



Susan Bartels/The Northerner
Provost Rogers Redding presents the new academic strategic plan to the Board of Regents.

Plan gives NKU new direction

By Susan Bartels
News Editor

After months of gathering information from area businesses, government personnel, faculty, students and administrators of Northern Kentucky University, an Academic Strategic Plan was rolled out to the NKU Board of Regents where it was met with unanimous approval.

The plan aligns future programming at the university with the direct needs of the community and region it serves. It calls for specific strengthening in the areas of health care, education and information technology.

That strengthening will occur in the way of expanding graduate programming in those areas.

The plan was a result of over 30 conversations involving more than 500 people from the areas employment sector: health professionals, manufacturing and high tech industries, social services and educators.

It came about as a result of the Vision, Values and Voices document that outlined the strategic plan for the university overall. According to Rogers Redding, provost and chair of the planning committee, it will serve as an "overarching umbrella" for which programs need to be emphasized.

"A big part of our mission as an institution is to be not only connected with the community but to be embedded in the community," said Redding. "I'm very confident that this is going to be a plan that people will embrace and will reflect the universities' values."

Vernon Hicks, chemistry professor and co-chair of the committee, said that although the university wants to move in new directions, it can't be at the expense of current undergraduate programming.

"We emphasized the fact that we didn't want any programming to be unfunded," said Hicks. "No money will be drained off of those

[current undergraduate programs] in order to fund these new programs."

Along with targeting specific programs, the plan also calls for strengthening the first-year experience through improved academic advising and assistance and expanding cooperative work experiences and internship opportunities.

It also emphasizes improved services for non-traditional students and support for students and faculty to internationalize the campus.

Addressed in the plan as well is the impact of the new community college on the university. As the community college develops, the university will reduce offerings in

remediation programming, evaluate lower-level course offerings and establish appropriate admission standards for both freshman and transfer students.

Redding sees the initial impact of the community college as reducing the admissions rate of the university and also decreasing current enrollment.

"We could loose as many as a couple thousand students initially," said Redding. "My sense of it is that we would be back up to and maybe even exceed our present enrollment."

No Title

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Campus calendar

Nov. 29

Woman's Basketball vs. University of Indianapolis - 5:30 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. University of Indianapolis - 7:45 p.m.

Dec. 1

Woman's Basketball vs. Salem International University - 2 p.m.

The Trojan Woman

The NKU Department of Theater presents "Trojan Women," classic Greek tragedy written by Euripides (translated by Nicholas Rudall), Nov. 28 through Dec. 9 in Corbett Theater, Fine Arts Building. Performance times Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and on Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets prices are \$10 general admission, \$9 for NKU faculty and staff, \$8 for senior citizens (60-plus) and \$5 for students. Tickets and season subscriptions can be purchased in person at the Theater Box Office or call (859) 572-5464.

Web Design 2002

The Faculty Web Design Team will begin meeting in January 2002. The purpose for the team is to support faculty members in the development and enhancement of their web page designs. For more information contact Maureen Cruse at (859) 572-5839.

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Multi-purpose arena may face obstacles



An architect's rendering of the proposed special events center. It is connected to Regents Hall; in the right rear is the proposed student union.

New arena will allow for numerous events on campus

By Scott Wartman
Executive Editor

For some administrators and students at Northern Kentucky University, the 2005 tentative completion date for the long anticipated Regional Special Events Center isn't soon enough.

Regents Hall, the current sports arena and event facility, was built in 1972 and is fast becoming outdated, according to the NKU athletic department. Cold hard bleachers, little seating, small locker rooms and an overall outdated feel are a few of the many complaints lodged against the 2,000-seat arena by the administration.

"Our facility is usually a disadvantage to us," said Nancy Winstel, women's basketball head coach. "It is a facility whose time has passed."

Instead of bleachers, the lower level of the 6,500-seat RSEC will have theater-style seats. In addition, there will be 10 corporate luxury boxes that will have a view of the Cincinnati skyline.

These amenities will make NKU sports more accessible to fans, said men's basketball coach Ken Shields.

"The bleachers aren't comfortable and discourage middle-aged and older people from coming to games," Shields said. "With the new center I look forward to an increase of fans. They would know there will be enough seats avail-

able, and they will be comfortable."

The new RSEC will make it easier to bring in top-rate players, Shields said. "It would enhance recruiting. We don't have here a facility that will attract players."

One of the main concerns of the NKU athletic department is space, of which Regents affords very little, said Jane Meier, athletic director. She said the increased size of the new events center will be a tremendous asset to the sports program.

"Right now, we have poor athletic-training and weight room facilities mainly due to size," Meier said.

The RSEC quadruples the seating capacity of Regents and will cover 160,000 feet of space compared to Regents' 28,000 square feet.

All this space won't be devoted to sports, however. According to the office of Campus Planning, the RSEC will host an estimated 114 community events per year. For such events, seating can be expanded to 7,500 and there will be room to add more seats at a later date, increasing the total capacity to 10,000. In addition, the RSEC will allow commencement ceremonies to take place on campus instead of across the river at the Firststar Center in Cincinnati. For this reason alone, Student Government Association president Katie Herschede said the RSEC is a sound investment.

Regional Special Event Center by the numbers

4
The number of volleyball courts that will be housed in the RSEC
10
The number of private suites for private and corporate use
114
The estimated number of annual events that the RSEC will host
300-350
The estimated number of club seats
6,500
The number of seats in basketball stands
7,500
The number of seats for convocations and special events
10,000
The number of potential seats in the center for future expansion
Source: Campus Planning

"It is an embarrassment that a University of about 13,000 students has to go across the river to hold graduation," Herschede said.

Herschede said she hopes the RSEC will bring more people on campus and increase NKU's popularity in the surrounding community.

"It ties the community into the

State budget cuts put arena in question

By Scott Wartman
Executive Editor

While Northern Kentucky University announced this fall a tentative completion date of 2005 for the much-anticipated NKU Arena, dubbed the Regional Special Events Center, the slow economy may delay the project. Because of the slowing economy, the state of Kentucky was forced to cut its budget by \$600 million dollars.

"This may make it hard for the state to find money for the center's \$43 million price tag," said NKU regional and local business owner Bill Erpenbeck.

If the state were to fund the RSEC, it would be the most ambitious construction project in NKU's history. Erpenbeck, along with state representatives and the president of Peoples Bank of Northern Kentucky, John Finnman, formed a committee to lobby the state to allocate funds for the project. To help reduce the cost, the committee is trying to sell naming rights to the center for \$4 million, leaving \$39 million left to be picked up by the state. Erpenbeck said he is optimistic NKU will eventually receive all the funding, but it may be a hard road ahead.

"It's not by any stretch of the imagination a done deal," Erpenbeck said. "It is much more difficult today than it was eight months ago."

The center has widespread support from state legislators, said Joe Wind, assistant vice president of community and government relations, because Northern Kentucky is the only region in the state without a major events facility. He said, though, while NKU enjoys the legislator's moral support, the possibility of financial support is looking considerably more grim after Sept. 11.

"This project enjoys unprecedented support from the government," Wind said. "It is unfortunate that as we have this level of support, the economy is in a downturn."

Two local state representatives, Jim Callahan, D-Wilder, and John Draud, R-Crestview Hills, are working with Erpenbeck and Finnman to fund the RSEC. Callahan said with the staggering economy, the best way for Kentucky to fund the center is by borrowing through state bonds. Interest rates are as low as they are going to get, he said, and now is the time to go into debt. Callahan said the investment for the state is worthwhile because the 6,500-seat center will be an important asset to the surrounding community, allowing Northern Kentucky to bring larger scale events to the area.

"The value comes back to the Northern Kentucky region," Callahan said.

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NEWS

DPS Reports

NOV 20 2001-Tuesday-12:34am
Location: DORMS/KENTUCKY HALL-C-WING/THIRD FLOOR
MEDICAL RESPONSE-After the
 Officer responded to the listed location, responded a subject injured. Upon arrival, Officer met a female subject who stated that she had fallen on steps and had hurt her right ankle/foot. Officer observed redness and swelling on her foot. Officer was unable to determine if her foot was broken, only an X-Ray could determine that. Subject refused transportation to the hospital, via squad. She stated that she would seek her own transportation.

