect we have a lot to be proud of, though we still have a long way to go. I am excited about our achievements:

- *supported Women's Soccer
- *actively involved in the renovation of the TV lounge
- *supported Delta, which brought great jobs to students
- *worked hard on making the crosswalks safer
- *awareness days
- *voter registration

I was personally very excited about:

- *making sure students had equal amounts of tickets for Winter Commencement
- *diversifying SGA's representation

I was, however, disappointed with the air of discontent surrounding the football controversy.

Controversy is a double-edged sword that can either sever progress indefinitely, or open it to new alternatives. This is an institution of higher education, and I believe that we should aspire to higher standards of excellence in every sphere. We are a diverse community of students, faculty, and administrators, with divergent interests and needs. As such, it is my duty as the President of SGA to attempt to adequately

reflect and respond to an assortment of timely demands, including the football initiative.

Though two public forums were conducted in conjunction with a sample survey which indicated support for the development of a football team, the senators are still the ones who are representing the students. There are many who have guided our attention to academic deficiencies which need to be addressed. Indignation with the report filed by the Regents, and racist comments contained therein have also been noted. Both of these critiques deserve attention.

With regard to any inappropriate reasons cited the Regents for establishing a football team, I am as disenchanted as you. I

believe a football and soccer program should be devised simply because there is enough interest to merit them. I also believe we can, and should, direct our collective energies and resources at building a better foundation of knowledge at NKU, through the acquisition of books for our library, and the construction of a new Science building.

In speaking of the Science building, I would like to thank the efforts of hundreds of students and faculty here at NKU. We were able to hand the governor 2,500 signatures of students who wanted to show how important our Science building is to our education.

It is my personal challenge everyday to

assess these, and other issues, from a variety of views. Opinions will differ, however, I choose to regard such controversy as an opportunity, not an obstacle. With a wealth of ingenuity, and an abundance of energy, NKU can literally have it all. We can have football, and knowledge too. Our diversity is our strength, and we can exchange our visions to create a win-win scenario for all of us. I hope you will take these thoughts into consideration, and join with me in making this university all the things it can really be.

Sincerely,
Christopher D. Saunders
SGA President

Evaluations Are Not All They're Filled Out To Be

Dear Editor,

During the next several weeks, students at NKU will once again participate in a course-and-instructor evaluation process that is flawed and much in need of an overhaul. I say this because of the wide gap currently existing between student perceptions of the evaluation process and faculty interpretations of the evaluation results. Another reason to scrap this process is that it does not lead to improved teaching.

Generally, students take a ho-hum attitude toward the evaluation process. I've talked with many students about this and most are under the impression that their input (i.e., filling in the bubble) is of minor consequence. This is far from reality. Indeed, results of the evaluations are tabulated, the numbers are scrutinized by department chairs, and then eventually the forms make their way back to the teachers. Pseudo-statistics derived from the evaluations are used to rank teachers in terms of performance, to distribute merit pay, and to make promotion and tenure decisions. Recently, a faculty senate task force found that student evaluations were universally important as an assessment of faculty performance. In a university where teaching is constantly cited as the focus of professional activity, students might question why the opportunity for student input is so paltry. Our evaluation form can, with practice, be completed in less than a minute!

In the complex relationship emerging between teacher and student, the current system of evaluation can lead to damaging actions by all those involved. Students, working under the shield of anonymity, can rate

teachers based on a desire to either reward or punish. Teachers, on the other hand, will likely work to convince students that an excellent rating is deserved. Because no reasons are required for ratings, teachers become interpreters of opinion rather than assessors of teaching approaches. When all the bubbles are filled in, students have been robbed of an opportunity to provide useful input and teachers have focused on influencing student opinion rather than on developing novel teaching approaches.

In the absence of university efforts to make a fundamental change in how teaching is evaluated at NKU, I provide some questions for students to consider as they complete the evaluation process.

1. Did this teacher get you to think superficially or deeply? Better yet, did the teacher tell you what to think rather than developing your critical thinking skills?
2. Did this teacher use methods for the stimulation of good feelings rather than for the stimulation of thought?
3. Did your grade in the course accurately reflect your performance or effort?
4. Was your view changed or challenged by the educational process?

I would urge all students to seize the opportunity of providing teachers with thoughtful, critical, written assessments of both the course and the teaching methods. Without such input from students, education at NKU will likely continue to be a pleasant but innocuous experience.

James O. Luken
Associate Professor
Department of Biological Sciences

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Guidelines For Writing Letters To The Editor

The Northerner encourages students, faculty and staff to submit letters to the Editor and guest editorials for publication in the newspaper.

Letters must be typed or neatly printed. Letters should be no more than 350 words. Editorials should not exceed 550 words. The Northerner requests that, if possible, entries be submitted on

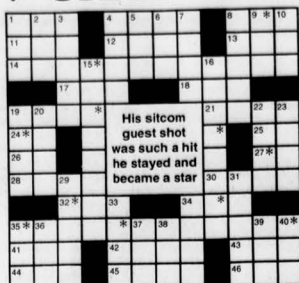
Apple/Mac compatible disks.

