



Is being a part of the Clique worth it? Check out our bar review to find out.

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NKU provost nominated

Wells may join Board of Education

By Audrey Kunkel
News Editor
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Gov. Ernie Fletcher nominated Provost Gail Wells Feb. 23 to represent the Northern Kentucky region on the Kentucky Board of Education.

Appointed by the General Assembly, Wells will be one of six new appointees who will begin serving in May, 2006.

Wells, one of the two democrats nominated, said serving on the Board will require a commitment of time.

"However, the importance of public education to the future of our Commonwealth justifies the investment of time," she said.

Wells is honored by the opportunity to work with

other Board members in an effort to improve education in Kentucky, she said.

According to Wells, many issues important to the Northern Kentucky region are dependent on the effectiveness of education.

"The education system provides a foundation for almost every aspect of our individual lives and community," she said.

The Board usually meets at least six times a year in Frankfort for two-day sessions, but Wells said serving on the Board should not diminish her role as Provost.

"I do not believe there will be a noticeable change in my time on campus," she said. "I remain profoundly committed to my role as Provost as I work with the faculty, students and administration to move NKU forward."

Informatics dean hired

Dean shares vision for program

By Amy Bridewell
Reporter
northerner@nku.edu

A new Dean for the College of Informatics has been chosen at Northern Kentucky University.

Dr. Douglas Perry came to Northern Kentucky University on Friday Feb. 10 to speak about his concept and vision of Informatics as well as his fit for being the dean of the new College of Informatics.

"To be a new college means transformation," Perry said.

The first step in making the new College of Informatics a success at NKU is the construction of a new building. A new building will make people outside NKU take notice. It raises community interest," he said.

"He argued that such a visible investment in the College, one that people can see as they drive by, will serve as a reminder that the University values Informatics highly. It also will serve to unify the faculty into one place, which is essential if we are to teach across disciplines," said Mary Cupito, Professor of Communication.

A new building will require money and Perry sug-

gests that our resource be external donations since it has been his experience that the more money you get the more people will want to give.

"The College of Informatics is so new you don't have to sell it, you just have to talk about it," Perry said. It is also important that we have an increased operating budget in order to start new degrees.

Perry has been able to obtain several grants for research projects, the development of new programs, and the improvement of undergraduate instruction at Indiana University.

Perry proposes that we create a Department of Applied Informatics that offers a Bachelors of Science in Applied Informatics. He would also expand our current curriculum by adding Education Dissemination and two new courses to our Graduate of Communications program.

In the future he would like to create an Institute of Information and Innovation at NKU.

"He has a very good grasp of all the interdisciplinary aspects in which Informatics need to expand," said current Dean of Informatics at NKU Pat Moynahan.

Tau Kappa Epsilon plunges for charity



Amy Ehrnreiter/Photographer
A Tau Kappa Epsilon member psyches himself up to jump into Lake Inferior.



Amy Ehrnreiter/Photographer
Tau Kappa Epsilon held their annual "Plunge," benefit on Feb. 22. The benefit was supported by area businesses, and participants who jumped in the lake were asked to donate \$25. The group gave a check for \$3,500 to the Ronald Reagan Research Foundation.

Faculty forms reproductive rights group, produce protest

Assistant Dean fears group will 'politicize' campus

By Audrey Kunkel
News Editor
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A handful of protestors stood outside the room where Northern Kentucky University faculty members held a formative Educators For Reproductive Freedom (EFRF) meeting Feb. 24.

According to its founders, EFRF is forming to promote interest in reproductive rights.

Among the protestors was sophomore Bridgette Donnelly with her 16-month-old daughter. Donnelly said she had changed her plans to go away to college so she could give birth to her baby, Quinn.

"When I found out I was pregnant, I chose life," Donnelly said. "It's something

"I might not get to do everything I want ... but I love living for another human being."

— Bridgette Donnelly

I wouldn't have changed for minute. I couldn't imagine life without her."

Donnelly said she is attending NKU so that she can be close to supportive family members and friends. She said she is planning to eventually become a lawyer.

"I might not get to do everything I want all the time, but I love living for another human being," she said.

Quinn held a sign that read, "Former fetus against abortion."

Another protestor's sign

read, "Reproductive freedom" murders 4,000 children per day."