NOV 19 2001-Monday-04:47pm
Location: FINE ARTS BUILDING

- SECOND FLOOR - COMPLAINT RECEIVED
 Female employee requested DPS respond to the listed location in reference to disturbing mail received by one of her female students. Upon arrival, Officer met with the student who stated that she received a letter from a male subject that is incarcerated in the Kentucky State Prison System. The letter was described as not threatening, but affectionate, and referred to a theatre production that the student had performed in. The student wanted a report of this incident on file, because the letter had made her nervous. The case remains open and is under investigation.

NOV 19 2001-Monday-07:46am

Location: 415 JOHNS HILL ROAD

- DECAL-Lost/Stolen Decal
 Male employee came to DPS Office to report that his 2001-2002 NKA Faculty/Staff Parking Permit is missing from his vehicle. The subject stated he noticed his permit missing, this past weekend. The subject states that he parks his vehicle behind the maintenance building. The subject was issued a Temporary Permit and was referred to the Parking Office for a replacement permit.

NOV 16 2001-Friday-07:46pm
Location: NATURAL SCIENCE BUILDING - FIRST FLOOR
FIRE ALARM

NO FIRE Fire Alarm received from the listed location, via the EUSA Computer. Upon arrival, Officers were directed to the Mechanical Room. The Central Campbell County Fire Department responded

along with N.K.U. Physical Plant personnel. The alarm was checked finding no evidence of smoke or fire. Upon investigation, it was determined that a "Heat Sensor" malfunctioned. The "Sensor" at that location was disabled until repairs can be made. The alarm was reset, building cleared for occupancy and the sensor cleared at 8:36pm. Case closed.

NOV 16 2001-Friday-11:13am
Location: UNIVERSITY CENTER-LOWER LEVEL - THEFT BY UNLAWFUL TAKING
Under \$300

Food Service employee reported that they had two (2) male subjects in their office that were caught stealing food from the listed location. The subjects were charged and arrested for "Shoplifting-Under

\$300. The subjects were transported to and lodged in the Campbell County Jail. Case remains open at this time.

NOV 16 2001-Friday-10:36am

Location: OFF CAMPUS-FORENCE KENTUCKY - DECAL-CRIMINAL DECAL
 Male reported that his 2001-2002 N.K.U. Student Parking Permit was taken from his vehicle. The complainant stated that the theft occurred while his vehicle was parked at his residence off campus. The complainant was advised to report the theft to his local police Department. The complainant was referred to the Parking Office for a replacement decal. Case closed.

NOV 15 2001-Thursday-10:36am

Location: PARKING LOT - FEMALE POSSESSION OF A FORGED INSTRUMENT
 3rd Degree

Vehicle was located with a forged N.K.U. Student Parking Permit. The subject was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument-3rd Degree. Case remains open...

NOV 15 2001-Thursday-01:29am

Location: DORMS/KENTUCKY HALL-LOBBY - COMPLAINT RECEIVED
 Female subject stated that while enroute to campus from Ohio, several vehicles surrounded her vehicle and began to harass her. She stated that the vehicles attempted to force her vehicle off of I-275. The vehicles exited I-275 in Ohio. The complainant contacted N.K.U. and reported the incident. The subject was advised to contact the Milford Ohio Police for a report, since the incident began in their jurisdiction. Case closed...

Forum seeks 'common ground'

Group decides to openly resist racism, emphasize self-identity

By Kelly Whitlock
 Northern Contributor

Community members gathered at Northern Kentucky University last week to discuss the heated topic of race-relations. The gathering was an effort of the Neighbor to Neighbor Community Conversations on Race, sponsored by The Enquirer, Cincinnati.com, and more than 100 other organizations.

The idea behind the initiative is to get community members together in small groups to discuss issues of local racial tension, specifically, what the problems are, what should be done about them, and what action each person can take.

The organizers of the Neighbor to Neighbor conversations hope to hold a forum in each village, township, and city neighborhood.

NKU was host to one of the first of more than 100 planned meetings in the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky area.

More than 30 NKU students, faculty, and community members were present. The discussion. Volunteer facilitators directed the conversation, although often times their voices were lost among the rumble of the participants.

Facilitators tried to enforce that the object of these gatherings was

to find common ground that could be a basis for improving race-relations, but had to reiterate that point several times as people tried to point fingers and place blame instead.

The format of the discussion group centered around prepared handouts that outlined three perspectives and related approaches to improving race-relations.

The first of these approaches is to look beyond race and ethnicity. This plan focuses on what brings people together rather than what keeps them apart. It suggests seeing things as they are, not in terms of race and ethnicity, and giving everyone a fair and equal chance, treating all people equally.

The second approach is to build self-identity first. This means realizing that this country is multi-cultural and will always be this way. It supports the idea of allowing small communities to be inclusive and to set their own course, and accept that this will lead to some segregation.

This approach assumes that if people are allowed to function as they like in small groups, there will be less tension as there will be no need to interact with those different from them.

The third approach is to open all doors to everyone. This approach

does not accept separatism, especially on the basis of race and ethnicity. It calls for an active attempt to eliminate all segregation in all aspects of life.

The task of the discussion group was to talk through each of these approaches, noting the benefits and downsides of each.

Of the first approach, the general consensus was that it was unrealistic. One participant noted, "I don't think people can look beyond race and ethnicity."

Many group members felt the concept of building self-identity first was beneficial because it allows for differences and empowerment within communities, and builds self-esteem.

Then there were others who felt the segregation it promoted was far more detrimental to society than its benefits.

The last of the three approaches seemed to be generally agreed upon as the most realistic of all. Openness among all people could lead to elimination of stereotypes as people come together and talk about their differences.

The group saw the main problem with this idea being that a majority of participants could not foresee the public having the decency to be "humane" enough to take the initiative to get together with others unlike themselves.

Concluding the meeting, participants came up with a list of action items that at this meeting could take to improve race-relations today. The list featured about 20 different suggestions.

A vote was then taken and the group came to the conclusion to not be silent to racism, but rather stand up and not let racism happen to them.

Patton: College readiness key; high schools must step up

N. KY. education council emphasizes school-business link

By Susan Bartels
 News Editor

The celebration of Northern Kentucky Education Week at Northern Kentucky University culminated Thursday, Nov. 15, with a visit from Gov. Paul E. Patton and Barbara B. Stonewater, executive director of the Northern Kentucky Council of Partners in Education.

The theme of the week was "Go Higher," taken from Patton's educational awareness campaign that kicked off one month ago. The theme stresses the importance of post-secondary education in Kentucky.

The NKCEC, which was started two years ago, brought together area businesses and educators to address the problem of high school students' unpreparedness for work and university study.

Stonewater said the council works to better prepare students by breaking down barriers, opening doors and creating a seamless web to achieve the highest education level possible for all students.

A seamless web, as explained by Gail Wells, dean of arts and sciences, Advances if they take a high school degree, they are prepared to go to college, regardless if that is their plan or not.

According to Wells, statistics show almost everybody seeks either college or technical school or some post-secondary education eventually.

Many students coming out of high schools in Kentucky don't have the necessary math and English skills



Scott Wartman/The Northern

President Votruba addresses a group gathered Nov. 15 for Northern Kentucky Higher Education Week. Listening at right are Gov. Paul Patton and state Rep. Ken Lucas.

needed to get by in college. Wells said taking remedial classes at the university level is costly, postpones graduation and is discouraging to students because they get no credit.

As part of the effort to better prepare students, the NKCEC devised a math test for high school juniors to assess if they were ready for college. Based on the students' score, they would know if they needed to take a senior-level math course.

Wells said the test was so successful, Ky. enacted a law that this test had to be available to any student wishing to take it. It is now available across the entire state.

The success of the NKCEC caught the attention of the governor and now there are councils all across the state.

Northern Kentucky is one of 10 model communities in the Governor's Go Higher education campaign.

"There's too much remediation going on after high school," Patton said in his address at NKU. "We have to make sure high school staff and students know what colleges are going to expect of them. And we have to make sure colleges understand how it is that they produce, in particular their teacher colleges, teachers that know how to get the job done efficiently."

Patton stressed the efficiency of education must improve in both quantity and quality. The goal, he said, is to get Kentucky to the national average of numbers of students participating in post-secondary education and to get there will require a 50 percent increase.

Patton also stated there will not be a 50 percent increase in appropriations, which means more efficiency is needed.

Northern Ky. NAACP celebrates rebirth with college scholarships

By Susan Bartels
 News Editor

The Northern Kentucky branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People showcased its rebirth after a ten year absence by hosting the First Annual Freedom Fund Dinner held at the Drawbridge Inn on Nov. 16.

