

THE NORTHERNER

Volume 29, Number 22

Independent Student Publication of Northern Kentucky University

Wednesday, February 23, 2000

Snapshot:

NEWS

MISSING LOGS:

Ky. House Bill 322 would require universities to change their book-keeping policies. Find out the deal on some missing Department of Public Safety records and read about the existing systems that help keep students at NKU informed. Currently DPS has a website that updates crime reports. Page 2

FEATURES



DON'T SCREAM:

The last installment of Wes Craven's Scream trilogy should have been named "Strike 3." This last movie will only have movie posters scream on video. Page 5

SPORTS



THOUSANDAIRE:

Sophomore Michelle Cottrell is one of the many stars on the NKU women's basketball team this season. See what milestone she accomplished this past week. Page 8

VIEWPOINTS

OFF WITH HER HEAD:

Sovereign immunity is an ancient concept that has no place at public institutions, or does it? Two students duke it out and try to find an answer to make sense of an amendment to a campus safety act that would not hold schools liable. Page 3

WEBSITE OF THE WEEK



FIGHTING FIRE:

The site www.firesprinkler.org is dedicated to bringing people current news on sprinkler systems, debunking their myths, and giving basic sprinkler facts. Also, there are links to other fire safety sites that give tips on season precautions like www.firesafety.com. This site gives a slew of tips and additional links, including one for children, www.safekids.org.

TODAY'S FORECAST

High 60
Low 45
Mostly Cloudy

INDEX

Classifieds 10
Campus Calendar 5
North Poll 3
Contact us:
Editor in Chief 572-6128
Main Office 572-5260
Business Office 572-5260
Fax 572-5772
E-mail northerner@nku.edu

Campus crime secured in Ky bill

Staff Report

Fire safety at Northern Kentucky University meets and exceeds the current requirements for college campuses, according to the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA).

However, changes may be in the works for NKU if Ky. House Bill 322 is passed.

House Bill 322 is currently on the calendar for the Kentucky State Senate to review since the

House passed it with an amendment.

The original bill required schools to:

- maintain a publicly accessible daily log of all crimes reported within 24 hours of the incident
- immediately report a fire, or threat of a fire, to the state fire marshal, who would have jurisdiction over all schools
- report annually to the Council on Post-Secondary Education current policies concerning campus

safety and security that would include information on security personnel, statistics on crime and how the school is preventing crime.

The amendment to the bill, if the bill is passed, will make it possible for universities to claim sovereign immunity, or the right not to be sued without the school's consent. If the school does not report a crime, they are not to be held liable. Fines for not reporting range from \$500 to \$1,500 and 30-

day jail sentence.

State Rep. Jim Wayne (D-Louisville) said, "It's not they don't have to abide by it. There's a fine if they don't. It took out the liability. If someone is killed or injured in a fire, the school cannot be sued."

Wayne, the original proposer of the bill, was not pleased by the amendment. "If there is any time we should waive sovereign immunity, it should be with the safety of

See FIFE SAFETY, Page 2

For more information on Fire Safety See:

► Dorm Safety, Page 3

► Department of Public Safety, Page 2

► Editorials, Page 9

Coming home to the bayou



NKU kicked-off homecoming with the Black Comedy Tour and brought the celebration to a wrap with the crowning of king and queen at Saturday's game against IPFW.

Junior Kara Clark and Senior Ben Stewart were named NKU's 2000 Homecoming King and Queen. Mardi Gras Madness was the theme of homecoming that ended with winners on and off the court. Photos by Melissa Rogers, Kelly Sadzina and Kristin Cobwell



Students get political in Frankfort

By Forrest Berkshire
Managing Editor

A group of nearly 20 Northern Kentucky University students spoke to state legislators in Frankfort to lobby for additional funding for NKU.

Two vans packed with students left before the sun came up Thursday, Feb. 17 to speak with lawmakers and present their points of view.

During the first debate in the Senate Appropriations and Revenue Committee the senators remained relatively quiet during the Council on Post-Secondary Education's President Gordon Davies' initial report of the CPE's findings on the current state of higher education in Kentucky.

When Davies began his presentation on the CPE's recommended budget proposals, several senators interjected, especially to the proposed funding for NKU.

Under the current proposal in Gov. Paul Patton's budget, NKU stands to gain \$7.2 million over the next two years.

Davies said this figure was arrived at in the interest of being fair to all the universities in the state. Davies said that tuition from students generates 55 percent of funding for NKU, compared to 35 percent at most other schools. The current recommendation would increase the funding from the state so that tuition would generate only 47 percent of the general fund, still much higher than other regional universities.

But some of the senators were hostile to the proposed increase.

"Some feel NKU has been treated differently," Sen. Ed Worley of Richmond said.

See FRANKFORT, Page 3

Student remembered for love of life, laughter

By Anna Weaver
Editor in Chief

Matthew Brian Baker's life gave light to everyone he met. In death, Brian gave the gift of sight.

Sarah Baker, Brian's older sister, said his family donated his organs. Now a blind person can see because of his gift.

Northern Kentucky University freshman Brian Baker, 19, died Feb. 4 when he apparently fell into a 7-foot-deep sand hopper at Atlas Concrete in Walton. The case is still under investigation.

"Sometimes I feel guilty because his older sister got 22 years and he only got 19," Sarah said. "He lived more life with 19 than most people do with 40 or 50."

Sarah said her brother always made everyone laugh and would do anything to get a rise out of people. "He was so funny he could put you in a good mood no matter what mood you were in," she said. "I always thought he could be the next

Howard Stern, but better looking of course."

Jean Shotwell, Brian's counselor at Simon Kenton High School, said he was always doing things to make people laugh. "Brian was the kind of kid who loves to have fun," she said. "He could have worked harder from the teacher's angle, but that can be the case with just about anybody."

Brian was in his second semester at NKU and was still contemplating in what direction his life was going. A 1999 graduate of Simon Kenton High School, Brian was an assistant wrestling coach at his alma mater.

"He was coaching guys only a year younger than him," Sarah said. "I think he was proud of the team and he wasn't ready to not be a part of it. He really liked the school atmosphere." She said Brian was thinking about teaching, and also wanted to coach wrestling.

Shotwell said Brian took wrestling seriously, especially during his senior year. He said the team

was hit hard with the news of Brian's death. She said the team had a match the day after he died, and they had a moment of silence for Brian and talked about his volunteer work.

The team went to the state championships last weekend, and she said during the pep talks they talked about winning for themselves and for Brian.

Brian was also teaching his younger brother Anthony how to wrestle. Sarah said the 11-year-old now wants to win a wrestling championship one day and dedicate the win to his brother.

She said she convinced Brian to take an introduction to communications class at NKU because she "could hear him on the radio." She said he could always be funny around his friends and family, but he didn't know if he had the guts to do it in front of strangers. Sarah thinks he could have done it.

See BAKER, Page 3

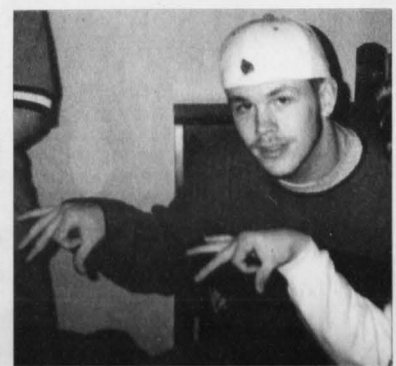


Photo Contributed
NKU freshman Brian Baker died in a construction accident Feb. 4. He is remembered for bring laughter to his friends' and family's lives.

Visit THE NORTHERNER online at <http://www.thenortherner.com>

FIRE SAFETY: Deceased Murray State University student remembered through new bill

From Page 1

our young people in college in mind," he said. "In this state, our kids are too valuable. We are going to protect them."

Gail Minger said she wants to see more fire prevention and safety for colleges that only meet the minimum criteria. She said House Bill 322, also known as the Michael Minger Act, was proposed as a result of the Sept. 18, 1998 dorm fire at Murray State University that claimed the life of her son, Michael.

"We can't save Michael or bring him back, but we can hopefully save others," Minger said.

She said since she has been lobbying for more fire safety on college campuses, she has learned that most campuses across the nation do not have adequate fire safety.

"The year Michael died, there were 120 others who died on college campuses. That's about 10 times more than died at the Columbine shooting," Minger said.

She said she believes Michael would not have died if the dorms at Murray had been equipped with sprinkler systems.

At Murray, there was a previous arson attempt on the building. There were no sprinklers in Hester College, where Minger died, but

the building was up to code standards at the time.

Kim Vance, NKU's assistant director of Residential Life, said, "It's important to note that Murray was not negligent, they passed the code. Our dorms were built after the sprinkler code was passed."

Vance said all of NKU's dorms have automatic sprinkler systems. She said she believes the sprinklers help to increase fire safety in the Residential Village.

Vance said she has a son, and when he gets to be college age, "I won't let him stay in a building without sprinklers."

Julie Reynolds, spokesperson for the NFPA, said all new dorms are required to have an automatic sprinkler system. She said older dorms are not required to have them.

"For existing dormitories, sprinklers would only be required if [the dorms] were 75 feet or higher," Reynolds said.

Three buildings on the Highland Heights campus—Regents Hall, Nunn Hall and the Natural Science Building—are not currently fitted with working sprinkler systems for fire protection. These were constructed before the fire codes were adopted and have been grandfathered to the more lenient standards, said Jeff Baker, NKU's

environmental safety coordinator.

Baker said instead of sprinklers, these three buildings have fire extinguishers in each room and are fitted with automatic fire alarms. While the extinguishers work on a smaller scale than sprinklers and the fire alarms offer automatic notification of a fire, Baker said, "A sprinkler system would be better because it extinguishes fires at the original source and protects exits so people can get out."

NFPA Senior Fire Protection Specialist Walter Sterling said he personally thinks sprinklers should be required and believes a way for students to lobby for installation is to go at it from what he called a "contract basis."

He explained that universities are under the obligation to teach their students, but if the classrooms where the teaching is done are lost in fires, then the university cannot meet those obligations.

Baker said Nunn Hall is slated to be fitted with sprinklers sometime this summer and the Natural Science building will have a system installed when the new Science Center opens.

Fire alarm systems were placed in every building as they were being built, according to Bob Bolce, associate director of Physical Plant.

Bolce oversaw a state-funded project that upgraded fire alarm systems in the Lucas Administrative Center and the University Center at the beginning of the year. The project cost \$274,000, according to the Facilities Management Presidential Report.

"The systems were needed because the systems we had were old and we couldn't get parts anymore," Bolce said.

Baker said the new fire alarm system is an "intelligent system." When the alarm goes off in a building, the new system shows DPS exactly where the detector is on an alarm panel.

The older systems were zone systems and would only let DPS know the general zone where a detector went off. The new alarms make a sound like any other alarm, or have a voice announcement option that can be turned on. Baker said, "The new alarms don't get people out better, but they're better as far as maintenance concerns or fire department concerns."

When an alarm goes off in any building on campus, the signal goes to DPS. "From there it is sent straight to our dispatch and we're sent," said Ray Dishman, captain of the Cold Spring Fire Department. "It takes [approx-

imately] a whole minute from the time the alarm sounds to our dispatch." Both DPS and the fire department will respond to a call.

"We work really well with the NKU dispatchers, and they keep us up to date on the status," Dishman said. "They're always there, really helpful and they know the campus a lot better than most people."

The state fire marshal does the actual building inspections at NKU, but once or twice a year, members of the Cold Spring Fire Department visit the campus to go through every building to familiarize themselves with any changes that may have taken place.

"We're over there for our knowledge, but for your safety," Dishman said.

Baker said the state fire marshal requires yearly inspections at the university to look for any code violations. NKU follows the NFPA Life Safety Code, which the Commonwealth of Kentucky adopted on July 1, 1999.