Also protesting was Shariotte Neely, an NKU anthropology professor and Donnelly's mother.

"I'm here to support my daughter because my values are the same as hers," Neely said. "We want to revive a 1970s pro-life club that used to be at NKU. If the university is a place where all points of view are represented, it's really important to start a pro-life group now."

Although some members of EFRF agreed to speak with The Northern, the meeting itself was clandestine.

When The Northern asked if a reporter could attend the meeting, Director of First-Year Programs Vicki Stieha said: "Absolutely not. It's a closed meeting."

Jennifer Woods from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Kentucky attended the faculty meeting and, according to an e-mail sent to EFRF members, spoke on the difficulty of obtaining emergency contraceptives in Kentucky.

Some of the meeting members were annoyed by the protestors. Paul Ellis, Learning Assistance Center Director, threw some pro-life pamphlets that were handed to

See REPRODUCTIVE, page 3

Artists-in-residence left dangling by a string



Photo courtesy of the Department of Music
The Azmari String Quartet practices. The Quartet will be discontinued on July 1 due to a lack of funding.

By Amanda Joering
Reporter
northerner@nku.edu

Northern Kentucky University's resident string quartet, the Azmari String Quartet, will be cut from the music department on July 1.

The quartet, composed of Christina and Rebecca Merblum, MinTae Wu, and Meghan Casper, was shocked to find out its second year at NKU is also its last.

"We have nothing to tell our students," said Christina Merblum, the quartet's violinist.

The Patricia A. Corbett

grant that was funding the quartet was "for a limited number of years and those funds have been exhausted," said Dr. Vance Wolverton, chair of the music department.

The College of Arts and Sciences continued to fund the quartet, but can no longer afford it, "resulting in the non-renewal of the Azmari's contract."

However, the members of the quartet feel that "they (the music department) did not exhaust every option," said Rebecca, the quartet's cellist. She said that the quartet has contacted some of their previous contributors who stated

that they hadn't been contacted by the department.

In regards to the future of the strings program, Wolverton said "the department of music remains firmly committed to continued instruction in strings through the Patricia A. Corbett Strings Program at NKU."

The quartet members, who make up the majority of the strings program, don't see how the students in the program will be able to continue. The department said that they are trying to hire one adjunct faculty member," Christina said, "which is completely insufficient."

With the deadline to apply

for most music programs having already passed on Dec. 1, the quartet's students feel they are left without many options.

"The students are extremely upset," Christina said. "We are working with each student on an individual basis to develop their personal plan."

Cutting the quartet means there will no longer be a string quartet-in-residence in the region, which according to Rebecca is a major loss for the university.

With a quartet-in-residence, "you have an elevated status in your department," she said.

See QUARTET, page 3



The following reports were filed with the Northern Kentucky University Police Department between Feb. 20 and Feb. 27.

Monday, Feb. 20

1:53 p.m. Medical assistance was requested for a subject at Landrum. Subject refused transportation to the hospital.

Tuesday, Feb. 21

8:57 a.m. Subject reported a table has been damaged at the University Center.

5:41 p.m. Subject reported having lost University keys while off campus.

6:20 p.m. Subject found a small amount of marijuana at the Albright Health Center. The contraband was confiscated and destroyed by University Police officers.

Wednesday, Feb. 22

6:12 a.m. Subject found var-

ious identification cards and credit cards at the Fine Arts Building. Several attempts were made to contact the owner with negative results.

8:51 a.m. A minor non-injury auto accident involving two vehicles occurred at University Drive. Both vehicles remained in service.

1:23 p.m. Kellie Boss, 25, of Florence, was issued a citation for disregarding a stop sign.

8:53 p.m. A fire alarm was received from Woodcrest Apartments. Upon investigation, it was determined that the alarm was caused by the activation of a fire alarm pull station.

Thursday, Feb. 23

1:13 a.m. Deidra Brown, 21, of Edgewood, was issued a citation for speeding.

6:50 a.m. Daniel Groeschel, 19, of Bellevue, was issued a

citation for speeding.

12:34 p.m. Subject reported vehicle struck in lot K.

Friday, Feb. 24

12:49 a.m. Cyrus Egger, 22, of Covington, was arrested and issued a citation for driving under the influence. Egger was transported and lodged in the Campbell County Jail.