The dinner, which many of the branches across the country host in their individual communities, raised funds, recognized persons in the community for outstanding leadership and provided scholarships for students attending local universities and colleges.

Approximately 400 people attended the event that featured keynote speaker Dennis Hayes, Esq., equal co-owner to the NAACP who spoke on the theme of "Speaking Truth to

Power—Accountability in Education. Charing the ball was Jerome Bowles, president of the Northern Kentucky branch of the NAACP along with co-chairs Charles Whitehead, president Ashland Inc. Foundation and James C. Votruba, president Northern Kentucky University.

Eight \$500 scholarship awards were given to four students from NKU and four from Thomas Moore College.

According to Bowles, the NAACP welcomes all people of all colors to be part of the organization. He said anyone can apply for the scholarships, but they do prefer they be members of the NAACP college chapters.

Votruba said NKU donated \$17,500 to the scholarship fund. "We have a table and many people from the university are in attendance," said

Votruba. NKU's scholarship recipients were Carla Smith, junior, Aron Walker and Jermar Mack, both freshmen, and Mildred Patterson, senior. "We have a table and many people from the university are in attendance," said

To qualify, students must be enrolled in a four year institution, they must fulfill an application and essay process and show leadership skills.

Money for the scholarships was donated by corporations throughout Northern Kentucky, with matching funds provided by the NAACP. Bowles hopes the amount of the scholarships will increase each year.

To apply, e-mail the local branch of the NAACP at nkynacp@aol.com or call (859) 442-7476. Apply for national scholarships by visiting the NAACP Web site at www.naacp.org.

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WORLD & NATION

WORLD

Northern alliance closes in on al-Qaida fighters

BANGI, Afghanistan — Northern alliance troops closed in Friday on Taliban and al-Qaida fighters trapped in Kunduz, seizing an outlying town without a fight. Alliance commanders said they expected the city to surrender this weekend.

An American official in Washington said some of the fighters in the besieged city — the Taliban's last major garrison in the north — may be deputies and lieutenants to Osama bin Laden and to the Taliban's supreme leader, Mullah Mohammed Omar.

At the United Nations, meanwhile, officials announced a one-day delay in a conference in Germany aimed at paving the way for a new Afghan government following the Taliban's collapse. The meeting will open Tuesday, rather than Monday, because of delays in getting all the participants to the venue in Bonn, U.N. spokesman Ahmad Fawzi said.

Some Taliban leaders caught in Kunduz

WASHINGTON — Some senior al-Qaida and Taliban officials are believed to be in Kunduz, the Taliban's last city in northern Afghanistan, a U.S. official said Friday.

While Osama bin Laden and Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Omar are probably in the southern part of the country, some of their deputies and lieutenants have been caught up north, the official said, speaking on the condition of anonymity. The official declined to provide specific names.

The northern alliance is also on the move in southern Afghanistan after a week of consolidating their gains. Advance elements of a northern alliance have entered Helmand province, one of the last areas of the country still regarded under Taliban control, the official said.

The force, led by Ismail Khan of Herat and aided by U.S. forces, is on the road that connects Herat to Kandahar, the Taliban's spiritual capital and home to Mullah Omar.

Bin Laden may have fled home near Jalalabad

FARMADA, Afghanistan — Osama bin Laden, part of his family and about 2,000 Arab fighters were staying in a housing complex in eastern Afghanistan shortly before the United States launched its bombing campaign against his al-Qaida network and the Taliban, an area commander said Friday.

Standing outside a compound where one of bin Laden's wives lived with their children, local militia commander Mohamed Nawab said bin Laden often spent his days in the eastern provincial capital of Jalalabad but went to the mud-brick compound in Farmada at night to visit his family.

Nawab said bin Laden rented the compound from militia commander Mullah Yunus Khalis, a Muslim fundamentalist who fought the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, later allied himself with the Taliban and only recently defected to anti-Taliban forces.

Nawab's claims could not be independently confirmed. If true, however, they would be the first detailed account of bin Laden's whereabouts since U.S. air strikes began.



Gleb Garanich/REUTERS
Northern Alliance soldiers head to the front line at the border of Kunduz province on Nov. 25.



LOCAL

Woman hurt in crowd while rushing to shop

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — A 60-year-old woman was injured in a crowd that was surging into a discount department store to shop Friday morning. Rose Wright of Louisville was taken to Suburban Hospital at 7:20 a.m. EST from in front of the Wal-Mart on South Hursbourn Lane. Hospital spokeswoman Lisa Brosky said Wright was in good condition and had been released from the hospital. Wal-Mart spokesman Tom Williams said five workers rushed to the assistance of Wright when they saw her fall. Williams said she was tripped either by another customer or tripped over another customer.

Smith wants Wildcats to show toughness

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Early season struggles for a second straight year have Kentucky coach Tubby Smith looking to shake some things up a bit.

Smith said fans — and his players — can expect to see a few lineup changes when the 10th-ranked

Wildcats (1-1) take the floor Saturday to face unbeaten Morehead State (2-0).

"We know we still have some issues," Smith said Friday. "We think we've got them pretty much resolved, but we'll see (Saturday) against a good Morehead State team."

Smith was upset by his squad's passive play in its season-opening 64-52 home loss to Western Kentucky. So he challenged players in practice, running charge-taking and box-out drills to get them used to a tougher, more physical style of play. Morehead State coach Kyle Macy, a two-time Kentucky All-American and four-year member of the school's broadcast team, has to like the way his squad has opened the season.

The Eagles have averaged 92.5 points in victories over IUPUI-Fort Wayne and Shawnee State with five players, led by last year's Ohio Valley Conference freshman in the row Ricky Minard, averaging in double figures.

"You always look forward to the challenge of playing the Kentucky of the season," Macy said during the pre-season.

"For me it's special because of the memories I have there. I know I'm looking forward to it as much if not more than the rest of the guys are."



Photo courtesy of CSN
Cedric Brown of Roanoke, Ala., borrows a cell phone to call his distribution company Nov. 15 after the rig he was driving was picked up and turned over on its side by a tornado while driving southbound on Interstate 35 near Kyle, Texas.

"These were not exactly brilliant thieves," said Sgt. Earl Smith, spokesman for the Division of Police. Police arrested Bryan Johnson, 39, and Michael Kay, 30, both of Columbus. Detective Steve Gingersy said. Both men are charged with receiving stolen property. Johnson is also charged with burglary.

Nude dancers fight rules for dress, work

SALT LAKE CITY — A group of nude dancers in Salt Lake City feel pasties hamper their freedom of

expression.

The six women are required to wear pasties by an ordinance passed last spring forbidding nude dancing. An attorney for the women says his clients are artists and therefore should have the same freedoms ballet dancers and modern dance companies have.

Unlike ballet dancers, erotic dancers must register with the city and get work cards. But the city has refused to renew the women's work cards, saying the new ordinance forbids their profession.

NATION

Tests find no trace of anthrax at victim's home

OXFORD, Conn. — Deepening the mystery surrounding the nation's latest anthrax death, preliminary tests Friday found no trace of the germ in the 94-year-old victim's home, on her mail or at her post office.

"Testing was focused on the so-called mail trail," Gov. John Rowland said. "I can't speak for the federal authorities, but it's frustrating for all of us."

Authorities were awaiting more definitive results, and testing of Ottilie Lundgren's home was not complete.

Investigators with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have meanwhile turned to the few places frequented by Lundgren, a

widow who seldom left home except to go to the library, the beauty parlor, the doctor, church and a diner, where she sometimes stopped after her Saturday morning hair appointments.

Three government officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said investigators were seeking a soil sample from the diner, Fritz's Snack Bar, after residents mentioned vague recollections of an anthrax outbreak among livestock at a nearby farm more than 50 years ago.

Officials said the sample was precautionary and they had not yet found records of such an outbreak on the farm. "Lundgren died of the inhaled form of anthrax Wednesday, becoming the fifth fatality since the nation's anthrax scare began in early October. The CDC said the strain that killed her was similar to strains found in other recent cases, but authorities have so far been baffled by its source.

A dare to steal money taken up by thief

ASPEN, Colo. — The message on a conceptual work of art titled, "I Dare You to Steal This \$100," resonated with at least one viewer.

Someone stole the \$100 bill that was part of Rick Magnuson's conceptual artwork hanging in the Aspen Art Museum's Roaring Fork Open show. In its place, five 20-dollar bills were left.