NKU contracts the inspection of the fire alarm system once a year and sprinkler systems are tested every three months. NKU also adheres to the Kentucky Building Code that requires fire alarms and sprinkler systems.

Kentucky has switched the fire codes under which it operates

twice in the last 10 years, said Chief Deputy Jess Thompson of the General Inspection Division of the Kentucky Fire Marshal. One consistency among all of these regulations is the fact that old buildings do not have to be brought up to standard unless usage of those buildings changes.

The NFPA, which formulated Kentucky's fire codes, varies on requiring sprinkler systems.

"There are a lot of factors, like how wide the doorways are, where the stairwells are located, the number of floors and those types of things. Say you're putting up a four-story building. Normally you don't have to have [sprinklers] there. You can't consistently say this is when you need a system or this is when you don't," said Sterling.

"NKU has a really good safety record," said Dishman. "I would consider it one of the safest or most fire-conscious universities or colleges in the state."

Contributing reporters for this story were: Rick Amburgey, Ginger Jansen, Edwina Meister, Kelly Sudzina and Anna Weaver.



Melissa Riggs/The Northerner

Dispatcher Tim Baker answers calls that come into DPS and sends an officer to the scene.

DPS logbook missing records

By Rick Amburgey
News Editor

The Department of Public Safety at Northern Kentucky University may be required to change their bookkeeping methods, pending the passing of Ky. House Bill 322.

The bill, which is currently in legislation in Frankfort, would require all Kentucky colleges and universities to report campus crime within a 24-hour period.

Seven of the 55 DPS reports dated between Jan. 1 and Feb. 1 were not put in the logbook. Two of these reports were regarding fire alarms. However, these reports were not actual fires.

Thirteen of the 46 DPS reports dated between Dec. 1 and Dec. 31 were missing, some of which also concerned fire alarms.

Each report submitted by DPS should have a separate case number. A single case number identifies five separate fire alarm reports spanning three months.

DPS Sgt. Mike Nutini said he was unsure, but speculated the reporting officer may have put all alarms on one report.

Accurate and updated records would have informed Seton Hall students there were 18 legitimate fire alarms in Boland Hall since September 1999, according to a university website. An arson fire in Boland Hall killed three students last month.

Gail Minger, whose son Michael was killed in a 1998 dorm fire at Murray State University, said she believes daily record keeping is necessary so students can be aware of everything that is happening on campus. She said if MSU's logbook had

been well kept, students would have known there was a previous arson report before the fatal fire.

DPS officer Natalie Jackson said it generally takes one to three days for a report to be put in the logbook because all reports must be approved first. Jackson said the longest turnover rate occurs on the weekend, because most supervisors only work weekdays.

Leo Calderon, associate director of DPS, said if something serious happens, the sergeant on duty is required to call him or McKenzie so they can approve the report and get it in the logbook immediately.

Minger said she believes House Bill 322 will make campus police throughout the state more accountable and keep more accurate records.

By Kelly Simon
Staff Reporter

By Rick Amburgey
News Editor

A state proposal for a new bill, introduced by State Rep. Jim Wayne (D-Louisville), would set criminal and civil penalties for colleges and universities in Kentucky that fail to disclose criminal records to the public. The bill would require colleges to send accurate, annual reports of crime statistics to the State Council on Post-Secondary Education.

The proposal for the bill would enforce the current federal law, the Campus Security Act.

Federal law mandates all colleges and universities in the United States submit annual criminal statistics reports in accordance with the "Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act" (originally known as the "Campus Security Act").

The law also states schools must provide statistics for any arrests or referrals for campus disciplinary action for any liquor or drug abuse violation or weapon possession.

In accordance with the federal "Crime Security and Privacy Acts" as amended in 1998, the Department of Public Safety at Northern Kentucky

University provides statistical information relating to crimes and security issues. The university forwards the statistics to the Kentucky State Police, who then sends the information to the federal government.

Crime reports and statistics are given upon request to prospective students, current students, visitors, faculty and staff, according to the NKU annual security report brochure.

In 1998, the university reported a total of four forcible sex offenses, nine assaults, 17 burglaries, 46 thefts and 157 liquor and drug violations on the Highland Heights campus. Out of the liquor and drug violations, 121 accounts occurred in residence halls.

While the number of thefts decreased by 55 percent from 1997 to 1998, the number of drug violations doubled and the liquor violations soared from 23 to 129.

The federal law that requires NKU to report these statistics dates back to 1990 when former President George Bush signed the Jeanne Clery Act into law.

The law applies to all institutions of higher education, both public and private, which participate in any federal student aid programs. It requires schools to publicly disclose three years of campus crime statistics and basic security policies.

The law is named in memory of 19-year-old Lehigh University freshman Jeanne Ann Clery who was assaulted and murdered after being awakened in her dorm room in 1986. Clery's parents began their crusade to enact the law when they found out about 38 violent crimes on the Lehigh campus in the three years preceding their daughter's murder.

The law was amended in 1992 to include a "Bill of Rights" or specific basic rights that schools were required to present to survivors of sexual assaults,

especially student-on-student assaults or date-rapes. The law was significantly amended in 1998 to include additional reporting obligations of colleges and universities and add a daily public crime log requirement.

Calderon said NKU currently has a systematic procedure for delivering crime statistics and reports to the public. He said the department offers different avenues for students looking to access crime statistics and security issues about the campus. The channels of information include the Public Safety Department daily log, the annual security report brochure, the web site about public safety issues (www.nku.edu/~dps) and crime bulletins.

The crime bulletin fliers list serious or recurring crimes and provide information to help keep students informed and are posted in all the major buildings on campus, Calderon said. Residential life helps place bulletins in places students are likely to read the information, he said.

Sgt. Investigator Charlene Schweitzer of DPS said the bulletins include a brief description of the crime without naming the victim(s) involved. She said the bulletins offer tips for students on how to stay safe.

Cory Pfefferman, a sophomore photographer major, said she gets most of her news through word of mouth by other students.

"I never pay attention to bulletins, unless they pop out at me," Pfefferman said.

She said there are too many bulletins and fliers, especially around the elevators, and the important ones get lost.

Schweitzer said one of the last serious crimes posted on a bulletin involved a female student who was sexually assaulted by a male intruder in her dorm on campus in May 1998.

Pfefferman remembers hearing about the sexual assault, but not reading about it.

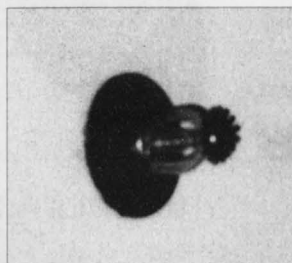
"It bothers me, but I still go on with my daily activities. When something happens, it makes me a little nervous," she said.

CampusSafety.org states that education provisions of the 1998 amendments include institutions of higher education to report campus crime statistics for the three previous calendar years in the following categories:

- Homicide
- Sex Offenses
- Robbery
- Aggravated Assault
- Burglary
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Arson

The cooperation and involvement of students is important in providing a safe campus for everyone, Calderon said. As citizens, students should ask themselves "what can I do?" he said.

A recent amendment to the bill made it possible for universities to claim sovereign immunity, or the right to not be sued without the school's consent. If the school does not report a crime, they are not liable. Fines for not reporting range from \$500 to \$1,500 and a 30 day jail sentence.



out at me," Pfefferman said. She said there are too many bulletins and fliers, especially around the elevators, and the important ones get lost. Schweitzer said one of the last serious crimes posted on a bulletin involved a female student who was sexually assaulted by a male intruder in her dorm on campus in May 1998. Pfefferman remembers hearing about the sexual assault, but not reading about it. "It bothers me, but I still go on with my daily activities. When something happens, it makes me a little nervous," she said. CampusSafety.org states that education provisions of the 1998 amendments include institutions of higher education to report campus crime statistics for the three previous calendar years in the following categories:

- Homicide
- Sex Offenses
- Robbery
- Aggravated Assault
- Burglary
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Arson

The cooperation and involvement of students is important in providing a safe campus for everyone, Calderon said. As citizens, students should ask themselves "what can I do?" he said.

A recent amendment to the bill made it possible for universities to claim sovereign immunity, or the right to not be sued without the school's consent. If the school does not report a crime, they are not liable. Fines for not reporting range from \$500 to \$1,500 and a 30 day jail sentence.

CALL NOW! WORK NOW!

RESTAURANTS

FULL SERVICE, FINE DINING, FAST FOOD,
DELIVERY, FAMILY STYLE, MANAGEMENT,
BARS & PUBS, NIGHTCLUBS, COUNTRY CLUBS,
HOTELS, CONCESSIONS, DIETARY PRODUCTION,
CAFETERIA, HEALTHCARE

NOW HIRING

CALL 1-877-991-9292

FREE SERVICE



RESTAURANT JOB LINE

Dorm workers fire training not all 'hands-on'

Staff Report

When it comes to dorm fire safety, Northern Kentucky University's resident hall workers aren't trained as extensively as those at the University of Kentucky.

According to Jim Wims, director of Residential Life at UK, residence hall employees undergo hands-on training, including simulated fires, where the staff's fire safety skills are tested. Residence hall staff members must attend film showings and meetings where fire safety is the main topic.

UK trains its residence hall workers with the help of the Lexington Fire Department, the university's own fire marshal and the UK police. They also undergo periodic safety reviews throughout the year, according to Wims.

NKU does require fire safety training for its residence hall staff members, but it does not include any type of hands-on simulations, according to Kim Vance, the assistant director of Residential Life.

NKU's fire safety training for hall staff members falls into the category of "crisis management" according to Vance. Continued training consists of

videos and staff meetings that occasionally focus on fire safety.

Vance said during recent in-service training sessions, which are held once a month, and during weekly staff meetings fire safety has been one of the major topics because of the Murray State fire.

Besides residential hall worker training, there are differences between the schools related to the frequency of alarm system checks.

Jeff Baker, environmental safety coordinator for NKU, said NKU does annual checks on alarm systems and the sprinkler systems are checked every three months.

However, NKU checks its fire alarm systems less often than both UK and the University of Louisville.

According to the Director of Housing at UK, the Physical Plant Division checks the dorm alarm systems monthly. U of L follows this same policy of monthly alarm checks, according to U of L Director of Housing Frank Manzo.

NKU is consistent with UK and U of L in conducting fire drills each semester and monthly dorm safety inspections.

Baker said the fire code requires the university to have two fire drills

each semester.

In the past, some students did not participate in the fire drills because they said they did not hear the alarm, Baker said. The speakers, which used to be located in the breezeways outside Norse Hall and Woodcrest Apartments, were moved inside the rooms over the winter break. "Now the alarms inside the rooms are very loud and probably will not be ignored," Baker said.

Associate Director of Physical Plant Bob Bole said they were not designed to be outside. He said they were having trouble monitoring the outside alarms because water was getting in them. Also students in back rooms or bathrooms may have had trouble hearing them.

Baker explained that in Kentucky Hall and Commonwealth Hall the smoke detectors in the hallways are connected to an automatic alarm system. Pull stations on each floor activate the alarm system. Individual smoke detectors are mounted in each room, but are not connected to the

alarm system.

Norse Hall and Woodcrest Apartments have smoke detectors inside all rooms, which all are not connected to the automatic alarm system. Smoke detectors are not mounted outside these rooms, because all the rooms exit to the outside. Pull stations located on every floor activate the alarm system.

Residence halls are also equipped with a sprinkler system, Baker said. "All sprinkler systems throughout NKU are localized systems and a sprinkler only goes off when triggered at a certain temperature. If one goes off, they don't all go off."

NKU's Department of Public Safety and Physical Plant, which houses the university's heating and cooling systems, monitor fire alarms 24 hours a day. Dorms are on automatic response. "If the alarm goes off at the dorms, DPS automatically calls the fire department," Baker said.