11:34 p.m. Melissa Folwer, 18, of Lexington, was issued a citation for driving on a suspended license and for having no proof of insurance.

Saturday, Feb. 25

11:57 a.m. Ciara Jackson, 18, of West Chester, was issued a citation for disregarding a stop sign and for having no proof of insurance.

Sunday, Feb. 26

5:00 a.m. Mark Grome, 23,

of Cincinnati, was arrested, issued a citation for driving under the influence, and for speeding. Grome was transported and lodged in Campbell County Detention Center.

1:58 p.m. Medical assistance was requested for a subject at Greaves Concert Hall. Subject was transported to the hospital for further evaluation and treatment.

Monday, Feb. 27

8:33 a.m. Amy Ball, 20, of Carrollton, was issued a citation for speeding and for no proof of insurance.

8:51 a.m. Brandon Beavers, 21, of Erlanger, issued a citation for speeding.

10:33 a.m. Elizabeth Marksherry, 33, of Warsaw, was issued a citation for speeding.

11:50 a.m. Parking pass reported lost.

nkubriefly

Northern Kentucky to hold Charity Dog Walkathon

The Northern Kentucky Veterinary Technician Association and the NKU Biology Alumni Association are hosting a 5K Charity Dog Walkathon April 30 in Union, Ky. The walkathon will sponsor a local person at Pilot Dogs, Inc., a non-profit Lions organization that gives \$7,000 guide dogs at no cost.

Bring an application and donation to Central Park between 11 a.m. and noon

when the walkathon begins. Refreshments will be provided, and prizes are awarded to everyone. For more information, visit <http://www.angel-fire.com/ky2/dogwalk>.

NKU Community Connections teaches sign language course

Community Connections is offering a six week noncredit course in sign language every Monday from Feb. 27 until April 3 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Covington Campus. A fee of \$109 plus \$10 for

materials will be due on the first night of class.

To register, contact the NKU Connect Center at (859) 572-5600.

Hyman Rubio to visit NKU

Hyman Rubio, the author of New York Times bestseller *Icy Sparks*, will hold a public reading March 15 at 7 p.m. in Steady Library.

The reading is free and open to the public. Books will be for sale and for signing by the author following the

reading.

NKU Exposure accepting advertisements

NKU Exposure is accepting advertisements from organizations involved in NKU.

Any organization or department can be part of the guide that allows upcoming students and their parents to find out about student services at NKU.

Contact LaToya Moore at moore11.2@npk.com or call the Office of New Student Orientation at (859) 572-1967

for more information on purchasing an advertisement.

Walk for Women's Athletics slated for April 22

The 16th annual Walk for Women's Athletics will be held April 22 by the NKU athletics staff, Joan Ferrante, and Bob Wallace.

The walk will be held to help raise money for scholarship money. To be a captain or to join a team, call (859) 572-5195.

NKU Community Connections holds native plant certification program

Community Connections will hold Introduction to Spring Wildflowers in Kentucky on Saturdays from April 29 through May 27 from 9 a.m. until noon. The course focuses on native plants in the region and is a noncredit course. The fee is \$67.15 for university associates and their families. To register, call (859) 572-5600.

NKU campus recreation www.nku.edu/~camprec
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Saturday, April 1, 2006 at the Willows Golf Course

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, March 22

- * Check-in begins at 7:30 a.m.
- * Scramble begins at 8:30 a.m.

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Please visit one of our information
tables for more information:
Wed. March 15 & Wed. March 22
2nd floor of the University Center
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

morenews

String *Continued from page one...*

Though the future is uncertain, according to Wolverton, "I am confident that we will find alternative ways to serve the needs of our students and the NKU community." The Azmari String Quartet says its future is still promising. "We are intact as an ensemble," Christina said. "We still have our performing career and we have engagements throughout the summer." She also said that the quartet has tremendous support in the community.