The Northerner reserves the right to edit items for grammar, spelling and libelous errors. The Northerner may also refuse to publish material on legal, moral or ethical grounds.

Letters to the Editor and guest editorials may be sent to The Northerner, UNIVERSITY CENTER 209, Highland Heights, KY 41099.

Classifieds

JACK'S TV CHALLENGE



His sitcom
guest shot
was such a hit
he stayed and
became a star

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

- ACROSS**
1. 3rd Rock From the ...
 4. Hawkeye's portrayer
 5. Aaron's ... 1988 Merlin
 11. Cable network
 12. 1968 Elizabeth Taylor-Richard Burton film
 13. Knock-tying words (2)
 14. Series for Anthony Clark (2)
 17. Ninth won in the Lord's Prayer
 18. Use a straw
 19. The Martha ... Show (1955-56)
 21. Cheese and namesakes
 24. Series for Omar Epps
 25. Initials for one who takes care of Sweet Pea
 26. ABC followers
 27. Monogram for the star of Star Trek (1966-69)
 28. Actor Flore
 30. Middle fie drawer, perhaps
 32. Ending for Jan or Carol
 34. Polly holiday's 1990-91 sitcom
 35. Star of a series about three brothers (2)
 41. Ste. Jeanne d ...
 42. Call's neighbor (1965-67)
 44. Whiz forerunner
 45. Spotted
 46. Periods of time: abbr.
- DOWN**
1. Sandwich, for short
 2. WWII dance sponsor: abbr.
 3. Habit: 1977 Glenda Jackson movie
 4. ... Named Charlie
 5. Brown: 1969 cartoon film
 6. Mr. Chaney
 6. Baker: Little House on the Prairie role
 7. John ... of the '94 sitcom
 8. Character in Popeye cartoons
 9. Buttle
 10. Hitler's opposite
 15. Series in which Daniel Davis appears (2)
 16. Role on Full House (1972-77)
 19. Star of Sanford and Son
 20. Region
 22. Home (1990-91)
 23. Medcore (hypn. wd.)
 29. Kelly, to Bentley, on Bachelor Father (1957-62)
 31. Winner's prize on Jeopardy!
 32. Access Sommer
 34. Pebbles' daddy
 35. Series set in the military
 36. Miner's find
 37. On ... Sunday: 1971 Steve McQueen film
 38. Willie Winke: 1937 Shirley Temple movie
 39. Jerry Van Dyke's mother in the '55-'56 series
 40. Alien and namesakes

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Dan Druffel, Inc. an established landscape firm located 20 minutes from campus, is seeking quality conscious employees. Full- and part-time positions available. Please call 241-9778 M-F 8:30-4:30 to set up interview. References requested.

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Mature person needed to watch children in my Richmond home. Call 485-7445 after 6 p.m.

Salesperson: Needed in blown glass or candle shop at Paramount's Kings Island. Excellent starting pay. Call (513) 932-7613. Ask for Wayne or Mitzie. E.O.E.

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HOROSCOPE

By C.C. Clark - eTVData Features Syndicate

April 13 through April 19, 1997

- Aries (March 21 - April 20)**
You will feel a renewed sense of strength and purpose in life. Read between the lines when loved ones try to communicate.
- Taurus (April 21 - May 20)**
Your usual confidence about the world will soon return. Don't take on any risky projects at this time. Stick with what you know.
- Gemini (May 21 - June 20)**
An inspirational book leads to some major changes in your life. Priorities come into focus, and you discover more about yourself.
- Cancer (June 21 - July 20)**
Emotional security is important to you, and there doesn't seem to be a lot of it in your life right now. Dig deep and find your own peace.
- Leo (July 21 - Aug. 21)**
So many people are making demands on you, and it seems you have no time for what you want to do. Be firm in your convictions.
- Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 22)**
A close friend or relative desperately needs your attention. Once you open your heart, forgiveness may be easier than you imagine.
- Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)**
Find a peaceful place to do a bit of introspection. Determine how you feel about your situation and then do something positive about it.
- Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 22)**
A weekend trip can do wonders in restoring your sense of well-being. You have to get out of the rut you are in and experience life.
- Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 20)**
Health matters should be taken more seriously; changes in diet may be necessary. A friend calls with important news.
- Capricorn (Dec. 21 - Jan. 19)**
A dream has a profound effect on your waking life. A romance could be rekindled or a new one may be on the way.
- Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)**
Your new outlook on life may not be appreciated by others, but don't let them get you down. You must do what is right for you.
- Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)**
An argument with a family member or co-worker may escalate out of control if you don't walk away. Keep your temper in check.
- Born this week:**
- | | |
|--|--|
| April 17 - Jane Levens, Rick Schroder | April 17 - Boomer Esiason |
| April 17 - Julie C. Brown, Peter Rose | April 18 - Hayley Mills, Rick Moranis, |
| April 18 - Kiki Taylor, Emma Thompson | Conan O'Brien, James Woods |
| April 18 - Phil Spector, Jon Cryer, Luke Ebb | April 19 - Don Adams, Tim Curry, |
| | Dudley Moore |

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The
Northerner,
UC '09.
Return Applications
BY APRIL 25