Baker said NKU is fortunate it is a young university. "Fire codes were already demanded when the dorms

were built," he said, "therefore all the buildings were built to code. All of the dorms have alarms and sprinklers, but we also need people cooperating with alarm systems and safety codes."

Ray Dishman, shift captain at the Cold Spring Fire Department, said fire hazard problems are usually caused by the people who occupy the dorms. "Students may leave doors propped open or burn candles,"

Baker said Residential Life helps tremendously with fire safety at NKU. "Resident assistants follow a checklist looking for violations," he said. "They test smoke detectors, and check for things such as misuse of electrical cords and unsafe space heaters."

The General Inspection Report of Nov. 30, 1999, lists inspection results performed by the Senior Deputy State Fire Marshal, John Braun. It reported no violations in Kentucky Hall, Commonwealth Hall, Norse Hall and Woodcrest Apartments.

Brandon Rhoiten, a sophomore marketing major and a resident assistant at the dormitories, said inspections are done once a month. To help reduce fire hazards, he said students should not burn candles, place

objects in front of heaters, or hang objects from sprinklers. Christmas lights and halogen lamps are also not permitted. Students should also remove clutter and excessive trash that may cause someone to trip when exiting a room.

A student housing book, issued every year to residents, provides regulations. Students may lose their housing privileges if they continually violate fire safety practices.

Jennifer Herald, a senior education major who has lived on-campus since she was a freshman, said the RA always inspects every aspect of her room. She said, "They check to see if you have something like a toaster even that is a violation of the housing handbook."

If something is wrong in the room, quick action is taken. "One time, my smoke detector was not working when they checked it and maintenance was here early the next morning to fix it," Herald said. She said ever since then, she has felt safe in her dorm room.

Contributing reporters for this story were: Don Combs, Ginger Jansen, Michelle Mehs and Kelly Sudina.

FRANKFORT: Student lobby to get NKU equal treatment

From Page 1

"There is a lot of discomfort in the feeling that NKU was treated differently," Worley said.

Worley insisted Northern Kentucky is by far the most prosperous region in the state, and suggested students from the area could well afford to fund their school.

Davies quickly responded that the issue at question was not student tuition, but the amount of funding that they receive from the state.

Davies said NKU had grown faster than the state had originally planned, and the current funding scheme reflected that.

"There are some serious 'have-nots' issues for the students at Erlanger," Sen. Jack Westwood of Erlanger rebuffed.

"Yes, NKU was treated differently, because NKU was created differently, in the past," Westwood said.

Davies pointed out that every school in the state would receive a 2.4 percent increase, but other schools that had been largely ignored in the past had been given some special attention, such as NKU and Western Kentucky University.

The CPE also compared characteristics of higher education in Kentucky with other states in the nation. Davies reported that Kentucky's graduation rate is 37 percent after six years of college, compared to 56 percent after five years for the national average.

He also cited a "Basic problem with literacy skills" and said Kentucky needs to increase the number of undergraduates by 80,000 to meet the national average.

The debate went into over-time, and the meeting was adjourned until later in the day.

"You are not a bunch of rich kids riding around in BMW's," Davies said after the meeting. "Later today I am going to make that point to Sen. Worley."

In a day that consisted of many "ups and downs," this was the lowest point, according to Chris Boggs, Student Government president.

"The fact is, we are not given an equal opportunity to other students in the state," Boggs said.

He said it was unfair of Worley to paint a picture of NKU students as being affluent and well-to-do.

Eighty percent of NKU students work at least 20 hours, and 65 percent work nearly 30, according to Boggs.

Later that day, as the committee reconvened, Boggs and NKU President James Votrubia had their chance to speak on behalf of NKU students. With their closing remarks they elicited a round of applause from those that were there to witness the debate.

According to Joe Wind, of Community and Government Relations at NKU, this was the first public debate over school funding this session.

"Today probably set the tone for how [the debate] is going to go."

Wind said there is a perception among many regions that

Northern Kentucky is "the haves" because the area is more affluent.

But he pointed out that the real economic gain in this area has only been in the past decade, and there are several sectors of the infrastructure that need to catch up with the economic boom, such as education and community support programs.

Wind said he felt positive about NKU's chance for more funding, but "the battle will have to be fought to the very end."

Wind conceded, "Through compromise there is always the chance that NKU could lose some of its projects." He warned that this is politics, and a lot can happen in the process.

"Our Northern Kentucky Caucus has pledged to work to the eleventh hour for NKU," he said. The Northern Kentucky Caucus, a bipartisan group of legislators from Northern Kentucky, also pledged its support to the students that came to Frankfort.

Throughout the day legislators visited and spoke with students, answering their questions and promising their support. After a long day of meeting with senators from NKU's area and "pressing flesh," the members of Team 2000 ended the day by being introduced in both the House of Representatives and the Senate, standing together in the

gallery in a showing of support for Patton's and the CPE's pledge to help NKU.

Despite the long day, which began at 6:15 a.m. and lasted until after five p.m., the members of Team 2000 were happy with the day's outcome.

"I think it was a really successful day," said Elizabeth Spencer, Team 2000 member and SGA member.

"I thought it was a really important day for Team 2000," Brad Hungler said. "It was a learning experience into how the political process really works."

"It was good to see that citizens really do have a voice," MaryAnn Huhn, an undeclared freshman and Team 2000 member, said. "I think it really impacted them [the state representatives] when they saw how much we cared that we would miss a whole day of school to come lend our support."

Boggs said he planned to make several more trips to Frankfort during this legislative session. There are definite plans for another trip March 23, when he hopes to bring at least 50 students for a reception for the state representatives.

In the meantime, Wind and Boggs urged students to contact their representatives and let them know how they feel.

"Each and every call is worth its weight in gold," Wind said.

He said Team 2000 can be reached at 572-5149 through the SGA, who will provide them with information on who to contact. There is also a phone line to the capital at 1-502-564-8100, where they can leave a message for the representative of their choice.

BAKER: wrestling was passion

From Page 1

Sarah said her family would sit around a table and talk for hours. She and her brother were always in competition to see who could tell the best stories. "The stories had to top each other," she said. "Mine were always mature, but he always got the laugh."

Sarah and Brian were only two years and one month apart, and they were the only grandchildren for 8 years until their younger siblings were born. "We've been through a lot together. We shared a special bond," she said.

At one point, they even shared an apartment together, but both had recently moved home. "He was a very supportive brother, he would do anything I wanted him to do," she said. "He would put clothes and shoes on at midnight and go to the store for me."

She said she remembers Brian would come into her room at night in search of a good talk and a cigarette. "He would come into my room really late at night and totally interrupt me when I was doing my homework. He would talk to me about anything and everything."

Sarah said her brother would say "Wuz' up dog?" when he saw a friend and say, "I love you," when he left. She said he always told her he loved her and never had any hesitation about letting someone he loved know his feelings.

Brian had hundreds of friends and was an unselfish person, said Sarah. She said he was a little bit of a country boy who liked to hunt and fish and would buy a book to help him fix his own car rather than pay a mechanic to do it. But he had to wear Polo clothes and keep the tips of his hair bleached to stay stylish too.

Shotwell said when they announced at the school that people could come to talk to her about Brian's death, she was "just sure half of the junior class would come down here."

"It was told that at the funeral there was standing room only. When the priest came in he said, 'wouldn't Brian have liked this,'" Shotwell said.


Sarah said she has millions of memories of her brother and wouldn't trade them for any amount of money.

She remembers big events like going to Rupp Arena in Lexington to see a WWF match with Brian and going to Cancun on a family vacation.

"My boyfriend at the time went with us and he and Brian budded up," she said. "I hardly saw [my boyfriend] at all. Everybody loved Brian."

There were also simple memories of Brian that Sarah treasures. "He was the only person in the house that drank Mountain Dew, and he would throw the bottles in the yard. My mom always use to yell at him to get out there in the yard and clean them up," Sarah said. "After the funeral, she got out of the car and stepped on one of the empty Mountain Dew bottles and almost fell. It's little reminders like that."

Sarah said she is not worried that she will ever forget Brian and feels like she has to be more like him now that he's gone. "When someone dies, you realize how great they were and you want to be more like that person," she said. Sarah said faith is helping her family through tough times, and they can sit around and tell stories about Brian and laugh.



R.A. POSITIONS AVAILABLE!

Description: Provide live-in supervision to motivated high school students. Assist students with academics, leadership abilities, team building, relationships, accessing the university campus, and chaperone great trips.

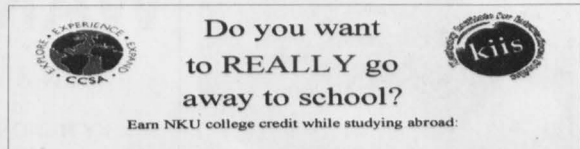
Dates: June 8, 2000 — July 21, 2000 (Weekends Off)

Qualifications: Junior status or have completed 60+ college credit hours by June 1999. 2.5 minimum G.P.A., valid driver's license required. We need mature, energetic young adults who enjoy working with teens. Ideal opportunity for future educators, but all majors encouraged.

Salary: Resident Assistants — \$1,250.00 *Room provided for duration of program, board provided Monday through Friday only.

For more information, call the Northern Kentucky University Upward Bound office at (606) 442-3520. To fill out an application, drop by the Upward Bound office at 412 Johns Hill Road in Highland Heights between 8:30 & 4:30 weekdays.

Application Deadline: Tuesday, February 29, 2000.



Do you want to REALLY go away to school?

Earn NKU college credit while studying abroad:

CCSA 2000 PROGRAMS

Ireland Early Summer	Hong Kong	Australia/New Zealand
Ireland Late Summer	South Africa	Semester in London
London Summer		Scotland/England

London Internships are also available

Application deadline for CCSA programs: March 1, 2000

KIIS 2000 PROGRAMS

Athens & Rome	Brazil	China	Ecuador
Bregenz, Austria	Japan	Italy	Germany
Salzburg, Austria	France	Spain	Costa Rica
Mexico			

Semester Programs are also available in Morelia, Mexico and Segovia, Spain

NKU INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

The Aarhus School of Business	Aarhus, Denmark	Gifu University	Gifu, Japan
Glasgow Caledonian University	Glasgow, Scotland	The University of Leon	Leon, Spain
Ludwig Maximilians University	Munich, Germany		

For more info contact: The Office of International Programs
BEP 301, 572-6512, <http://www.nku.edu/~oip/>

'Color Blind' peers at self acceptance

By Robyn Olivia Granger
Staff Reporter

Feb. 13 in the Greaves Concert Hall, the office of African American Student Affairs and Ethnic Services, Affirmative Action and Multicultural Affairs and Student Life presented a musical drama at NKU titled "Color Blind".

The musical play was about a young black child struggling with her identity.

Dr. Rose Morgan, assistant dean in the African American Student Affairs office, said, "I believe this play can really relate to children today with one white parent and one black parent."

The play discussed complex issues such as accepting race within and outside the group, and recognizing

diversity within the group.

Morgan said, "We should accept ourselves regardless of what color we are."

Morgan said she wants people who saw the play to ask themselves why was it so significant that Lojo, played by Courtney Harris, 13, of Lexington Traditional Magnet



School, rejected her mom and was so close to her dad?

When we reject darker colors in our culture, we are rejecting ourselves, said Morgan. Because of Lojo's rebellious behavior and rejecting of her mother, she ran from her

own cultural ties into the dark side of a color culture.

This musical, written by Lisa Ora Rankins Persley and directed by Dominic Turley, was based on a classic film titled "Imitation of Life." One major difference between the movie and the play was Persley added a father figure and a grandmotherly character to enhance the play.

The two themes that ran through the musical were religion and family.

LeShauna Jo Persley, a 19-year-old NKU freshman, played Josephine Rankins, the mother of Lojo.