Reproductive *Continued from page one*

him on the floor.
"Their propaganda is always full of untruths," Woods said. However, Assistant Dean of Arts and Sciences Janis Cassiere commended the protestors when she passed them in the hallway.
"As many educators as there are for reproductive rights, there

are just as many for the rights of all human life," Cassiere said.
"I think that now some faculty are forming this kind of group, there are going to be plenty of people that will resist their efforts. This could be something that will politicize the campus and cause students to be very

selective with professors." Philosophy professor Nancy Hancock, one of EFRP's founders, said previous to the meeting that the group is worried things may be going "backwards."
As an example she mentioned the bill recently passed by South Dakota's Senate that would ban

abortion in all cases except when the mother's life is in danger.
Hancock said that through EFRP, she and her colleagues plan to build a campus network of faculty and staff interested in promoting reproductive rights and supporting student groups with an interest in the issue.

Catholic university offers minor in 'queer studies'

Program comes as students are 'grappling with conflicts between contemporary and religious values'

By Jodi S. Cohen
Chicago Tribune (KRT)
northerner@nku.edu

College student Eric Oliver sits in the classroom's front row, ready to learn about Italian poet Dante and Catholic theologian St. Thomas Aquinas and their views on morality and sin.

But this isn't a religion, philosophy or literature class. It's an introductory course in queer studies, and for the next 90 minutes, Oliver and his classmates study the history of same-sex desire, the biology of gender identity and government reactions to homosexual behavior dating to the 14th century.

It's no longer remarkable that the subjects are taught, but on this day, it's notable where the discussion is taking place. The classroom is on the campus of DePaul University, the country's largest Catholic university and, it is believed, the first Catholic school to offer an undergraduate minor in queer studies. The minor became available in January.

"I can see how it may seem like a big step," said Gary Cestaro, director of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Studies, the official name of the minor.

Other Catholic schools, including Georgetown University and Santa Clara University in California, offer courses in the subject, but they fall under Women and Gender Studies programs. The University of Notre Dame offers a course on sex and sexuality in U.S. history that includes discussion on homosexuality and gay liberation.

Several non-religious colleges offer degrees in the subject, including the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, which allows students to focus on queer studies within the gender and women's studies department.

"Institutions of higher learning, Catholic or not, are about open investigation and free inquiry. DePaul particularly has a strong identity that involves commitment to social justice and to the urban community. At least from that perspective, LGBT studies make a lot of sense here," Cestaro said.

The new program, which began this semester, comes as religiously affiliated universities are grappling with potential conflicts between contemporary issues and religious values. The Rev. John Jenkins, president of the University of Notre Dame, recently limited the campus' Queer Film

Festival and "The Vagina Monologues" show, requiring the festival to change its name and banning fundraising for the performance.
Jenkins, who wants the Catholic viewpoint represented in discussions of morality, has requested faculty and student input before deciding whether the shows should continue in future years.

Nicholas Lund-Moffese, who works with the higher education agency at the Archdiocese of Chicago, said the archdiocese isn't necessarily opposed to the program.

"I don't have any allergic reaction per se to the subject matter. There are ways it could be treated good and ways it could be treated bad, which is true of any society that deals with history or sociology," he said. "Are there ways of doing this that would be according to Catholic teaching? Yes. Are there ways of doing this that would be opposed to Catholic teaching? Yes."

While DePaul officials say the minor hasn't been controversial, it does have critics. Karl Maurer, spokesman for Catholic Citizens of Illinois, said he planned to send a letter to DePaul's president, denouncing a program that he contends "validates people in a sinful lifestyle." Catholicism

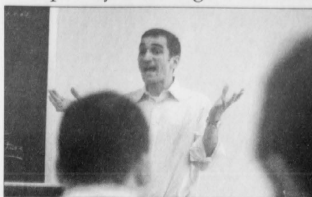
teaches that homosexual activity is immoral.

"I am very disappointed that anti-Catholic propaganda would be given such a high level of attention by DePaul," said Maurer, a DePaul graduate. "Keep in mind this is a university that calls itself the largest Catholic school in the country. This is about truth in advertising."

DePaul has offered several classes through different departments in the past few years, so packaging them together to create a minor made sense, Cestaro said. Students will learn how gay issues are addressed in the fields of history, literature, religion, political science and psychology.

The minor requires that students take an introductory course and five electives, which can include courses in queer theory, history of sexuality in America, queer pioneers and gay and lesbian literature. The nursing department is planning a course on lesbian health, while the religious studies department will offer "The Body and Human Relationships: Divergent Meanings, Conflicting Values," which will include discussion on the ethical implications of gay relationships.