Magnuson, a community safety officer with the Aspen Police Department, made the piece from acrylic paint and real money. It had been up for about a month when Magnuson found out Wednesday that someone decided to cash in on the artist's concept.

"I wanted someone to try and steal it and catch them and this makes it vague now," he said. "It ruined the whole aesthetics for me. I don't think it's a valuable piece of art any-

more because it's been defaced."

Magnuson believes the cash swap could be construed as an act of criminal mischief, though he said finding a sympathetic court could be difficult. He hopes the thief will return the \$100 bill.

Stolen mascot costume found sitting in car

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A fairly obvious clue led Columbus police to the suspected culprits in the theft of a college mascot's costume.

The Brutus the Buckeye costume for the Ohio State mascot had been reported stolen, along with the car it was sitting inside. When patrol officers spotted the stolen car behind a building near campus, they stalked it out.

Two men approached the car early Thursday morning. One of them was wearing a striped, scarlet-and-gray shirt with "BRUTUS" in block letters on the front.

That's the mascot's shirt.

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FEATURES

Cultural Fest provides taste of life in other lands

By Karen Andrew
Copy Editor

Students from a number of African and Caribbean countries want to share their culture with the Northern Kentucky University community. The African Student Union is presenting its Cultural Fest on Saturday, Dec. 1 in the University Center Ballroom from 6 to 9 p.m.

"This is the first time we've tried this," said Barhan Mohamedali, external relations officer. "The purpose is to increase multicultural awareness at NKU."

He said students will perform intricate dances, sing and present traditional costumes in a fashion show. There will also be drumming and the sharing of African rituals such as what was performed during harvest time.

"If you like other cultures, this is the best event of the semester," said Mohamedali. "There is nothing like African and Caribbean dances."

He explained that people who appreciate cultures, especially studying such disciplines as anthropology and philosophy, should attend. The show will present traditional African ways.

One of the many purposes of the ASU, as stated in its constitution, is to raise awareness and arouse interest in African cultures and affairs within Northern Kentucky University and the Northern Kentucky community. The ASU also provides an organization which enables African students to share the cultural wealth of the African continent with NKU. Officers of the ASU represent many different African and Caribbean countries which found at

NKU: Victoria Uti, president, is from Nigeria; Ghana is represented by Prince Ellis, vice president and Adil Imshah, cultural chair; Jane Muidini, secretary, hails from Kenya; Eleanor Wells, assistant secretary comes from Trinidad; Zimbabwe sent Nelia Manheha. Treasurer, Mohamedali is from Tanzania and the faculty advisor, Dr. Ernest Barnett, is from Sierra Leone. The ASU received the NKU Best New Organization award for 2001.

Mohamedali advised that because 200 to 250 people are expected to attend, tickets should be purchased in advance. They are on sale at the International Student Affairs office, room 366, for \$5 and the show is open to the public. For more information, call 572-6517 or access the ASU's Web site at asun.knu.edu.

Denman: The voice of SGA

By Sarah Black
Northerner Contributor

Walk into UC 208 and you'll find Misty Denman. Student Government Association Vice President of Public Relations, working on one of her many tasks but always ready to talk to you.

Denman, a junior Speech Rehabilitation Center. She promoted the event and recruited volunteers to help with projects at the center. Volunteers painted classrooms, cleaned toys, munched landscape, and planted flowers.

SGA does community service projects because NKU tries to give back to the community what we can, which is only part of what the community gives to NKU," Denman said.

Denman, also recording secretary for the Speech Communication Club, has been in charge of publicity for fall elections, informing students of the opportunities to run for Senate positions, and referendum polls.

The referendum polls are questions SGA ask students in an effort to improve our campus and quality of education. Results from the polls guide the decisions that SGA makes each semester. When data from the polls showed that students wanted a fall break, SGA worked to get this approved by the administration for the Fall 2001 semester.

After the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks Denman helped to organize the National Day of Prayer and Remembrance ceremonies that were held on campus.

She has also been involved in the

publicity of Team NKU, a group of students on campus who will go to the legislature when they are in session to lobby for an increase in funding to NKU. This has entailed getting a permanent banner made and displayed, setting up booths for the organization, as well as working the booths.

Denman produces press packets that consist of a calendar of upcoming events, copies of all news articles about SGA, and information on events and projects SGA is working on. This information is passed to The Northerner, WNKU, SGA's advisors, the SGA executive team and SGA senators.

Aside from working 15-20 hours a week as vice president of public relations, Denman attends school full time and works 30 hours a week as a server at Behle Street To Go!!

She enjoys going to sporting events and spending time with friends outside of school and work. The position has given Denman new insight to NKU. Denman said, "This position has given me a new and exciting perspective on NKU and our students."

Denman hopes through her work to reach students who have no connection on campus. The SGA is planning to display a banner explaining what SGA has done for the students and on distributing pens in the bookstore that have the SGA's web address on them.

Denman, who hopes to create more unity between commuters and those who live on campus, said, "Together we can accomplish anything we set our minds to."

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NKU students ON THE ROLL



Scott Wartman/The Northerner

Students Regina Nelson and Jeff Murray experience daily difficulties when traveling on campus.

Nelson navigates campus' rough roads

By Scott Wartman
Executive Editor

What may be a small incline to some is a steep perspective to Northern Kentucky University junior Regina Nelson. Paralyzed from the waist down for the last 11 years from a spinal cord injury, Nelson said simple physical tasks take a lot longer than able-bodied people. She said it takes a minimum of two and one-half hours to get ready in the morning.

"The time it takes is magnified three times," Nelson said.

Navigating around NKU's campus isn't any easier, she said. Cracks and potholes on the sidewalk have increased due to construction, and have made an obstacle course for Nelson. She said several times she was thrown from her wheelchair by an errant crack in the sidewalk.

Lack of ramps, crowded elevators and slow automatic doors cause her to be late for classes, Nelson said. Every day, to get up to the plaza level on campus, Nelson must use the elevator in Nunn Hall to get to class.

Nelson said the overcrowding of elevators and of automatic doorways often make traveling on campus very difficult.

"It's not that you have to be rude, but you have to be direct," Nelson said. "You have to make a presence and say 'excuse me, can I get on?'"

She encouraged people who only have to go up one flight to use the stairs.

"What I wouldn't give to be able to walk up one flight of stairs," Nelson said. "We have to use elevators. We don't have a choice."

Even a comfortable breeze can prove to be a formidable for Nelson.

Nelson recounted a time when she was traveling out to her car and the wind blew so hard in her face, she not only had a hard time moving forward but began choking.

She said spending a day in a wheelchair as Pete Ahlfeld can bring light to some of the difficulties of being handicapped, but doesn't give any idea of what it's actually like.

"Unless you have your legs tied together and are unable to really use them, you won't understand," she said.

She said it took her three years after her injury to get adjusted to her routine of daily life in a wheelchair. Nelson is currently serving as a Student Government Association Senator and was re-elected in the recent November elections.

"We need a voice," Nelson said.

Writer's wheelchair adventure ends in walking semi-accessible campus

By Robert Ahlfeld
Northerner Contributor

To see if students with disabilities could adequately get the same education that students without disabilities could get, I decided to spend the day in a wheelchair. And boy, was I surprised. The handicap conditions here are a joke.

I started out in the parking lot in front of the Baptist Student Union

where students were blocking handicapped ramps to get on the sidewalk. The parking situation got so bad that, after five minutes of trying to get up onto the sidewalk, I gave up, got out of my wheelchair and placed it on the sidewalk or else I would have been late for class.

So, five minutes into my day, I already had to resort to walking. Once I did get on the sidewalk and finally to Landrum, it took another five minutes just to get in the door because the handicapped doors take forever to open.

Once I got to the speech department floor, I found more problems when I entered the different rooms. They were almost impossible to maneuver around unless you weren't handicapped, because of the new desks and chairs. I had to sit out in the hallway and ask for help in re-arranging the desks.

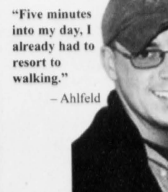
After I left Landrum, I had one other class, on BEP's first floor. I would have com-

pletely missed my class if someone hadn't opened the door for me. The handicapped access takes forever and almost never opens all the way.

Using the restroom is another story in itself. I don't know how anyone could maneuver in an area that small. It is not enough room for a wheelchair.