Morgan said, "The play first came to my attention when LeShauna brought it to my attention in my Learning Community University 101

class. LeShauna stated that her family loved the play."

Morgan said NKU needs more black-focused plays on campus, with black themes. She said she believes this is one way to get people to see African Americans in another light.

All University 101 classes have to attend one multicultural event. This play is a good example of being culturally significant and it can teach diversity at the same time.

Morgan also said musicals such as these are good retention and recruiting tools.

Yolanda Houston, academic advisor for the Sociology, Anthropology, and Philosophy Departments, said, "I believed it was more of a family thing."

Lojo didn't like herself, or maybe she did like who she was, but she didn't like her family."

She said a person can still be different as long as they have a loving family.

"It was deeper than just a color," said Houston. "In the doll scene, where Lojo rejected her black baby doll she got for her birthday because of the way it looked, that scene showed me that the daughter was her own worst enemy."

Houston said she would like to have seen more dialogue between the mother and daughter so the audience could understand why the daughter was feeling this way about herself.

She said she also believed the roles should have shown more diversity via the actors. There was one or two actors playing three parts because of limited funds and time constraints.

I attended Color Blind last Sunday accompanied by my younger sister. I also worked as a hostess before the play for Morgan, who told me she is

looking for more volunteers for future events.

I personally believe the play was well chosen. The numerous students that volunteered to help behind the scenes, sell tickets, take tickets and greet people were extremely professional in dress and manner and deserve praise for their enthusiasm in participating in a weekend campus event.

I also felt LeShauna Jo Persley did an outstanding job portraying a mother figure who ages a generation in the span of one hour.

Morgan said, "LeShauna did a very good job. She didn't miss a beat...she was so professional. Northern Kentucky University should be proud that it is attracting students like LeShauna. This is proof that we are bringing in high achievers."

Playhouse in the Park's 'WIT' a hit

By Melanie Goodman
Staff Reporter

Not a dry eye could be seen among theater-goers as they exited Playhouse in the Park's premiere of Pulitzer Prize winner "Wit" Feb. 10 in the Thompson Shelterhouse Theatre.

The modern drama, set in the cancer ward of a research hospital, is an intense depiction of the internal struggles of a 50-year-old college professor confronts as she battles stage four (advanced) ovarian cancer.

In "Wit," Dr. Vivian Bearing, played by Cincinnati resident Dale Hodges, is a distinguished and acclaimed college professor of English literature, specifically of poetry. Hodges plays the role of a woman who is in total control of her professional and personal life. That is, until the realities of death "outwit" her.

Hodges shaved her head to illustrate the debilitating effects of chemotherapy. She plays the role of the dying woman but also transgresses, during various segments of the play, to segments of her life: She is a five-year-old just learning to read at the knees of her father, she is a college student attempting to decipher John Donne's Holy Sonnets on the complexities of life and death, she is a hard-nosed college professor demanding nothing short of perfection from her students.

As a patient, Bearing is forced to reflect upon her lack of compassion toward her students as she is thrust

into the alien world of health care. She discovers her inability to be in control of her own circumstances. All her dignity and self-control has eroded away and she at last breaks down, physically and emotionally, in the arms of her former college professor (Ruby Holbrook). During this captivating scene in Vivian's hospital room, audience members were unable to hold back their own emotions. The main character's only visitor, and friend, holds her ailing former student and reads to her from a children's book.

Peter Robinson, public relations director for Playhouse in the Park, emerged from the theater in tears with the rest of the audience. He was stunned by the intensity of Hodges' performance.

"She was wonderful," he said. "And to think she must put herself in the role Tuesday through Sunday for the next four weeks. She must live for Mondays."

Hodges stole the show, however she was accompanied by eight cast members, two of whose performances were noteworthy. Her doctor, Harvey Kelekian (Jonel Joplin), has a hidden agenda. He uses Bearing as a guinea pig to advance cancer research.

Jason Posner, Bearing's former English student, played by former daytime soap star Daniel Travis, is a doctor working in cancer research with Kelekian. His utter machine-like inspections of Bearing force her to finally come to grips with her own lack of compassion for her students and her life.

Playhouse in the Park's Producing Artistic Director Edward Stern directed the play. "People assume 'Wit' is about cancer, about death," said Stern in Playhouse's in-house publication, *Prologue*. "In truth, it is a remarkably life-affirming play. We are shown life in its infinite variety: full of love, humor, pain and, oh, yes, wit."

Wit is the debut play for its composer, Margaret Edson, a kindergarten teacher from Atlanta. She was inspired by her experience in the oncology/AIDS unit of a research hospital, according to a Playhouse in the Park news release.

Edson's intention in "Wit" is twofold. Bearing is used to not only tear at the heartstrings of anyone who has battled with cancer and ultimately survived, but also, all who have lost loved ones to the dreaded disease.

Paul Schott, the set designer for the production, did an excellent job of capturing Bearing's persona in her hospital room. The room possessed a cold and dreary atmosphere with flush white floors and walls, and made complete with the absence of visitors or flowers. The room was empty and lonely, symbolizing the utter despair of its inhabitant.

"Wit" was amazing. Fortunately, I have not lost immediate family to cancer so the play did not have as strong an impact on me emotionally as it did for some audience members. Never have I seen such emotion and heartache pour out of an audience, as if most were reliving their personal experiences and



Photo Contributed

Dale Hodges shaved her head to exact her role as a cancer patient in "Wit." Due to its popularity, the play has been extended until March 11.

tragedies with cancer, through the eyes of "Wit's" main character.

I commend this play to all mature audiences. There are scenes in "Wit" some may find offensive. The scenes, however, are relevant due to the offensive nature of cancer. This was a definite four-star performance.

Cincinnati's Playhouse in the Park is showing "Wit" through March 11 in the Thompson Shelterhouse Theatre. Tickets range from \$31.50 to \$39.50. For more information, call the box office at 421-3888.

Campus Calendar

Wednesday, Feb. 23:

- Women in Transition 12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m. UC 232.
- Students Together Against Racism 5:30 p.m. UC 303.
- Yoga 12 p.m. AHC
- "An Enemy of the People" Corbett Theatre 8 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 24:

- AA meeting 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. UC 232.
- "An Enemy of the People" Corbett Theatre 8 p.m.
- Loveline 7 p.m. Ky. Hall Lobby.

Friday, Feb. 25:

- "Undoing Racism" 7-9 p.m. Norse Commons 117.
- Monday, Feb. 28:
- Survivors Support Group 3p.m. - 4p.m. UC 232

Tuesday, Feb. 29:

- Common Ground 3 p.m. UC 303.
- AA Meeting UC 232 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 1:
- Yoga 12 p.m. AHC.

Morris Dees speaks at NKU

By Sarah Baker
Staff Reporter

Morris Dees will deliver Northern Kentucky University's Black History Month keynote presentation, "Teaching Tolerance in the New Millennium," Feb. 24, said Cheryl Nunez, director of Affirmative Action and Multicultural Affairs.

Dees, co-founder of the Southern Poverty Law

Center, serves as its chief trial counselor. The center is a non-profit organization that combats hate, intolerance and discrimination through education and litigation, according to its website.

In response to the increase of hate crimes among youth, the center began the Teaching Tolerance program in 1991.

Through donations by more than 400,000 individuals, the center offers video and print resources to 70 million educators in the U. S. and 70 other countries around the world.

Dees has been involved in over 50 federal civil

rights cases. His trial experience includes winning a \$7 million verdict in 1981 on behalf of the mother of a 19-year-old black man killed by Ku Klux Klan members.

For the first time, a Klan organization was held liable for its members' actions, according to Dees.

Dees, a white man, is a good keynote speaker for Black History Month because he shows that not only minorities were part of the civil rights movement and the current war on racism, Nunez said.

The presentation is in Greaves Concert Hall 7 p.m. Thursday. A reception follows the presentation in the concert hall's lobby.

The presentation and reception are free to the university community. Call 572-5123 for reservations.

WANTED

MEN & WOMEN
for the
KY NATIONAL GUARD
SMP or OCS
OFFICER PROGRAM

You will receive **FREE COLLEGE TUITION**,
\$255.00 a month for 36 months through MGIB,
KICKER BONUS of \$350.00 a month &
weekend drill pay.

LIMITED OPENINGS
CALL
1-800-GO-GUARD

Buckskin Bev's Roadhouse

Steaks, Ribs, Chops, & Seafood

Our excellent food means that we have a few opportunities for friendly people. Are you looking for a fun atmosphere, excellent wages, and a flexible schedule. We are only minutes away from NKU. You will work with excellent managers who spend their time helping you impress our guests--not in the office.

Apply In Person for a Position at Buckskin Bev's. Located at 4210 Alexandria Pike. Tues.-Sun. 11am to 5pm or call 441-3508 and ask for Chandra or Jeff. Evening positions available and opening for lunch soon.

Writers/Waitresses Grill & Saute Cooks

Hosts/Hostess

Join Buckskin Bev's and have some Fun.
Equal Opportunity Employer

Hot BBQ Sauce.
Experience the 12 tasty ways to top your grilled chicken.
Our tender grilled chicken smothered in sauce with crisp lettuce, fresh tomatoes and onion. And with 12 signature sauces to choose from, the only one who can top it is you.

5 FREE WINGS
With purchase of 12 Buffalo wings.

Not valid with any other coupon or offer. Not valid on Tuesdays. One per person, per visit. Offer expires August 31st, 2000.

42 M.L. Collins • Gold Spring • 781-9464

BUFFALO WILD WINGS
GRILL & BAR

Phi Beta Lambda invites students to dance

By Kelly Simon
Staff Reporter

Friday, Feb. 25, Northern Kentucky University's Phi Beta Lambda will sponsor a winter jam from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. with a dance at McDonald's in the University Center.

Phi Beta Lambda (Professional Business Leaders), an NKU business organization, invites all students to attend the event. Admission to the dance is free and refreshments are available throughout the event.

Jennifer Shaffer, Phi Beta Lambda president, said the dance gives students an opportunity to socialize, as well as learn more about the organization.

Shaffer said, "You don't really

get a big turn out for dances. We're a little nervous because this is the first time we have had anything like this."

Daniel Vasseur, Phi Beta Lambda vice president, said they sent special invitations to other Phi Beta Lambda chapters from colleges and universities in Kentucky.

He said they also sent invitations to local high school students in the business organization Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA).

Vasseur said those colleges coming to the event include Morehead State University, Western Kentucky University, Georgetown College and Union College.

Of those chapters, a total of 15 students will attend the event. He

said about 15 students also responded from Boone and Campbell County high schools.

The event kicks off at 3 p.m. when students greet one another. Icebreaker games begin at 4 p.m.

From 4:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. guest speaker Carl Allison, a professor of management at NKU, will talk to undergraduates and high school students.

Vasseur said the talk will address how students can adapt to the transition from high school to

college and from college to the work force.

After the talk, social time lasts from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Students can choose what they want to do during this time.

Students can go out to eat, take a tour of the campus with NKU Phi Beta Lambda members, or play basketball in the Albright Health Center.

Vasseur said, "We're using this as a way to recruit" and to give students rea-

sons why they should be involved in Phi Beta Lambda, he said.

Phi Beta Lambda hopes to talk to the high school students about coming to NKU, he said.

They want to inform students and get them familiar with the campus and organizations offered, Vasseur said.

The dance will take place in the eating area by McDonald's. All of the tables and chairs will be cleared out for the event, Shaffer said.

Disc jockey Tim Marsh, a member of Phi Beta Lambda, will provide music for the dance, Shaffer said.

This event is also a good opportunity for other Phi Beta Lambda chapters to socialize and become acquainted with one another,

Vasseur said.

It is a good experience when chapters get involved with each other, he said.

Phi Beta Lambda is a business organization made up by men and women in marketing, management and accounting majors, Shaffer said.