Cestaro said the church's



Professor Gary P. Cestaro teaches a class called, "Introduction to LGBTQ Studies" at DePaul University.

position on homosexuality will be discussed in the religion course and as part of other classes. In his introductory course this semester, Cestaro said he plans to invite a chaplain to discuss religion and sexuality.

The Rev. James Halstead, chair of DePaul's religious studies department, said he has no academic qualms about the minor, but said he's had concerns about how it would affect DePaul's image.

"For those who don't know the inner workings of a university, study means study. Advocacy means advocacy. How does this play in circles outside the university, that

is a concern," Halstead said. "From the university's point of view, this is a matter that ought to be studied in a multidisciplinary study."

Cestaro, who is teaching the wide-ranging introductory course on Tuesday and Thursday mornings this semester, said demand exceeded the 30 spots in the class. He allowed a few additional students to enroll.

African American studies or Asian studies or any of the characteristics that people identify with," she said. "It helps them to learn about themselves and the world they live in."

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yourviews

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further details

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viewpoints

inour opinion: Northern's needs neglected

Staff editorial by Sarah Loman

I've had people tell me that no one cares about The Northern.

I've had people say that no one reads the Northern.

I've had people say that no one cares about what happens on the campus of Northern Kentucky University.

That's a lie. I have faith in the students out there who want to be informed about their campus; students who care about what is going on around them. I know because when I walk down the halls every day I see students with a folded paper stuck under an arm. Or I walk into class and see someone working on a Sudoku puzzle from the Games & Extras page.

I have faith in the students of this campus—students who understand the importance of a free press and the societal impact of the First Amendment rights that we do our administration?

The administration never

included The Northern in its plans for the new Student Union building. Kent Kelso, dean of students, said this is because there's not enough space and said several

times that the Northern isn't offered space in the new building, including Career Development and Health and Counseling.

But why were these organizations chosen to stay behind? It's about priorities. My opinion is that if The Northern were important to the majority of administrators (notice that this isn't a blanket term, I realize that some of the administrators respect the work we do), then we would be in the new building.

It's not a question of pro-

duction. The Northern staff has just returned to town from a statewide awards ceremony for college newspapers. My opinion is that if we won 15, in the last two years alone, The Northern won 28 state awards. That's an

incredible number, especially if you compare it to the two years preceding those. In 2002 through 2003, The Northern won 12 awards.

Some plans have been sketched out for The Northern more space in the University Center, but so far nothing has been put in stone. But, being left out of the Student Union plans isn't the only reason that I doubt the prioritizing of administrators when it comes to The Northern.

The staff of The Northern did some massive recruiting in the last two years, and we're gaining more and more talented students who are (on a volunteer basis) working hard. This creates a problem for our advisor, Gary Brown. More students equals more work, which equals more advertising and more paperwork.

Brown works hard to be able to go to the Student Union with the administrators (along with countless hours coaching students). She

recognizes the need for help with the added workload, and wrote a proposal for a paid advertising manager. We're hopeful, but it doesn't look good.

Now, I don't think that I'm being paranoid in saying that we're not on the top of the priority list, especially when I see a state university like Kennesaw State University in Georgia. According to the proposal that Brown wrote, they have "an enrollment of 18,000...devotes 1,800 square feet to its weekly student newspaper." The Northern has 813 square feet. NKU has roughly 15,000 students.

It's amazing to me that the decision on what was going into the new Student Union wasn't put before the students. We're the ones who should decide what should be there. We're the ones who should decide if we want to be there. And don't try to tell me that students don't care—it's just not true.

Is the right to choose wrong?

From the Left:

by Joseph Szydlowski

Partial-birth abortion only makes up about 1 percent of abortions according to Gwen Ifill from PBS' "Newshour." Many Americans oppose partial-birth abortion because they see the fetus looks like a person, rather than a blob of cells. Dr. Maria Fitzgerald, professor of Developmental Neurobiology at University College in London, pointed out that the term "fetus" is "little sensory input" until about 24 weeks. Only 0.5 percent of all abortions performed in England a year occurred after 24 weeks, yet anti-abortion advocates frequently use it to goad people into siding with them, thinking that partial-birth abortion is the most common type of abortion.