Overcrowding on the elevators forced me to fight for spots where I could get on. I also noticed students were always staring at me, and it seemed as if I was a burden to them. I felt it was just in the way. Before this experience, I too felt the handicapped slowed me down.

I ended my day off-campus eating dinner and going to the movies with my fiancé. There were no other major problems for the rest of the night. I truly feel sorry for the handicapped students at NKU. Not just because they are handicapped, but because of the conditions they have to go through on a day-to-day basis. They are not up to the standards of what the other students get for their money and something should be done.



"Five minutes into my day, I already had to resort to walking."

— Ahlfeld

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VIEWPOINTS

North Poll

"Do you think freshmen should be required to live on campus?"



Joel Pena
Sophomore, Graphic Design

No, because I live in Hyde Park. I rely on public transportation.

Sarah Correa
Sophomore, English Ed



Yes, but then there's certain circumstances such as having children or being married.



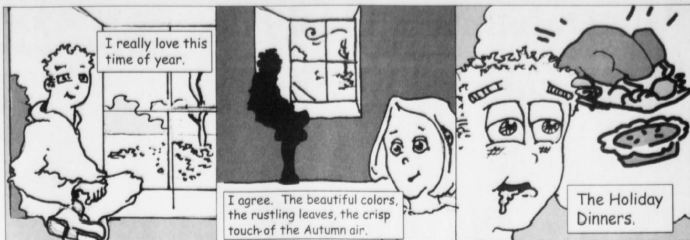
Umair Khan
Freshman, MSG Technology

Yes. It depends on whether they have transportation or not.

William Jordan Blackmore
Sophomore, Undecided



No, because nobody should be required to live on campus if they don't want to.



Public misinformed about terrorism, Middle East

By James W. Binney
Professor of International Relations

Many times, high expectations lead to disappointment. But was it too much to expect an intelligent, academic discussion on the part of the academicians at the recent forum NKU held concerning the cataclysmic events of September 11th.

It was indeed disappointing and even agonizing to sit through this tawdry affair. Here are my impressions. Generally, I was mildly nauseated by several panelists' "let's get in touch with our feelings ontology" that has come to grip and even cripple to some extent all of our media and educational institutions during this past decade. But that's another subject altogether... Having said that, my grievance deals with specifically and most importantly, the outrageous comment made by one of the panelists when he posed this question to the audience: "How many of you feel guilty for all of the starving children in Iraq?"

Not surprisingly, almost 34 of the audience ignorantly raised their hands. (I use the term "ignorantly" with confidence as I have been teaching and studying political science now for 15 years now and am completely numb by the wholesale ignorance of international relations that the American public flaunts like a male peacock during mating season.)

This I would have expected from the audience but it was the posing of the question in the first place which deserves and even, invites an informed, academic response (a theme which was abrogated throughout most of the discussion). Ignorance deserves thoughtful attention by those in the know and should not be exacerbated with more of the same. Does this person understand what had transpired in Iraq and is he cognizant of the subsequent policies dealing with this very issue of suffering in Iraq? What is this person promoting? Why didn't he ask if we felt guilty about the thousands of Kurds who were gassed by Saddam Hussein?

The simple retort to this twisted version of origins of the Gulf War and the policy regimes erected in the aftermath is this: Saddam Hussein started the war by ruthlessly invading Kuwait, the United States formed a coalition of dozens of countries (many of them Arab countries) and invaded Kuwait and expelled the Iraqis from occupied Kuwait. Then, in response to the massive suffering of the Iraqi population, the United Nations offered Iraq the chance to sell massive amounts of oil in exchange for food and medicine to be given to his population. The question should not be whether we feel guilty or not but rather, "what in the hell has Hussein done with this money that was received from these oil sales?" (money which was given to this rogue regime out of pure sympathy for their oppressed people).

What about the dozens of posh palaces that Hussein owns and where did the money come from to build these monstrosities and where did the money go for the construction of dozens more since the Gulf

War? How hungry are Saddam's family, and the ruling Baathist party? Additionally, should I feel guilty for policies that attempt to stop a ruthless dictator from developing nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons that most assuredly would be directed towards my home and our allies? What makes this frightening is this ridiculous statement is exactly what Bin Laden's videotapes attempt to inculcate amongst potential converts to his twisted view of Islam and world events.

As teachers, we owe it to our student body and public to teach as objectively as we possibly can and avoid proselytizing. In fairness, I would agree that Bin Laden's aim was to draw the U.S. into an all-out conflagration with Islamic nations but the panel lurched into discussions about nothingness. This is an incredible moment in world history and as faculty members it is our duty to present informed discussions based upon facts rather than hasty retorts to emotions and misinformation.

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

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Faculty response to affirmative action

By Paul Ellis
Learning Assistance
Program faculty

In a recent *Northerner*, a front-page article titled "Affirmative action: Campus groups gathered in support" included these words, quoted from an attorney for the National Conference for Community and Justice: "Affirmative action is one of the tools of remedying a historical injustice." I am pro-affirmative action, but not for the reason quoted above; in fact, the "historical injustice" explanation I find inaccurate and a turn-off, the leading cause of misunderstanding and negative feelings about affirmative action.

The "historical injustice" explanation causes many to think that affirmative action is "reverse discrimination."

discriminating now against whites to compensate for the "historical" discrimination against Blacks. These white people ask: Why should we be punished or discriminated against for something we had nothing to do with? That is a legitimate question.

But affirmative action is not so much about the past as it is about the present — about the here and now. Here's the essential question: Is the playing field between whites and black level today? If you were born into a typical black family or a typical white family, would the chances of your success be equal?

Which individual — the black or the white — would more likely belong to a family with a middle or high income? Which individual would more likely go to a clean, modern,

well-equipped school, with well-paid teachers? Which individual would more likely be encouraged to study science or math or English (which will pay later in life) rather than encouraged to play sports (which will not pay later)?

Which individual would more likely get into law school or medical school?

Of course, individual blacks can and do succeed, but most have to work longer or harder or better or more strategically than whites in order to achieve success. That is neither fair nor just. And affirmative action attempts to correct that situation. Affirmative action has little to nothing to do with righting the wrongs of history. It has much to do with righting the wrongs and leveling the playing fields of today.

organization as you? Would it hurt to get to know your classmates and help each other through out the semester?

I don't think it would hurt at all. This would also be good practice for anyone who plans to enter the workforce after college. I'm not saying that everyone at NKU is this way. If the shoe doesn't fit, DON'T PUT IT ON. But to the majority of fragile students and faculty on campus, WARM UP, smile and speak to people.

And when we achieve this great change in attitude toward our fellow Norse men and women, I promise I will find something else to complain about.

It's a cold, cold campus

By Tarris "Troy" Horton
Northerner contributor

Have you ever walked around campus and noticed how cold it is? I'm not talking about temperature, cold, but cold in reference to the attitudes of people who move about from destination to destination. Everyone walks around with a mean mug look on their faces, and God forbid someone attempt to speak or smile while going to classes. This is my first semester here, and I talked to three different people who left NKU, because they

said it wasn't a friendly place. I'm an extrovert, who's friendly to all people. Sometimes I forget I'm not in Hardin County where everyone is known as someone who speaks to everyone else and is considered a happy-go-lucky person. This is a personal challenge for me to try to change the attitude of people on campus.

Would it hurt to smile and be happy you have the privilege to acquire an education? Would it hurt to say hello to someone and ask how their day is going, even if they are not in the same social

SPORTS

Women return to Final Four

Norse trump Truman State

By Shelly Kunz
Contributing Writer

The lady Norse defeated Truman State University, 2-0 in the elite eight game played Sunday Nov. 17 at Kirksville, Mo. to make their third straight trip to the NCAA division II final four game.

The Northern Kentucky women now (22-1) is ranked fifth in the NCAA II final poll, while their competitor UC San Diego is ranked fourth. The Norse is scheduled to battle UC San Diego, defending NCAA division II champions, on Sunday Nov. 30 in San Diego.

The Norse lost to UCSD 2-1 last year in the final match giving up the winning goal in the last 15 seconds of the game. Senior midfielder, Tricia Ruark said, "It was awful, I think that's what's going to stick in our head when we play them, to play 90 minutes and not give up."

Last year, UCSD outlasted them in the last crucial minutes of overtime play. NKU is determined to prevent UCSD from shattering their dreams of a NCAA division II championship again this year. Ruark, a dominate player on the field for NKU this year said, "Our goal this year was to get back to the Final Four," then making it to the final match, "and win it, and we're almost there!"