Students are not required to have business majors to be members. Currently, half of their 26 members are not business majors, she said.

Vasseur said the organization is pleased with the preparations for the event so far and hopes for a good turn out for the dance.



'Scream 3' ends trilogy badly

By Christy Schulte
Staff Reporter

Director Wes Craven has done it again. "Scream 3" completes the trilogy saga of Sydney Prescott and the killer who haunts her.

Yet "Scream 3" should be called "Strike 3." The shallow, undeveloped characters made this movie almost impossible to sit through. The movie was not quite two hours, but it seemed like three.

Like "Scream 2," this thriller takes place on the set of a fictional Hollywood

movie. Prescott, played by Neve Campbell, once again joins forces with Deputy Dewey (David Arquette) and Gail Weathers (Courtney Cox-Arquette) to solve once-and-for-all the mystery of the infamous killer behind the mask.

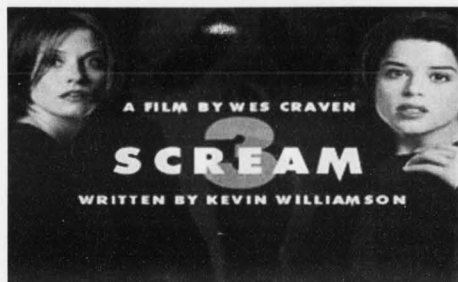
The set of the fictional movie is so exact that Craven actually takes you back to the original movie.

The peak of excitement occurs when the

remaining fictional characters, along with Sydney, Dewey and Weathers meet at the director's house for a party. One by one, the killer secretly stabs his "prey." Who is left alive in the end to discover the person behind the mask and his or her motives? High school and college students alike would be interested to see for themselves.

Cox-Arquette, who appeared Feb. 4 on "Later Today," said, "There are so many emotions going on at once. One minute you're screaming, the next you're laughing."

Despite the unbelievable plot and the drawn out drama, the revealing of the killer makes for a very surprising and clever conclusion, a conclusion that is definitely worth seeing, but not until it reaches video tape.



\$120,000 study initiated for NKU's arena

By Alisha Stewart
Staff reporter

Northern Kentucky University hired a consultant specializing in sports facilities to conduct a feasibility study and to recommend the design of a new basketball arena on campus.

The study will help NKU officials determine the size of the facility, how it would be funded and also its location on campus. According to Mary Paula Schuh, director of campus planning, this study will cost NKU \$120,000. A report of the study will be generated around

April or May of this year, Schuh said.

The facility, also known as a special-events arena, would be used primarily for athletics. The arena would also likely be used for high school tournaments and regional basketball, said Jane Meier, intercollegiate athletics director. The arena would hold between 6,000 and 7,000 people, considerably larger than the current facility. "Only about 10 to 15 percent of the Division II programs in the nation have an arena that size," Meier said.

The arena would help meet the

needs of the university as well as the community's needs. "There is no doubt in my mind that we need a new facility," Meier said. "Not only for NKU, but also for the community."

This study comes as NKU is considering whether or not to upgrade the athletic programs from Division II to Division I. "Eventually Division I could be a possibility," said Meier. "It takes a lot of money to do that."

It takes \$1.6 million to run the athletic program under the Division II guidelines, which includes 13 sports.

Meier said upgrading to Division I would cost NKU an additional \$2 million. The additional money would be needed for additional scholarships, more staff and upgraded facilities.

The additional funds would more than likely come from a combination of funding on campus, such as additional student fees, fund raiser dollars and state allocation.

"Being Division II has been really good for us," said Meier. "Eighty percent of our student athletes come from this area. They get an opportunity to play and they also get their education," she said. If

NKU became Division I, the teams would have to go more national.

"At some point, you have to look ahead to see what is best for this campus 20 years from now," said Meier.

A long-range planning committee, chaired by Dr. Joan Ferrante, will submit a recommendation to the athletic council at a meeting Feb. 15. If the athletic council approves, these recommendations will go to president Votruba.

According to Ferrante, the committee is trying to prepare students for their future.

Although NKU has had good success in Division II, no NKU team has ever won a national title. Meier would like to see the Division II program become stronger.

"Winning a national title lends credibility to the program and it definitely can't hurt," she said. "If we go Division I, we want to be competitive," Meier said. "We don't want to be mediocre."

Thinking of Advertising
in The Northerner?



STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Did you know that advertising in **The Northerner** is an easy and affordable way to let students know about:

- *Meeting
- *Activities
- *Special Events, etc.

All NKU organizations receive **50% off**.
Contact Kelly or Katie at 572-5232.

THE ARMY OFFERS \$20,000 CASH BONUSES

Volunteer to serve in one of the Army's top-priority occupational skills, and you could receive a cash bonus of up to \$20,000, if you qualify.

Find out more about this and other Army benefits. Talk to your local Army recruiter today.

606-291-6743

ARMY.
BE ALL YOU CAN BE.®
www.goarmy.com

The Health Professions Club
Currently seeking you to a Health Professions Club member:
High Gpa
Strong Leadership
Dr. Jackson Loring
Dr. Burtin The Young
Location and Time
Growth's Contact Mail
Four Arts Building
Semester: February 2000
1000 on 1000 on
Advantages: 50 per person
service Business Council
Individuals will be served following
performance.
For more information contact HPC officers
at HPC's website:
<http://www.als.edu/health.html>

If you
crave
feature
writing
(and I know you do)
call Jeff at
572-5260.

Game-winning shot provides end to classic game for Norse

By Jason R. Crisler
Assistant Sports Editor

Junior Craig Conley said he couldn't have asked for an easier game-winning shot.

With seconds left in regulation, senior Kevin Listerman stole the ball, passed ahead to junior Brian Lawhon, who threw it to Conley just steps from the goal. Conley laid the ball in as the buzzer sounded.

"I had no idea how much time was left," Conley said. "I just wanted to make the shot before time expired."

With the unlikely turn of events, Northern Kentucky University beat University of Indianapolis 68-66 Tuesday.

"That was the biggest win of the season so far," Lawhon said.

It was an intense ending to a game that featured nine lead changes and four ties.

Craig Sanders outscored the Greyhounds 6-0 in the first half, but never by more than two early threes.

Despite the quick start, with just over 10 minutes to play in the first half, NKU trailed Indianapolis by

nine, 21-12.

Indianapolis was beating NKU at their own game. They were making their three-point shots.

The Greyhounds' Jamarr Gaines and Chris M' tin combined to make five 19-pointers in the first 10 minutes. The Greyhounds finished with 11 three-pointers in the game.

The Norse roared back, led by the play of Listerman, who scored 12 of NKU's next 26 points of the half. His play helped the Norse enter the intermission with a 38-33 lead.

"Kevin willed us to win," NKU head coach Ken Shields said. "We'll-L-E-D."

Listerman, who entered the game averaging six points a game, poured in a game high 20.

"It's being a senior," he said.

"Stepping up and giving whatever the team needs."

Indianapolis led for most of the second half, but never by more than seven points, allowing NKU to keep the score close and help set up the final climactic showdown.

With 30 seconds left in regulation and the game tied at 66, the

Greyhounds' Bart Holubar stole the ball and called time out.

Indianapolis tried to run the clock down and hold the ball for the last shot.

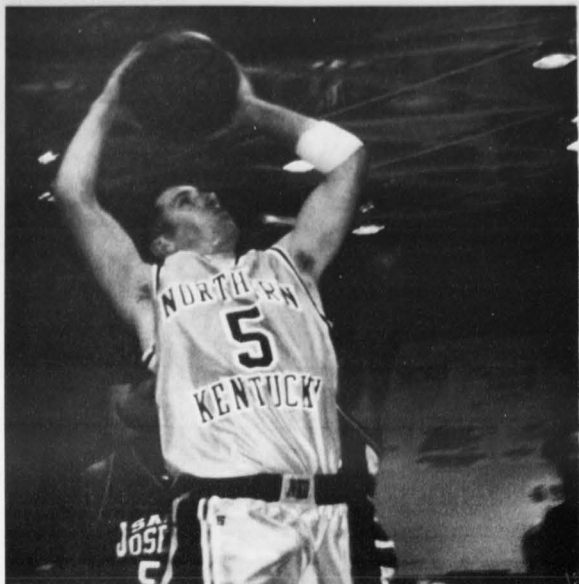
That's when Listerman stole the ball and the Greyhounds' hopes for a victory.

NKU (68)-Sanders 5 2 14, Brewster 0 2 2, Norwell 0 2 2, Listerman 7 4 20, Stowers 0 0 0, Conley 3 3 10, Lawhon 4 2 13, Marston 0 1 1, Wieber 3 0 6
Totals: 38 30 68

Indianapolis (66)-Martin 7 0 17, Holubar 0 0 0, Skurka 3 1 7, Gaines 4 0 11, Foster 3 0 8, Davidson 4 2 10, Brown 3 0 9, DeJean 1 0 2, Hupfer 1 0 2
Totals: 33 33 66

Half-NKU 38-UI 33

3-pt. goals: NKU 8 (Sanders 2, Listerman 2, Conley, Lawhon 3), UI 11 (Martin 3, Gaines 3, Foster 2, Brown 3) Rebounds: NKU 34 (Wieber 6), UI 32 (Martin 9) Assists: NKU 11 (Norwell 4), UI (Gaines 3) Steals: NKU 8 (Listerman 5), UI 11 (Holubar 4)



Melissa Riggs/The Northerner

Craig Conley sparked the Norse to two wins this past week. He scored the game-winning shot in the win over Indianapolis and came up with 20 points in the win against Saint Joseph's College.

The Northerner Athletes of the Week



Photos by Kelly Sudzina/The Northerner

Left: Kristin Polosky
Polosky helped lead the Norse to three conference wins this past week. She came off the bench to score 10 points in the win against Indianapolis.

Right: Kevin Listerman

Listerman was a huge contributor in the two-point victory over Indianapolis. He scored 20 points to lead the Norse to the win.



Listerman rallies the Norse to victory after sluggish start against St. Joseph's College

By Peter W. Zubaty
Copy Editor

Guard Kevin Listerman rallied his sluggish team out of its doldrums with his intensity and leadership in NKU's 85-71 win over conference foe St. Joseph's. After falling into an early 21-10 hole, NKU followed Listerman's lead and turned up the intensity after he went to the bench with an injury late in the first half.

A kamikaze drive to the basket by Listerman earned him a trip to the floor and cost him a piece of a tooth. The foul wasn't called. But Listerman wasn't deterred, and after placing the tooth on the scorer's table, he trotted back out to war.

That drive to the basket also gained him a few stitches in his head. With Listerman sidelined for the last three minutes of the half, his teammates responded and parlayed their newfound intensity into a 33-31 halftime lead.

The Norse didn't cool down much at the half, and opened the second with a 10-0 run to take command. Craig Conley picked

up the slack with Listerman out of the game and scored 11 of the first 13 points of the half. By the time Listerman checked back into the game, the Norse had roared out to a twelve-point lead.

Listerman walked back out to the court bandaged around his head and his knee and missing a piece of tooth. If there was ever a likely candidate to sit on the laurels of a twelve-point lead and coast the rest of the way, this refugee from a trauma ward was it.

But he grabbed the bull by the horns, played great defense, converted steals, took charges, dove for loose balls and ran the point with a cold efficiency that turned St. Joseph's into the only walking wounded in the building. He even managed to earn a few cheap free throws when St. Joseph's forward Jason Hallenbeck took exception to Listerman's aggressive rebound effort and Hallenbeck was whistled for a technical foul.