Yes and no. The fetus does have rights, but only in so far as the mother allows. If the mother's rights and the fetus's rights conflict, whose should trump whose? The fetus is a part of the fetus as long as it is inside her womb.

It is her choice and her choice alone what happens to her body and every part of it. Once it comes down the birth canal, it is its own separate being and as such is granted full rights. But as long as it is a part of the woman, it is the woman's decision, whether it is her foot or her fetus.

I will never advocate a woman have an abortion, just like I will never advocate the use of dangerous drugs. But I still believe that everyone should have control over their own body, and every part of it.

Abortion has certainly divided and dominated the country's political landscape and with good reason. Each side of the issue cuts to the core of American values. Anti-abortion activists represent America's respect for life and desire to help those who can't help themselves.

Abortion rights advocates also embody American ideals. They fight for privacy and individualism, two principles shared by most Americans. Unlike most political issues, this one sets some of America's most cherished values against one another.

With one side advocating liberty and the other side life, it is easy to see why Americans grew so passionate when discussing this issue.

No other issue has ever had to perform this balancing act, much less succeeded at it.

Spring has saved both lives and freedom

I don't wish to hold Joseph Szydlowski's feet too close to the fire over his article regarding the GOP and the current domestic espionage scare because I'm happy he has enough concern about his rights to stir his emotions.

But his attempt to compare "Monicagate" with the National Security Agency spying issue is just a tad off. President Bill Clinton was not only guilty of a crime, he admitted it. The NSA is only guilty of doing its job. I worked at the NSA during the last year of my Air Force enlistment from 1970-71, and I worked for it in other locations the previous three years. Internal surveillance was a part of the program even back then; an in-

tegral element in assuring the nation's security.

Going back further, my father's letters home from World War II were censored.

In fact, internal spying has been with us as long as there has been a "us." President George Washington used purloined information to formulate his plan for a successful attack at Trenton, and President Abraham Lincoln began using intercepted telegraph communications almost as soon as the wires were up.

This is not new stuff, and it is not dangerous stuff where you and I are concerned. It is, absolutely necessary, in it should be obvious to all, our rather vicious world. I often wonder just what form of input is

required to make people in this country understand what we're up against. Apparently the failing people-filled buildings in New York City weren't enough to get the message across. Civilian volunteers being murdered, burned and strung up on a Fallujah bridge, along with a series of beheadings of innocents, haven't made an impression.

Instead, while we worry about the rights of those who have been captured while fighting for a primitive ideology that demands the removal of American heads, we turn on those within our own culture who spend their day and nights trying to prevent that ideology from getting a chance to not only do

just that, but to do it here. The people who work at NSA are, quite simply, virtually similar to you. They live in this country and they have an abiding interest in keeping those families safe. The difference between them and us is that they actually get to take an active role in providing that safety—unless, of course, the real dark forces in this controversy get their way and stupidly tie NSA's hands. If we are dumb enough to allow that to happen, then, perhaps he will jump in next issue and delineate just what rights he feels he's lost. He goes to

praise

"Keep up the good work. Your content, content, photos and website coverage keeps those of us far away a little closer to campus. The work the staff is doing makes me proud to be alumnus."

-Tom Embrey, Editor of the McKinney Courier-Gazette

PETA calls kettle back

I just couldn't help but notice that the wonderful people of PETA decided to drop by Northern Kentucky University and condemn animal experimentation.

Done by an established professor, it allows students to gain more insight about diseases such as Alzheimer's and schizophrenia. Matthew Mongiello, the "associate researcher" for PETA, sent a letter of complaint to President James Votruba who supposedly "is not adequately addressing our [PETA's] concerns."

As an "associate researcher" myself, I have found some interesting things about PETA from consumer freedom.com. PETA is a state university! The group. The site also says PETA has killed over 10,000 dogs and cats at its Virginia headquarters, target children with brochures that says "Your Mommy kills animals!" and opposes any animal research, even if it could cure AIDS.

If PETA truly cared about the welfare of animals by others, wouldn't they first be concerned on how they themselves treat animals?

If meat is truly murder, then why doesn't PETA care carnivores, such as lions and bears, from eating other animals, such as deer? Where is the justice, I ask?