Each year the lady Norse has played with heart, making it one step closer to a NCAA championship. Two years ago, the Norse only made it to the Final Four and last year the team made it one step farther, to the championship match, but were only one goal shy of a championship title.

This year they expect to win it all! If the Norse get past UCSD they will meet the winner of the other Final Four match between Franklin Pierce (N.H.) College and Christian Brothers (Tenn.) University.

The final match is in San Diego on Dec. 3. NKU's eight seniors have worked even harder this year to be in this position.

The team often says that coach Sheehan cuts the team no slack when it comes to physical fitness. Sophomore Kendra Zinser said, "Practices are tough we're always expected to give 100% and more. We never look forward to those 120's (yard) sprinting practices."

However, when asked if the hard work and level of fitness ability has paid off Zinser said, "Definitely, we may dread the sprints in practice, but it pays to be in shape at the end of the second half in a 90 minute soccer game."

Often, the most physically fit team prevails in an evenly matched game—talent or not. NKU is positioned well to win it all this year. Sheehan has built the NKU soccer program from talent and the physical ability of his players. "There are excellent players in this area that may not be recruited by the top teams, but that doesn't mean they can't play," Sheehan adds to the talent with his excellent physical conditioning program he places on his team.

Athletes of the week

By Elias Hajjar/Sports Editor

Kevin Alessandro



Photo by Scott Wartman/The Northerner

Northern Kentucky University's Kevin Alessandro, a senior cross country runner from Ft. Thomas, Kentucky is the Northern male Athlete of the Week. Alessandro finished his career Nov. 3 at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional in Kenosha, Wis., placing 69 out of 132 runners in the 10K run with a time of 34:59.

"He is a senior, so I think he really went out there and tried his best for his last race," said women's cross country runner, Elaine Koenig. "Kevin worked hard all season."

Finishing his career at Regionals was emotionally draining for Alessandro.

"Ending my career at NKU didn't really hit me until our last race," said Alessandro. "I struggled with some injuries early on, but was happy to finish strong."

Alessandro sees a bright future for the men's and women's cross country team after he is gone.

"We had a very big team this year, and a lot of freshmen," said Alessandro. "With our team being very young I feel we competed well, but the future of the program looks very good."

Shakeup in new AP poll, but Miami still No. 1

By Richard Rosenblatt
AP Football Writer

Losses for Nebraska and Oklahoma turned into big gains for Florida, Texas, Oregon and Tennessee in the AP media poll. While Miami (10-0) was a near-unanimous choice at No. 1 in The Associated Press Top 25 on Sunday, Florida moved up to No. 2, Texas to No. 3, Oregon to No. 4 and Tennessee to No. 5.

Nebraska (11-1), beaten by

Colorado 62-36 on Friday, fell four spots to No. 6, while Oklahoma tumbled seven places to No. 11 after its 16-13 loss to Oklahoma State on Saturday.

The Hurricanes, who close out the regular season on Saturday at Virginia Tech, collected 71 first-place votes and 1,799 points from the 72 sports writers and broadcasters on the AP panel. Miami defeated Washington 65-7 on Saturday, dropping the Huskies (8-3) seven places to No. 19.

The Gators (9-1), off over the weekend, received the remaining first-place vote and 1,716 points.

Florida plays host to Tennessee (9-1), with the winner advancing to the Southeastern Conference title game.

Texas (10-1) moved up two places following its 21-7 win over Texas A&M, and advanced to Saturday's Big 12 Conference title game against Colorado. The Buffaloes (9-2) improved five spots to No. 9 after their big win over the Huskers.

Elaine Koenig

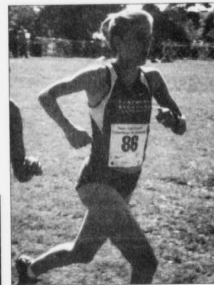


Photo contributed

Northern Kentucky University's Elaine Koenig, a sophomore cross country runner from Florence, Kentucky, is the Northern female Athlete of the Week. Koenig broke the 6K school record on Nov. 3 at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional in Kenosha, Wisconsin with a time of 23:35.

Tabatha Smith held the previous record with a time of 23:27.4, broken in 1999.

"I'm excited to be named Athlete of the Week because it gives the whole cross country program recognition," said Koenig.

"Cross country isn't exactly the sport everyone thinks

about, so we are sometimes overlooked. It's just nice to be recognized for my hard work this season and summer."

Koenig finished in 32nd place leading the lady Norse to a 12th place finish, highest in school history. "A lot of us had good races on the same day. That's what you need to do well at a cross country race," said Koenig. "Our hard work all season finally paid off, and luckily it was on the same day."

Koenig also had a great showing at the Great Lakes Valley Conference Championships, finishing the 6K run in 18th place with a time of 24:07.20.

Volleyball loses NCAA bid

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
Contributing Writer

The Northern Kentucky University volleyball team had everything going its way heading into the NCAA Division II Tournament. The Norse had another Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament championship under their belt and were riding a 23-game winning streak.

However, NKU lost in the second round of the NCAA Great Lakes Region Tournament Nov. 16 against Grand Valley State in four sets at Allendale, Michigan. The Lakers were also the same team that knocked the Norse out of the tournament last season.

"They had a deeper bench to work with (7 deep)," NKU head coach Carlos Chia said.

"Their team was more physical and athletic than ours."

Things did look up at the beginning of the tournament for NKU as

they defeated Northern Michigan University on Nov. 15 in the first round, winning in five sets: 29-31, 22-30, 30-26, 15-11. Northern Michigan was the last team to beat the Norse (Sept. 8 at Regents Hall) before NKU starting their winning streak.

Senior Bethany Gastright led the way for the Norse with 21 kills and a .380 hitting percentage. NKU senior Julie Hathorn added 14 kills and senior Denise Barhorst contributed 12 kills and four blocks as NKU extended its streak of wins to 24.

The Norse were only three wins away from tying the all-time team record of 27 set in 1995. NKU, the No. 4 seed, next took on top-seeded Grand Valley State in the semifinals of the Great Lakes Region Tournament.

The Norse won the first match (30-19) but lost the next three (24-30, 25-30, 21-30) to bow out of the tournament early for the second year in a row.

"We were disappointed to end our season, but we've been to the nationals and the Final Four. That's something to be proud of," Chia said.

Carly Miller was the leader for the Lakers with 26 kills and a .431 hitting percentage.

Also, Chara Fehsenfeld contributed 19 kills and a .350 hitting percentage in the team's victory. NKU was led by Gastright, who had 15 kills and three service aces and Hathorn, who added nine kills in the game.

"We have four scholarship players on the team," Chia said. "They gave it their all; more than expected."

Grand Valley State moved on to the NCAA Division II Great Lakes Region championship as they took on the University of Findlay.

Photo contributed
Julie Hathorn clears the net.

Photo contributed

Sara Taylor dives for the ball.

The Norse ended their season, under first-year coach Carlos Chia, with a modest 28-5 record. Chia said that this season was a success, and he looks forward to a lot more like this one.

"We've averaged 29 wins a year. Our goal is to go to the nationals, and we've done that. We have to recruit full-time players in the future for exposure for the following years," he said.

Chia went on to say that all the NKU athletic programs have to be recognizable, mostly by word of mouth, to help them recruit players. The Norse volleyball team also said goodbye to four seniors, which includes Gastright, Luisa Gomez, Barhorst and Hathorn. They will all be missed greatly.

"When you recruit them, you know they will be here for four years. You become attached to them," Chia said.

"Their relatives who come and support our program always remain part of our family. The players have a bright future ahead of them."

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OTHER NEWS

Coffee house brings foot of reality

By Kelly Whitlock

Northern Contributor

For Northern Kentucky University freshman Brandon Schilling, work is not your average cup of joe. His employer, Reality Tuesday Café and Coffeehouse, may appear from the outside to be the local version of Starbucks, but once inside you'll find it's anything but a stereotypical coffeehouse.

Schilling, a computer-science major, tries to explain what makes this café stand out from all the rest.

He said, "The atmosphere is so unique... just look around."

He's right, too. To start, the décor is

anything but ordinary. It ranges from wild animal prints to Christmas lights to a graffiti-lined hallway. Some customers rush in and out taking their Reality Blend coffee to go, while some sit and relax for hours slowly sipping their Café Latte. In one corner a man sits chatting in the cyber-café, while at a nearby table a group of students plays a card game. Still there are those others sitting talking with friends or even those alone reading a book or studying. All the while, employees such as Schilling are checking to be sure everyone is a satisfied customer. No matter what your style, everyone fits in here.