NKU fed off Listerman and clamped down the defense on St. Joseph's, leading by as many as 21 en route to a 14-point victory. NKU improves to 22-4, 14-3 in

the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

St. Joseph's: (71)-Yates 2 2 6, Hallenbeck 4 6 16, Crosby 1 1 3, Mason 3 2 9, J. Smith 1 0 2, Soltero 0 1 1, H. Smith 1 2 4, Metzger 0 2 2, Taylor 1 1 3, Johnson 6 5 17, Dees 1 6 8, George 0 0 0
Totals: 20 28 71

NKU: (85)-Sanders 3 1 9, Brewster 1 3 5, Wieber 1 0 2, Lawhon 1 2 5, Listerman 0 9 9, Conley 5 8 20, Perdris 0 0 0, Schaefer 1 0 2, Stowers 2 4 9, Murphy 0 0 0, Rupe 3 0 6, Norwell 2 1 5, Marston 4 3 13
Totals: 23 31 85

Half- NKU 33-St. Joseph's 31 3-pt goals: St. J 3 (Hallenbeck 2, Mason), NKU 8 (Sanders, Conley, Marston 2 each, Lawhon) Rebounds: St. J 33 (Hallenbeck 8), NKU 36 (Marston, Conley 6 each) Assists: St. J 8 (three players with 2 each), NKU 10 (Conley 4) Steals: St. J 7 (Taylor, Johnson 2 each), NKU 10 (Listerman 5) Turnovers: St. J 25, NKU 19 Attendance: 831

Upcoming Games

Men's Basketball

Feb. 24 at SIU-Edwardsville 8:30 p.m.
Feb. 26 at Southern Indiana 8:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Feb. 24 at SIU-Edwardsville 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 26 at Southern Indiana 6:15 p.m.

Baseball

Feb. 26 Urbana (DH) 1 p.m.

Table Tennis

Sign-Up: AHC 104

PLAY is... MARCH 1st

7:00PM

Entry Deadline:
Thursday
February 24th

NKU Campus
Recreation
572-5197

Billiard

9-Ball

Sign-up at
AHC 104

PLAY is at
7:00PM

Play is...
February
29th

Entry Deadline
Thurs.
Feb. 24

NKU Campus
Recreation
572-5197

Norse wrap up GLVC title in win over Indianapolis

By Bruce Reller
Sports Editor

The Northern Kentucky University women's basketball team clinched its second Great Lakes Valley Conference regular season title with a 78-68 win over Indianapolis Tuesday.

The win also gave the Norse the number one seed for the GLVC Tournament, which begins March 1 in Evansville, Indiana.

NKU sophomore Michele Tuchfarber said, "We had a great year last year and didn't want a let down this year. We stayed focused and it led the way for the younger players to get their first title."

Michelle Cottrell added, "We're heading off the same way as we did last year. It was not unexpected of us since we gained such a new team."

In the game, the Norse built a 14 point halftime lead. They shot 50 percent, 14 for 28, in the first half, including six three pointers.

In the second half, with less than nine minutes to go in the game and the Norse leading 64-52, Indianapolis went on an 11-4 run to cut NKU's lead to five.

The Norse then responded with a 9-0 run as Tuchfarber scored seven points during that stretch, which put the game away.

"We regained our composure," said Tuchfarber, who scored 20 points in the game for NKU. "We got possession, got off a couple of good shots, and got back in the game."

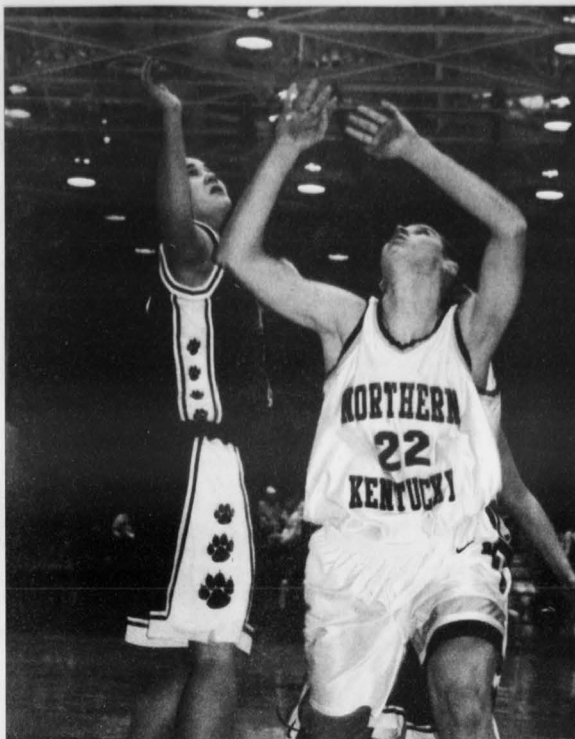
NKU coach Nancy Winstel said, "We did a better job moving the ball. We were very aggressive offensively. Tuchfarber took over the game. She made 12 of 15 foul shots."

Indianapolis (68)-Glenn 2 2 6, Ramsey 10 4 24, Sturtevant 1 2 4, Schmalstig 2 0 5, DeWitt 1 0 2, Hall 4 0 11, Virgin 0 0 0, Hammes 6 3 15, Oberle 0 0 0, Luttrell 0 1 1, Frantz 0 0 0

NKU (78)-Cottrell 6 3 15, Cowens 2 0 4, Jensen 0 0 0, Livingstone 3 0 7, Tuchfarber 3 12 20, Smith 2 0 5, Mobley 2 3 7, Flanagan 2 4 10, Polosky 2 5 10

Half-NKU 45-Indy 31

3 pt. goals: Indy 4 (Hall 3, Schmalstig), NKU 7 (Tuchfarber 2, Flanagan 2, Polosky, Smith, Livingstone) **Rebounds:** Indy 30 (Ramsey, Hammes 8 each), NKU 36 (Mobley 9) **Assists:** Indy 9 (Glenn 3, DeWitt 2), NKU 13 (Cottrell 4, Livingstone 3) **Steals:** Indy 9 (Ramsey 3, Hall 2), NKU 14 (Flanagan 4) **Turnovers:** Indy 22, NKU 21 **Attendance:** 314



Forward Michelle Cottrell helped lead NKU to two conference wins over Indianapolis and St. Joseph's College this past week. She scored 17 points and had 12 rebounds in the win over St. Joseph's College.

Cottrell scores 1,000th point for the Norse in win

By Bruce Reller
Sports Editor

The Norse kept right on rolling with a 100-75 win over St. Joseph's College on Thursday.

NKU controlled most of the game as they went on a 20-4 run in the first eight minutes of the game and took a 20 point lead into the half.

The Norse again used the three point shot to their advantage in the first half. They made 7 of 13 three-pointers in the half.

NKU kept up their dominance

in the second half as they pulled out the easy victory.

In that half, a milestone took place for the Norse. Sophomore Michelle Cottrell scored her one-thousandth point with 13 minutes to go in the game.

"It feels great," said Cottrell about the accomplishment. "It means I'm improving."

Cottrell finished the game with 17 points and 12 rebounds.

The offensive attack has been one of the keys to success lately, according to NKU coach Nancy Winstel.

"We're understanding each other," she said. "We're breaking and pushing the ball. On the half-court offense, we are moving the ball inside and outside."

Despite the Norse success, there are still things the team needs to improve, including free throw shooting. "We need to do a better job and be consistent at the free throw line," Winstel said. "We need to push the ball up a little more. We need to come out and be ready to play. We need to play team ball and stay hungry."

With the win, NKU improved to

21-2 and 16-1 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

St. Joseph's (75)-Hupfer 9 11 29, Bumpers 9 5 27, Masters 1 0 2, Mullikin 0 0 0, Harvey 0 0 0, Moncrief 0 0 0, Avery 3 0 8, Ratzlaff 0 0 0, Morrisroe 2 1 5, Catlin 0 2 2, Lahrman 0 2 2 **Totals:** 24 21 75

NKU (100)-Cottrell 6 5 17, Cowens 7 1 15, Jensen 2 0 5, Livingstone 7 0 18, Tuchfarber 3 9, Smith 3 0 8, Bell 0 0 0, Geiman 0 0 0, Mobley 5 3 14, Flanagan 2

2 7, Polosky 3 1 7 **Totals:** 38 13 100

Half-NKU 49-St. Joseph's 29 **3 pt. goals:** SJ 6 (Bumpers 4, Avery 2), NKU 11 (Livingstone 4, Tuchfarber 2, Smith 2, Jensen, Mobley, Flanagan) **Rebounds:** SJ 38 (Hupfer 10), NKU 40 (Cottrell 12) **Assists:** SJ 12 (Bumpers 4), NKU 23 (Livingstone 7, Tuchfarber 5) **Steals:** SJ 3 (Hupfer, Masters, Avery), NKU 18 (Cottrell 7) **Turnovers:** SJ 26, NKU 12 **Attendance:** 233

NKU going to get 'mad' this March



By Bruce Reller
Sports Editor

The hype is almost here, Yes, I mean March Madness.

That is when college basketball teams play in their respective conference tournaments and then, some of the teams eventually make it to the NCAA Tournament.

Here at Northern Kentucky University, we have two basketball teams that have a chance to do well in those such tournaments.

The women's basketball team has already wrapped up a number one seed for the upcoming Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament.

The men's basketball team has won 20 games for the fifth time in six years and is tied for second in the GLVC standings.

The point I am trying to make is we should all be excited about these teams and should be cheering them on to victory.

The Norse fans out there need to support their teams.

Look what just happened with the Cincinnati Reds.

The Reds traded for Ken Griffey, Jr., and now the town has gone baseball crazy.

Reds tickets are going fast and baseball fans are stocking up on Griffey merchandise.

This is happening, because Griffey is a good hitter and will help the Cincinnati Reds be a contender for the playoffs for years to come.

We need to do the same thing for the NKU basketball teams.

We need to support our teams by buying tickets for the GLVC Tournament in Evansville, Indiana and stock up on Norse merchandise.

It is already a proven fact that the NKU teams have been good in the past.

Last season, the women's basketball team won 30 games and made it all the way to the Final Four in the NCAA Division II Tournament in Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

The men's basketball team made it to the NCAA Division II Championship in 1996 and 1997.

Both teams are still incredible today and just keep getting better and better.

For the women's team, Heather Livingstone leads the nation in three-point field goal percentage and Michelle Cottrell is among the top 20 in the nation and first on the team in scoring.

Also, Amy Mobley leads the Norse in blocks and is second on the team in rebounds.

The NKU men's team has its sharp shooters in Craig Sanders, Brian Lawhorn, Scott Marston and Craig Conley, who lead the Norse in three-point shooting.

The Norse are fun to watch and provide a lot of excitement every game for those who come and see them play.

However, if we expect them to go far in the GLVC and NCAA Tournament, the fans need to come and support their Norse.

Let's not wait until March. Let's get excited now.

The hype is almost here. I think the hype has already begun.

THE BEST MINDS. THE BEST OPPORTUNITIES.

THIS IS WHERE I LEARN.
THIS IS WHERE I GROW.
THIS IS WHERE I SHINE.



EVAN OBERICE
FIDELITY EMPLOYEE

This is a place unlike any other. A place with one name, and infinite possibilities. A place that's many companies, with many opportunities. You'll bring your own ideas here. Your skills, your ambition. You'll put them all to work in a unique environment of team spirit and individual achievement that have made this company the world leader it is today. And you'll make it better than you found it.

Whatever your major is, Fidelity's diverse and entrepreneurial environment may be perfectly suited to your particular area of expertise. We invite you to attend our on-campus presentation and to speak with our representatives to learn more about the unique opportunities at Fidelity.

INFORMATION SESSION

Fidelity Investments - Midwest Region
Northern Kentucky University
Monday, February 28th, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
UC303

If you are unable to attend, please forward your resume via Career Services or e-mail it to college.relations.midwest@fmr.com

Fidelity Investments is committed to creating a diversified environment and proud to be an equal opportunity employer.