In PETA's warped world, there are no circuses, no zoos and no fast food. Nor could people hunt or celebrate holidays such as Thanksgiving.

Is this how consumers would like to be treated in terms of what they can eat? If you get the chance, wish PETA a Happy Thanksgiving or invite them out to Burger Case in point: using mice for learning about Alzheimer's and schizophrenia by NKU.

Mike Giordano

For more letters to the editors, visit our website: www.thenorthern.com.

How should the Supreme Court rule on the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban?

"REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM" MURDERERS "4000 CHILDREN PER DAY"

Does a fetus have rights?

PRO-CHILD PRO-FAMILY PRO-CHOICE

Why do you think abortion has remained at the forefront of American politics for so long?

school without having to show identification on every corner, he can move about the country freely, and he can even write editorials that would, in a different society, be justification for tossing him into the shredder. The people who use for Szydlowski, and for the political party he champions, to do a reality check. And it's his time for them to learn the definition of the word "enemy."

Dennis Fishel Anthropology

Rothbauer Ready

Senior prepares to lead this season

By Nathan Elen

Reporter
northerner@nku.edu

Imagine coming back for another season after you had won 55 in a row out of 57 games the year before. That is what the women's softball team is doing this year. Last season the Lady Norse broke the NCAA record for most consecutive wins in a season and this year they are hoping for a similar record. The ultimate goal is to make it back to the Division II World Series and win the championship.

Ricki Rothbauer is one of the four seniors on this season's squad. Rothbauer, from Louisville, was voted first team All-American, broke the single-season record for hits (82) and triples (9) last season. She was an intricate part to the Lady Norse's impressive streak.

Rothbauer says this season will be a lot different from last because they have lost so many key players. One of those players was their star pitcher Krystal Lewallen who won 32 of the games she pitched last year. "Krystal just had one of those seasons where she was unstoppable," Rothbauer said.

The season that the Lady Norse had last year will be hard to top and Rothbauer recognizes that. "It took ten years to break the record. It's not realistic to think that we can do it again, but it's not impossible."

This season the Lady Norse will dress nine freshmen on the team to replace the seniors who left last. Rothbauer says they are the future of NKU women's softball and they will get a lot of exposure this year because they are lacking veteran players. "Our team has a lot of kids to develop, but they have plenty of time to do it," Rothbauer said. Among those nine freshmen are infielder Amanda Smith and third baseman Cara Parker.

So far, the team is off to a 3-2 start with a tournament coming up Feb. 24 in Huntsville, Ala. "The team expectations are set for this

season, but we may have to reevaluate. It's hard to say right now; we have some kinks to work out," Rothbauer said. She also said, "It's pretty rocky, but right now, we're taking baby steps."

Along with the new faces on the team Rothbauer said that injuries are becoming a factor for the team. Rothbauer just came off her own knee surgery in the fall. She said right now it is important to get everyone healthy.

Since Rothbauer is one of the seniors on the team, she has a very important role to fill as one of the leaders for her younger teammates.

"My role is to teach the younger players their positions and make them a part of our team. If they understand their role as a player it will make everyone else's job on the team easier," Rothbauer said. She also said, "We may not be stronger or bigger than everyone else, but if we work together as a team, wins will come."

Rothbauer expresses a deep love for the game of softball and said she loves the strategy aspect of the game. "People say softball is a slow-paced game, but it's more than that, it's very mental, almost like a chess match," she said. She also loves that at any point, a different person can step up their game and be the hero.

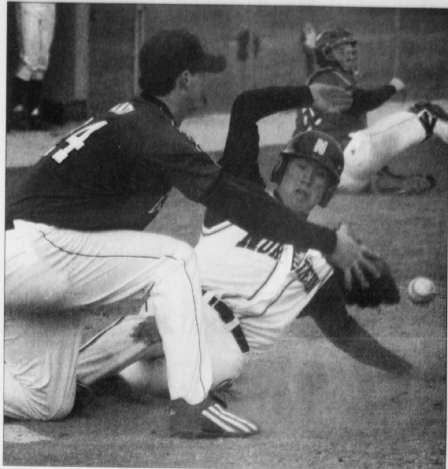
That mental aspect comes into play when Rothbauer steps onto the on-deck circle during a game.