Owners Bill and Traci Gregg's

vision for the coffeehouse is that it would be a fun and relaxing environment for young adults to hang out in, as well as it could serve as an alternative to the bar scene.

Schilling has worked at the café for almost two months now. He said, "When I heard about the café back in April I stopped in and just loved it. Unfortunately, they weren't hiring." Being a frequent customer himself, Schilling was able to keep in contact with the Greggs and when they were ready to hire, he was there.

The best part of his job, he says, is the interaction with the customers and employees. The café attracts many regular customers the employees get

to know well.

Chastidy Hawn, a co-worker of Schilling, said of the café, "It reminds me Cheers." She added that there is always somebody there that knows you, and that often times the employees already know what a customer will order before they even come in. Personable and friendly service is a defining feature of the staff of Reality Tuesday Café.

As for the benefits of his job, Schilling said the employees are close, "like a family" and that he is always meeting new and interesting people. More than that he added, "I also love coffee... that's a plus!"

Working just a few nights a week at

Reality Tuesday Café fits well in to Schilling's busy schedule here at NKU. An honor student, he is taking 17 hours of classes this semester. Outside of the classroom he is involved with the Freshman Service and Leadership Committee and is also a part of the Baptist Student Union.

Reality Tuesday Café is located at 1518 Dixie Highway in Park Hills. They offer a wide variety of hot and frozen beverages as well as a full line of fresh, made-from-scratch donuts and pastries. Friday and Saturday nights feature either live music or open mic night. You can check out Reality Tuesday Café on the web at www.realitytuesdayscafe.com.

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Be Like Lincoln

By Kelly Whitlock

Northern Contributor

Nominations are now being accepted for the 11th annual Lincoln Award.

The award, established in 1992 by the Office of the President, seeks to honor local residents or former residents who stand out as extraordinary citizens.

Recipients possess qualities such as outstanding citizenship, notable achievement, and distinguished service.

Kathy Stewart, NKU Director of Special Events, said it is important for the University to recognize the accomplishments of community residents.

Many past recipients have been affiliated with the university, but

that this is not a requirement for receiving the award, said Chris Cole, Interim Director of Media Relations and Communications for NKU.

Anyone can nominate a community member to be a recipient of the Lincoln Award.

Nominations should consist of a one-page letter, which explains why the nominee should be considered for the Lincoln, according to the criteria of citizenship, achievement and service.

Included with the letter should be a resume and other supporting materials, as well as the nominee's name, position, address, and telephone number and the nominator's name, address, and phone number. Nominations should be directed to the Office of the President before January 15, 2002.

For more, contact the Office of University Advancement, 572-5810.

Group aims for Latino retention

By Tiffany Lewis

Northern Contributor

A newly-formed Northern Kentucky University organization "wants to make NKU a more diverse, colorful atmosphere for all students," according to the Oct. issue of the "Norse News Network." The on-line campus newsletter also stated that the new association, the Latino Student Union, "welcomes students of any and all backgrounds."

"The purpose for LSU is to establish a foundation for the Latinos on campus," said interim president Melissa Alvarez. "By doing so, we can work with them first-hand on sharing common views on many issues. This will become a success with the involvement of all students that have an interest with LSU." She added, "It's very important

that students get involved in something they share a common interest with and want to help create change on their campus."

According to Adriana Hernandez, secretary of LSU, since there has only been one meeting, an official roster is not yet available. Around 20-25 people signed up for the mailing list to receive more information.

"We hope to aid in the recruitment/retention efforts of Latinos/Hispanics to the university," Hernandez said. "The Hispanic population in the area is growing and we want to offer this population a chance to be educated in a place where they can feel like they belong."

In addition to members of Hispanic descent, several members are non-Latinos, added Hernandez. "LSU is about educating non-Latinos about the Latino culture, not

only in an academic sense, but we [LSU] want to involve people in a social sense so that they can experience the Latino culture firsthand," Hernandez said. "Among our goals is to reach out to the non-Latino students and expose them to a different experience."

"We hope in the future for our members to branch off into Latino sororities and/or fraternities," said Alvarez.

LSU is planning a party to introduce new members and celebrate the arrival of the new organization.

"This may possibly be co-sponsored by NKU AMIGOS and the International Student Union," said Hernandez.

For information on the Latino Student Union, contact Adriana Hernandez at hernandezca@nkuk.edu.

Area

from page 1

campus," Herschede said. "Wouldn't it be great to walk into a store somewhere off campus and be able to buy NKU apparel?"

The RSEC will also beautify the campus by creating an additional plaza area. The facility is slated to be built adjacent to Regents Hall where the southern portion of Nunn Drive is currently the Regs Hall which will provide an auxiliary court and practice facility for the sports teams. The new building creates a lawn area between the University Center, the Lucas Administrative Center and the RSEC. In addition, it creates a more inviting entranceway to the south side of campus, said Mary Paula Schuh, director of campus planning.

"The lack of a special event center is a void on campus and gives the campus a sense of incompleteness," Schuh said.

With the state of Kentucky slashing its budget by \$600 million, the building of the \$42.9 million facility may be delayed. Winstel said she hopes this doesn't happen and that the women's basketball program will be playing in the facility as soon as possible.

"I can't build it too soon enough," she said. "It's been a long time in the planning. Hopefully now, the time and the situation is right."

Title

from page 1

by attracting more adult learners." No one is quite sure when the community college will be ready to assume remediation programming or even when and how the academic plan will be implemented. What is sure is that NKU has a direction for the future with this new plan. "I can guarantee that it will not be a just report that gets filed away and gathers dust in somebodies file cabinet," said Redding. "It will be a living document that gets visited from time to time."

Budget

from page 1

Getting the naming rights sold to a company will be key to persuading the legislator in allotting more money for the project, Callahan said.

"If we get a sizable amount of money for the naming rights of the facility, then we will have something more to persuade them down in Frankfort," Callahan said.

The future of the RSEC will become more clear in January 2002 when Gov. Pat Callahan announces the state's budget.

In a speech Patton delivered at NKU on Nov. 14, he reinforced his

support of college education and vowed to support it as strongly as possible.

"The leadership of Kentucky has made a commitment to education, and it will sustain that commitment," Patton said.

While the budget may cast doubts, NKU president James Vortuba said there is still a good chance the center can be completed by 2005.

"I think even in a tight budget, there will be opportunities to fund capital projects for economic development in our region," Vortuba said.

Specific Events Center is an important engine for economic development."

Tired Bill of Rights needs pizzazz

By James Proffitt

Distribution Manager

The Bill of Rights used to be a good little set of rules for our nation to be governed by. They were simple enough, they made sense, and they were consistent with the beliefs and values of the time they were written.

But times they are a changing. So should the Bill or Rights, so that they are more consistent with the beliefs of our society. At one time, the Bill of Rights was the best written set of rules the world had ever known. Now, the Bill of Rights is just wrong.

It's outdated. It's passe. It's yesterday's news. It is, in fact, yesterday's code of ethics. Oh, and it doesn't give enough freedoms, at least not from today's standpoint. Today, our nation is much bigger than it was in those days. Our population has become larger and larger. The value of human life is worth a lot less than it used to be, and our laws have not been changed to accommodate this. It may not sound like a big deal, but if you really pay attention to people, you'll notice that it's over-population and nothing else that is causing hate crimes, riots, burglaries, and anger in general. What we need is a way to solve

the problem of over-population. What we need is a way to release our anger.

What we need is a new bill added to the Bill of Rights. Nothing huge. Just a small change that can be implemented by this very modest people.

Every U.S. Citizen, regardless of race, creed, sex or religion, should be given the right to legally kill another U.S. citizen of their choice every week.

Simple. The population is being cut down to relieve anger on a long term basis, and we are allowed to physically release our anger so that our current unrest is relieved until the problem of overpopulation is solved.

If you feel this step is too drastic, then you obviously live a very sheltered life. People are being killed every day. It's not a big deal any more. It happens. We should be used to it by now. We should be using that to our advantage.

If you are morally opposed to it, then it's time that you started living in the now. It's not like the Bill of Rights isn't old and outdated enough, but the "Don't Kill" rule is originally from the Ten Commandments. The Ten

Commandments!! At the time God told this to Moses, he didn't want us to have to be bothered with the trouble of killing another man. It used to be quite a chore before the advent of the gun. It's much easier now.