For additional opportunities nationwide, please visit our Web site at:

FIDELITY.COM/JOBS

Fidelity Investments

WE HELP YOU INVEST RESPONSIBLY™

Cottrell: 1,000 times the hype



By Jason R. Crisler
Assistant Sports Editor

MCA=1000. Albert Einstein couldn't have said it better.

Michelle Cottrell scored her one-thousandth point Thursday night against Saint Joseph's with 13:11 left in the game.

"It feels great," Cottrell said. "It means I'm improving."

Oh. Ok. What it means, folks, is that Cottrell is going to be the most prolific scorer in Northern Kentucky University's women's basketball history.

You'll never hear her say that. I doubt Cottrell reads her own hype. I doubt she cares.

I think Cottrell would trade her 1001 career points for a National Title. But this column is for you, Cottrell, whether you like it or not.

Cottrell can pass Peggy Vincent, and her 1883 points, and become the all-time points scorer.

A lot needs to happen though. Assuming she avoids a major injury [knock on wood] and she maintains her career 17.9 points a game average, she will have a very realistic chance.

Most importantly, Cottrell will need to play in enough games. If NKU can play in about 30 games a season for Cottrell's four years here, I guarantee she will pass Vincent.

"It feels great," she said. "It means I'm improving."

Very few athletes would make a statement like that. Very humble words for someone averaging over 17 points and nine rebounds a game in her sophomore year.

Cottrell says she's getting better. Cottrell wants to get better. Look out Division II. She's leading the team in field goal percentage and I could argue for getting her five to 10 more shots a game.

That's OK. I doubt she cares. Will she pass Vincent?

A few more Final Fours and maybe a National Title and she should play enough games.

Of course a few more Final Fours and a National Title and I have a feeling, the points she scored won't matter to her.

Just ask her.

NKU goes to 22-2

By Bruce Reller
Sports Editor

The Northern Kentucky University women's basketball team finished its last home game of the season with an 80-49 victory over Indiana-Purdue University at Fort Wayne Saturday.

IPFW kept up with NKU most of the first half, and the Norse only led by three, 40-37, at halftime. Both teams shot over 50 percent from the field in the half.

In the second half, NKU was able to put the team away as they went on a 28-5 run and were able to cruise to the victory.

Sophomore Michelle Cottrell led the way for the Norse with 19 points and nine rebounds. Also, Michele Tuchfarber came up with 13 points and Heather Livingstone and Bridget Flanagan each poured in 11 points for NKU.

Trish Fleming had 16 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Mastadons.

Playing better defense in the second half was the main reason the Norse were so dominant in the half, according to NKU guard Suzie Smith. "We outrebounded them and picked up our defense," she said. "We boxed out. That was the key difference."

NKU junior Julie Cowens added, "We talked a lot more and pulled our defense together."

The win extended the winning streak for the Norse to 14 games, their longest streak

of the season. According to Cowens, the streak gives NKU a lot of momentum for the upcoming Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament.

"Four people on the team won the GLVC Tournament last year," Cowens said. "We have new people and they really want it. Nothing will stop our momentum."

With the win, the Norse, who are ranked fourth in the nation and first in the region, improved to 22-2 and 17-1 in the GLVC.

IPFW (49): Fleming 5 4 16, Dudley 0 0 0, Loveless 2 0 4, Smith 3 0 9, Holderman 4 2 12, Miller 1 0 2, Moore 2 0 5, Crouse 0 0 0, Thomas 0 1 1

Totals: 17 7 49

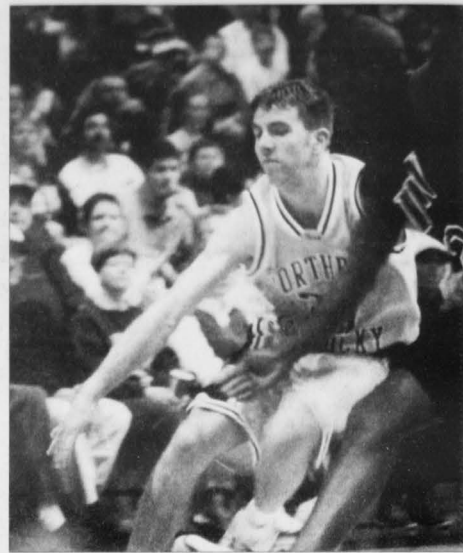
NKU (80): Cottrell 7 5 19, Cowens 3 2 8, Jensen 2 0 5, Livingstone 3 2 11, Tuchfarber 5 2 13, Smith 3 0 8, Bell 0 0 0, Geiman 0 0 0, Mobley 2 0 5, Flanagan 4 1 11, Polosky 0 0 0

Totals: 29 12 80

Half-NKU 40-IPFW 37

3-pt. goals: IPFW 8 (Smith 3, Fleming 2, Holderman 2, Moore), NKU 10 (Livingstone 3, Smith 2, Flanagan 2, Jensen, Tuchfarber, Mobley)

Rebounds: IPFW 39 (Fleming 10), NKU 29 (Cottrell 9) **Assists:** IPFW 10 (Moore 3), NKU 16 (Tuchfarber 5) **Steals:** IPFW 6 (Fleming 2), NKU 12 (Tuchfarber 4) **Turnovers:** IPFW 24, NKU 11 **Attendance:** 852



Kelly Sudzina/The Northerner

Forward Craig Sanders plays keep-away from the IPFW defense in Saturday's win.

Norse defense pays off in latest win

By Bruce Reller
Sports Editor

The Northern Kentucky University men's basketball team ended their regular season home schedule with a 14-0 record with a come from behind 68-63 victory over Indiana-Purdue University at Fort Wayne Saturday.

IPFW started out on fire as they hit three three-pointers in an 11-2 run to start the game. The Norse then went on a 17-8 run, including three three-pointers, to take a one-point lead.

The game went pretty much back and

forth in the first half, but the Mastadons grabbed a 34-30 halftime lead.

IPFW built their lead to seven early in the second half, but with 10 minutes to go in the game and NKU down by four, the Norse went on a 16-4 run to take a 64-56 lead.

NKU went on from there to claim a five-point victory.

According to NKU senior Scott Marston, who scored 21 in the game, the defense was the key to victory against IPFW. "We were struggling offensively, but we picked it up defensively. We did a lot of switching and had a lot of screens. That really hurt them."

Going undefeated at home was also

something to be happy about after the game, according to Marston.

"It is a great accomplishment," he said. "It is something to be proud of."

The Norse are now 23-4 and 15-3 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

IPFW (63): Akanni 8 1 20, Wise 3 2 9, Meshberger 1 0 2, Woodall 1 2 4, Griffin 6 0 15, Gibbs 1 0 2, Noll 0 2 2, Spicer 0 0 0, Ishman 1 0 2, Crow 3 0 7

Totals: 24 7 63

NKU (68): Sanders 1 2 5, Brewster 2 0 4, Wieber 2 0 4, Lawhon 1 3 6, Listerman 1 0

3, Conley 3 2 9, Stowers 1 0 3, Rupe 0 2 2, Norwell 4 3 11, Marston 6 4 21

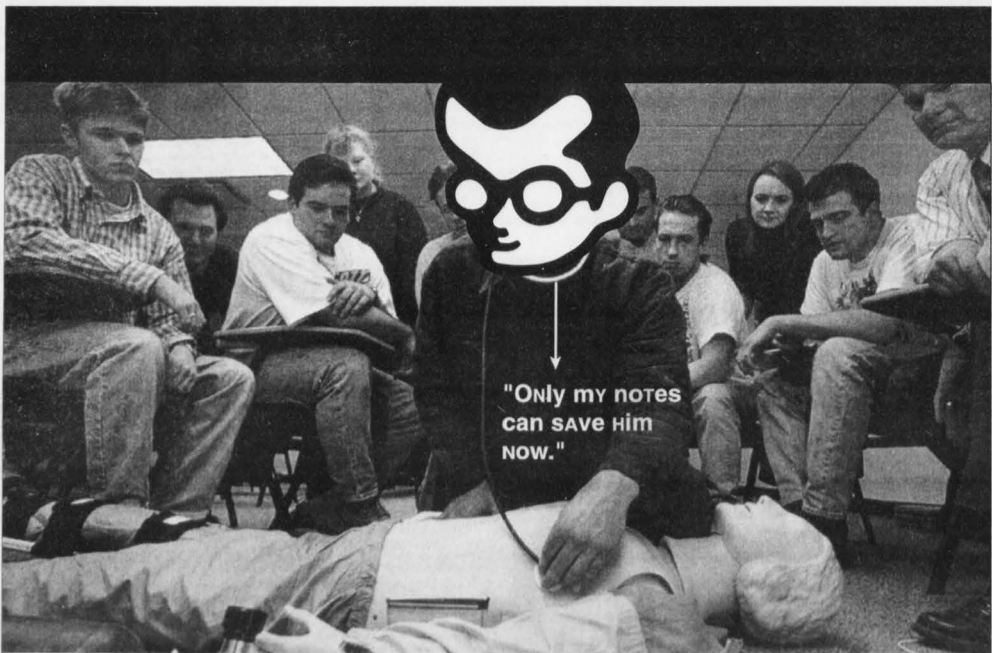
Totals: 21 16 68

Half-IPFW 34-NKU 30

3 pt. goals: IPFW 8 (Akanni 3, Griffin 3, Wise, Crow), NKU 10 (Marston 5, Sanders, Lawhon, Listerman, Conley, Stowers)

Rebounds: IPFW 30 (Akanni 7), NKU 47 (Wieber, Norwell, Marston, and Conley 7 each) **Assists:** IPFW 16 (Akanni 5), NKU 14 (Conley 7) **Steals:** IPFW 10 (Griffin 3), NKU 3 (Lawhon, Listerman, Conley)

Turnovers: IPFW 9, NKU 20 **Attendance:** 1,822



Visit the All new **Versity.com**
lecture notes . tutorials . research center
(we're even giving away a breath-taking trip to Europe)
- always (1440.365) open -

VERSITY
-com-

Where to go when you need to know.

Wrist slapping

By Anna Weaver
Editor in Chief

The Michael Minger Act was a good idea. But now that the bill has been amended to provide sovereign immunity to schools, there isn't much point to it. Sovereign immunity lets universities consent to being sued.

Huh? Who would consent to letting themselves be sued? According to Black's Law Dictionary, sovereign immunity was based on the ancient assumption that "the king can do no wrong."

Face it, in today's world there is no prince, king, dictator, or anyone else that can cut my head off for writing this. There isn't any room for this modern-day "pass the buck" law either.

The Michael Minger Act was proposed to get institutions of higher learning in gear in reporting crime on campus.

The man who it was named for died in 1998 in a dorm at Murray State University. Gail Minger, his mother, said she believes students would have known about previous arson attempts on the building had the MSU logbook been kept more effectively.

This was supposed to be the whole idea behind Ky. House Bill 322. Universities were required to keep close tabs on crimes that were reported and make the logs available to students. This is still true, but under the amended bill, if the university does not report a crime, they aren't liable for it. The maximum fine is only \$1,500 and 30 days in jail. A slap on the wrist.

To add insult to the injury, the institution can say, "No sir, we do not consent to this \$30 million law suit. Done deal."

Not only is this law blatantly disregarding the well-being of students, it is also providing schools with a safety net, a loophole through the law.

A low crime report rate is just what universities want in order to make themselves look like a safe school, a great place for America's youth to blossom. What is better to say to incoming freshmen than, "Look at our low crime rate! Come to our school!"

What a disgrace to Gail Minger. The laws she has been fighting for have been undermined by legality and public institution lobbyists.

If reporting crimes saves lives and helps student protect themselves, why is there virtually no repercussion when one is not reported?

"Oops. There was an arson attempt at the dorms. We didn't report it. Two days later 30 people died. Not our problem!"