If you are afraid of dying, then it's time you stopped thinking about yourself. We should be perfectly willing to sell the farm in order to help a friend. Don't think of it as having a bad day. Think of it as your neighborhood duty. Good neighbors often will visit their neighbors when times are rough, or bake them foods when they are down. If a neighbor is willing to spend all that time preparing a dish, shouldn't they be willing to do something for their fellow neighbor that will take a significant less amount of time. Getting shot takes about a second. Dying afterwards can also be quick. If we're willing to give an hour of our lives to cooking for a neighbor, why shouldn't we give just a few minutes to dying for one.

It may sound extreme, but it's the only rational way to stop the problem of violence and unrest in our country. Think of it as one small finger pull for man, and one giant shot forward for mankind.



Be an Angel on Earth

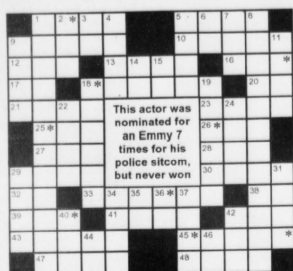
We have our own special angel in heaven; our daughter, who died after only a few short hours. We are looking for a caring and giving person to be our angel here on earth. Due to a rare chromosome disorder, we cannot fulfill our dreams by ourselves. But you can help by being an egg donor. Your commitment would be one menstrual cycle and your chances of conceiving in the future would not be affected. All of your expenses would be paid and you would be compensated for this wonderful gift. If you are between the ages of 21 and 32 and would like to enrich your life by helping us fulfill our dream, please contact the very competent personnel at:

The Institute for Reproductive Health
IVF Director, Dept MAS
3905 Edgewood, Cincinnati, Ohio 45209
(513) 924-5550

"All information is strictly confidential"

LIGHTER SIDE

TV-CHALLENGE



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**
- Enraged, for one
 - Actor John
 - Little House on the Prairie role
 - No Soap... 1962 sitcom
 - Links
 - American Style (69-74)
 - Curved conduit fitting
 - Better Blues, 90
 - Spike Lee film
 - Most-watched show of the '93-'94 season
 - Number of seasons for *St. Elsewhere*
 - Understanding
 - House (89-90)
 - Big Girl (90-91)
 - VP Rockefeller's monogram
 - And not
 - Peter Benton & Elizabeth
 - Oliver movie
 - Man: 84 Emilio
 - Estevez film
 - Consequences
 - Role on *Diagnosis Murder*
 - Preminger's initials
 - Kings, org.
 - And again
 - Luau offering
 - Saved by the Bell: The College (93-94)
 - 'Ala... living Berlin film
 - Drive the getaway car
 - Criticizes
- DOWN**
- Address on *Sabrina the Teenage Witch* (2)
 - Word with bug or drum



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WORD LINK

Fill in the missing letters in the "TV Words" below.

J A L I O
M J O R A
I L V E R P O O
K R T R S S E L

Now rearrange the letters you filled in to spell the name of

A Sitcom:

TV Words: Jay Leno, Major Dad, Silver Spoon, Kunt Kusser, Answer, Studdley Susan

WORD SEARCH

T I S U N E T Z S C I T L E C
O S N L A S T E N M A G S I
R X X D O W C E L T I K R Z Y
O W Z P I T A K O X D E V N E
N A Q Z V A S N K F C F Q X L
T H E A A T N I V A B U L L A
P A C E R J O C P I S T O N K
S N U S G N T K W A H L A K E
T H E E T X H C I G A M Y R
E J A Z S E M R A P B T O R S
G W I Z A R K S N U G U T A H
G D E T R O I C H I C A L G O
U J E R S E Y B O S T O N L X
N Q K S R O T P A R Y O R K S
Z J S K C I N K A T L A N T A

Shooting stars hoops

(Words in parentheses not in puzzle)

(Atlanta) Hawks (Houston) Rockets (New York) Knicks
(Boston) Celtics (Indiana) Pacers (LA) Lakers
(Chicago) Bulls (Miami) Heat (Orlando) Magic
(Denver) Nuggets (Milwaukee) Bucks (Phoenix) Suns
(Detroit) Pistons (New Jersey) Nets (Toronto) Raptors
(Utah) Jazz

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Release the week of November 25 - December 1, 2001.

WNTV CHANNEL 15

Program listings

November 28
12:30 - 2:00 a.m. The Waterboy
2 - 3:30 a.m. The Animal
3:30 - 5:30 a.m. Final Fantasy
(The Spirits Within)
5:30 - 7:30 a.m. Top Gun
7:30 - 9 a.m. The Waterboy
9 - 10:30 a.m. The Animal
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. WNTV programming
12:30 - 2:30 p.m. Burly Bear
2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Remember The Titans
4:30 - 6 p.m. Smoke Signals
6 - 8 p.m. Swordfish
8 - 10:30 p.m. Any Given Sunday
10:30 p.m. - 12:45 a.m. The Best Man
November 29
12:45 - 2:15 a.m. Smoke Signals
2:15 - 4 a.m. Swordfish
4 - 6:30 a.m. Any Given Sunday
6:30 - 8:45 a.m. The Best Man
8:45 - 10:15 a.m. Smoke Signals
10:15 a.m. - 12 p.m. Swordfish
12 - 1 p.m. WNTV programming
1 - 3 p.m. Zilo
3 - 4:30 p.m. Emperor's New Groove
4:30 - 6 p.m. Spy Kids
6 - 7:45 p.m. Angel Eyes
7:45 p.m. - 10 p.m. Heartbreakers
10 p.m. - 1 a.m. Dances With Wolves
November 30
1 - 3:15 a.m. Annie
3:15 - 5 a.m. Angel Eyes
5 - 7:45 a.m. Heartbreakers
7:45 - 10:05 a.m. Dances With Wolves
10:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Annie
12:30 - 2:30 p.m. Burly Bear
2:30 - 4:15 p.m. Varsity Blues
4:15 - 6:15 p.m. WNTV programming

Attention all student organization leaders:
To be included in Campus Calendar,
contact Cheryl Ritchie at *The Northerner*
office at (859) 572-5260, or e-mail
ritchiec@nku.edu

By the numbers

6,500

The number of issues of *The Northerner* printed each week.

951

Number of students living in NKU dorm rooms.*

371

The number of students enrolled in Salmon P. Chase College of Law.*

200

Average number of doors DPS locks each night.

18

Average number of meetings Dean of Students Kent Kelso attends each week.

2

Number of pairs of hiking boots President James Votruba owns.

*Fall 2000 figures from the Office of Institutional Research.

Send your ideas for *By the Numbers* to Cheryl Ritchie at ritchiec@nku.edu or northerner@nku.edu.

What the...?

130 body piercings

Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — You've heard about "The Illustrated Man," now meet "The Ventilated Man."

Matt Brown, a 21-year-old college student, offered up his body Friday to get in the Guinness Book of World Records for getting the most body piercings in one day.

The goal was 130 piercings, 78 more than needed to break the existing record.

Brown finished with 171 new piercings, 10 along his collarbone and the rest in his head and swollen arms.

"This is an accomplishment all its own," Brown said.

Four hours after the process started, Brown was smiling and having his picture taken for the new record but admitted he was getting a little shaky at the end.

"I feel all right now," he said on his way to first celebrate his record, then to remove any physical traces of it.

Brown at one time sported 31 piercings before his record attempt. He had cut that down to five out of respect for his parents.

Brown's girlfriend, 19-year-old Amanda Jarline, said she was proud of him, but had one reservation.

"I'm not going to be able to touch his arms for a while," she said.

Wearing a nose ring, multi-tattooed piercing artist Smitty Smith worked steadily for hours, sticking in a needle, looping through a ring, then moving on to the next spot on an arm marked like railroad tracks.

Smith did the hard work of obtaining the record for Brown.

"I'm quite tired," he said. Smith said he has been looking for someone for 10 years who could tolerate pain well enough to pull off the record.

He knew he'd found his man when Brown told him, "I've been looking to get in that Guinness Book," it even though he hasn't seen one since grade school.

"This was all his idea," Brown said of Smith.

If Brown was seeking attention, he had all day Friday.

A crowd of bystanders, most featuring their own pierced body parts, tattoos or multicolored hair, filled the Old Market tattoo and body piercing store.

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