State Rep. Jim Wayne (D-Louisville) said he is not pleased with the amendment and said he will continue to fight for student safety.

Wayne said, "I think it basically removes the major motivation to comply [to the laws]." And he thinks without there being a major offense, the university is not likely to report a crime.

Thanks, Jim, I'm glad at least someone is concerned about the well-being of students.

As for the amenders, they have taken the punch, the very foundation, out of the Michael Minger Act.

"I, your King, hereby decree:
If you fail to report
empty beer bottles,
it's off with your head!
If you fail to report
arson attempts, you
get a slap on the wrist."

Sudzina



Amendment makes act more effective

By Rick Amburgey
News Editor

The Michael Minger Act was designed to help ensure students' safety by requiring that the campus police departments at Kentucky universities report all campus crime and fire within a 24-hour period. However, it had one major flaw - it sounded good on paper, but was not practical in terms of applying consequences to offenders.

Recently, an amendment made the Michael Minger Act much more effective. The new clause claims that universities can claim sovereign immunity, which means they cannot be sued without their consent. Sovereign immunity is a principle that has been around since ancient times that said the king is above the law. In the case of our society, sovereign immunity has come to be interpreted as government is above the law.

Related to the Michael Minger Act, Kentucky's public universities are supported partially by state

(government) funds. So if the university was sued, it would be like suing the state of Kentucky.

Many legislators in Frankfort are upset with this amendment because they claim it is nullifying the purpose of the act. I disagree. A fine of \$500 - \$1,500 monetarily is an almost insignificant amount to a major university.

I believe that the universities will comply with the Michael Minger Act because their reputation is on the line. It wouldn't be very profitable to be known as the school with the worst fire safety in the state.

If the legislators in Frankfort would stop to think for a moment about what the repercussions are of allowing a school to be sued, I am sure they would come to the conclusion that I have.

State Rep. Jim Wayne (D-Louisville), who proposed the bill, is one of the people who oppose this amendment. He said college students are one of Kentucky's most valuable investments and they

must be protected. Under that basis, he believes sovereign immunity should not be allowed in this case.

I can't see how allowing someone to sue the school will accomplish that goal. This will hurt students in a couple of ways.

First, universities are partially funded by the state of Kentucky. Do you think the legislators pass a plate every week and take up a collection to give to the schools? Of course not. The money comes from money paid in taxes. Who pays the taxes? We do. Of course we are the ones that are going to get hurt by this. If a school does get sued, the taxes will most likely go up to compensate. Is Mr. Wayne willing to work some overtime in my place, so I can pay the extra amount. Probably not.

Second, suing the university means the school will have to make cutbacks to compensate. I am fairly confident in saying the university administrators, like the ones on the eighth floor of the Lucas Administrative Building, are not

going to take a pay cut. Most of the faculty are already working for peanuts. The area where the cuts will probably come will be student organizations. All organizations probably wouldn't be victims of the budget-cutting knife, but I would be more than just a little peeved if an organization I was associated with was deemed "expedient." Wouldn't you?

With these two things in mind, where do they get the notion that it would be in our best interest for the university to be able to be sued. Oh, I almost forgot. They are driving their big fancy cars and wearing their suits and ties in Frankfort. These changes won't affect them, but they will affect us. If this bill passes without this amendment, I know who I won't vote for come November elections.

Let's just hope that sovereign immunity will stay intact. If it doesn't, the much-needed Michael Minger Act will be pointless and will create a political circus. Why not call it the Mickey Mouse Act.

NORTH POLL

How would you react if a fire occurred on campus?

Jason McWhorter
Finance
Cincinnati
"It would be a good vacation."



Sakeenah Abdulla
Music
Covington
"If I saw an alarm, I would pull the alarm and walk out of the building."



Nick Martin
Business Management
Morningview

"It would be a sad thing, but I would do whatever it took to help people who were in need."



Mike Brennan
Chemistry
Middletown, Ohio
"I have never been scared of a fire. It seems to me that there are plenty of precautions."



Vic Hudson
Political Science and History
Erlanger
"I would be surprised if it got out of hand, considering there are tons of sprinklers in every building."



Teresa Tenkman
Computer Science
Cincinnati
"I would hope that the fire fighters would take care of it quick. Though it probably wouldn't be a big problem."



THE NORTHERNER

Editor in Chief: Anna Weaver
Executive Editor: Kelly Sudzina
Managing Editor: Forrest Berkshire
Production Manager: Jeffrey B. Williams
General Manager: Kelly Castiberry
Business Manager: Katie Kerth
News Editor: Rick Amburgey
Assistant Features Editor: Scott Wartman
Sports Editor: Bruce Keller
Assistant Sports Editor: Jason R. Crisler
Copy Editors: Cherie Haas & Peter W. Zubaty
Photo Editor: Melissa Riggs
Assistant Photo Editor: Kristen Colwell
Distribution Manager: Elea Mihou
Staff Reporters/Photographers: Sarah Baker, Mike Brown, Dave Capano, Aaron Carter, Caroline Davis, Jonathan Divita, Melanie Goodman, Cassie Guy, Dave Lindsay, Tina Newberry, Jayme Price, Christy Schulte, Tracy Schuster, Jon Secrist, Alisha Stewart, Kelly Simon, Stacey Tieman, Michelle Vlasin
Faculty Adviser: Pat Moynahan

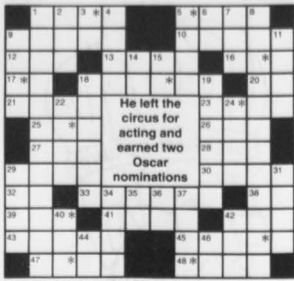
University Center, Suite 209
Highland Heights, KY 41099
Main office: (606) 572-5260
Business office: (606) 572-5232
Editor in Chief: (606) 572-6128
Fax: (606) 572-5772
E-mail: northerner@nku.edu
Online: www.thenortherner.com

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

The Northerner is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press and the Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association. Publication is weekly on Wednesdays excluding university observed holidays and final examination weeks.

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**
- Actor Ken
 - Gardner and others
 - ... grow on; extra
 - candle
 - First name of '82's best actress Oscar winner
 - Crawford, Private Eye; '83 sitcom
 - West, for one
 - One-time tyrant
 - Wizard of Menlo Park's initials
 - Up
 - Noite's monogram
 - Laugh-in regular
 - Baldwin or Guinness
 - Lucy Ricardo
 - MacGillivuddy
 - Benjamin Bratt's role
 - Major (1989-93)
 - Cheerleader's cry
 - Andrews or Carvey
 - Cheese
 - Monogram for Matlock's portrayal
 - A ... the Life (1967-88)
 - Soap: Radio; '82 sitcom
 - Capture
 - Arena of Pepsi-Cola Playhouse (53-54)
 - Not ... Stranger; '55
 - Frank Sinatra movie
 - The ... at Red River; '54
 - Joanne Dr. film
 - Mary ... Walton; one of John Boy's sisters
 - Rider (1990-91)
 - Jones or Martin
- DOWN**
- Series for Meredith Deane
 - Bruce or Brenda
 - Takes Two (1982-93)
 - Mr. Wyle
 - Bulet, for short
 - Day; 5/8/45
 - Meyers of Kate & Allie (194-98)
 - Rise on Providence (2)
 - Sworn statement
 - Clarence Williams III's role on The Mod Squad
 - Glover's initials
 - Setting for Evening Shade: abbr.
 - Part of the title of Bonnie Franklin's series (2)
 - Moon or Harding
 - Withdraw from gradually
 - And the Children Shall ...: '85 TV movie
 - Blocker and others
 - Painful cry
 - Actress Barbara
 - Battery size
 - Hussey's monogram
 - Three Lives (1953-56)
 - Role on The Andy Griffith Show (60-68)
 - Kate Jackson's state of birth: abbr.
 - Lucky; '51 Jan Murray quiz show
 - Article for Bardot



© TVData Features Syndicate

HOROSCOPE

By C.C. Clark - eTVData Features Syndicate

February 20 - February 26, 2000



Aries (March 21 - April 20)

There is more to you than what's revealed to others. It is time to show your wonderful sense of humor.



Taurus (April 21 - May 20)

Don't let a bad mood interfere with a wonderful night out. Write your troubles on scraps of paper, stick them in a box and worry about them later.



Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

Be a compassionate friend, but refrain from giving advice. Be aggressive in pursuing career opportunities.



Cancer (June 21 - July 20)

There's nothing wrong with being straightforward as long as you're tactful. Put a little cash into savings on a regular basis.



Leo (July 21 - Aug. 21)

An impulsive move could mean big trouble later on. Think about what you want out of a situation and go after it.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 22)

As your social circle widens, be careful not to forget old friends. Keep behaving in the workplace professional.



Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

Home is a place for relaxing and putting your mind at ease. Make a space all your own with comfy pillows and great music.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 22)

You are working toward a long-term goal without even realizing it. Take stock of how far you've come and what you need to accomplish.



Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 20)

Get your priorities straight at home. Your family and loved ones should always come first. A change in careers may be on the way.



Capricorn (Dec. 21 - Jan. 19)

There are times when you must fight for what you want the most. Watch your spending closely, and you'll discover where your money is going.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Check with your doctor about adding vitamins and minerals to your health plan. There's nothing wrong with taking preventive measures.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)

Your creative powers will inspire those around you. It is amazing what you can do with a can of paint.

Born this week:

Feb. 20 - Sidney Poitier
Feb. 21 - Tyne Daly
Feb. 22 - Drew Barrymore
Feb. 23 - Peter Fonda
Feb. 24 - Barry Bostwick
Feb. 25 - George Harrison
Feb. 26 - Johnny Cash,
Tony Randall

FRATERNITIES, SORORITIES, CLUBS, STUDENT GROUPS

Student organizations earn \$1,000-\$2,000 with the easy campus-fundraiser.com three hour fundraising event. No sales required. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so call today! Contact campusfundraiser.com, (888) 923-3238, or visit www.campusfundraiser.com.

SPRING BREAK

Panama City Beach and Daytona Beach Fl.
Best oceanfront hotel & condo
Lowest prices
www.breakerstravel.com
1-800-985-6789

SIZE DOES MATTER!

BIGGEST BREAK PACKAGE
BEST PRICE FROM \$29
WWW.SPRINGBREAK HQ.COM
1-800-224-GULF

HELP WANTED

Easter, Mother's Day Weekend
Fri. Sat. Sun. Must be dependable, honest and outgoing. To sell Flowers will make \$200 to \$300 for three days.
Call Norma
489-3116

HELP WANTED

Part-time counter person for dry cleaners. 2 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Monday-Friday
Downtown, Cincinnati
Parking Available
721-7999

HELP WANTED

CSR for Insurance Agency
2 yrs. college required
No insurance knowledge required
will train
management opportunity
Send resume to:
CSR position
P.O. Box 357
Hebren, KY 41048

THE HEADS ABOVE THE REST

Our toddlers & preschoolers need someone to look up to in Ft. Wright Child Care Center
Pt. - Ft. positions - around your class schedule
No Nights - No Weekends
Pd. holiday and vacations. Benes. avail. 578-0009 EOE.

**Call Now!
Work Now!
Restaurant
Job Line
1-877-991-9292**

**This could have been your
display
classified!
572-5232**

**Do you love to
write?
Do you crave sports?
Then Bruce is
looking for YOU!
Call 572-5260**

**Cartoonist Needed!
If you have political
savvy and drawing
skills, The Northerner
wants YOU!
Call 572-5260**

Attention Student Organizations!!!

Do you want to:

- Reach out to the NKU community?
- Get people interested in what you are doing?
- Recruit a larger membership?
- Attract students to your special events?

The answer is to advertise in
The Northerner!

We offer a 50 percent discount
to student organizations
and campus departments.

CALL 572-5232 TODAY!!!