"What I look for the most is the pitcher's release point. If I can find that out, it's easy to hit," Rothbauer said. Last season she finished second on the team with a .394 batting average.

Winning 55 games does not go unnoticed and other teams are very aware of the season that NKU had last year. "Everyone knows what our record was and wants to beat us now," Rothbauer said.

Rothbauer understands teams are going to approach them in this way. However, the Lady Norse are a different team this year and it may take them a while to get back to their record-breaking status of last season.

Sliding into the season



Tim Downer/Photographer

Northern Kentucky University's baseball team kicked off the season last week. The Norse broke into the national polls as they were able to knock off Grand Valley State and Wisconsin-Parkside. They came into the most recent poll at No. 24. Grand Valley State was ranked No. 8 when NKU beat them in the final game of a double-header Feb. 25. The game was highlighted by a grand slam hit by Matt Wagers.

inthehotseat with Tim Downer

Matt Marksburg, senior right handed pitcher and base running specialist is this week's guest on the Hot Seat.

Tim: Matt, you scored the winning run in the bottom of the last inning against Grand Valley State on Sunday. How often in your career are you a pinch runner?

Matt: That was the first time in my college career that I pinch ran. I'm no John Rock, a fast runner but I can move around the bases pretty well.

Tim: You were playing against a GLIAC team this weekend do you always use aluminum bats when you play against these teams?

Matt: The GLVC is one of the only wood bat conferences around so unless we are playing

a GLVC team it will always be a aluminum bat game.

Tim: As a pitcher, what does using aluminum bats do for your earned run average?

Matt: Aluminum bats seem to take your ERA up because there are a lot more hits that take place that wouldn't with a wood bat.

Tim: Do you think the GLVC should use aluminum bats or the NCAA in general?

Matt: Aluminum bats might be the worst invention for baseball. They are dangerous and teams get more hits off me with them.

Tim: Are you the best pitcher on this year's team? Are you better than your brother was?

Matt: We have a lot of talent on our pitching staff this year, everyone has their strengths and

weaknesses. Mike, my brother is going to be starting his third year of pro-ball this year, so I can hardly say that I am better than him.

Tim: Matt, how is moving to Florence's Champion field going to help the Norse?

Matt: I think it will bring in more recruits. I think that's why we don't get more top recruits they see some of the Division I fields and just turn their nose up at us.

Tim: Do you think the NKU students are going to drive to Florence to watch the baseball team?

Matt: If they want to see some good baseball from a great team that will be a contender for the regional championship this year,

so yea I think they will be there.

Tim: If you had to design a playing facility here at NKU where would you locate it and what would the field look like?

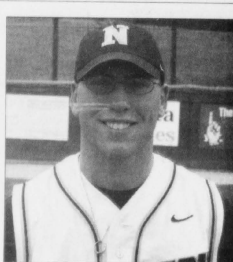
Matt: I would put it right where our field is now but switch home plate with center field so wind blew in, for the future NKU pitchers.

Tim: If you were a hitter, what pitcher would you hate to bat against, other than yourself?

Matt: Nate Jones, he has one of the sickest drop balls I have ever seen. But I would rip Greg Pass.

Tim: What is the best field to play on in the GLVC?

Matt: I am going to be able to say ours now. We are going to be playing on a professional field, which is every little kids dream.



Marksburg.

Tim Downer/Photographer

THE CATHOLIC NEWMAN CLUB OF NKU INVITES YOU!

Lenten Schedule:

Ash Wednesday: 12:15 pm Mass Budig Theatre

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12:15pm Daily Mass at the Budig Theatre or Room 108 every Wednesday during Lent (except March 8 Spring Break)

Spring Break Spiritual 'GET-AWAY'

Tuesday March 7th thru Thursday March 9th

Leaves campus 1pm

Returns by 6pm on Thursday

Mass, Presentations, Discussions, Bible Study and Reflection Time

Offering \$25.00

For more information or to make reservations contact Mrs. Patty Hook, Newman Club volunteer at 513.561.5022



'Greatest' circus offers three-ring fun

By Eric Hirth

Reporter
northerner@nku.edu

It takes a lot of conviction to call yourself "The Greatest Show on Earth." Year after year the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus holds up to its name and entertains millions of people. When the circus comes to Cincinnati's U.S. Bank Arena March 3, the spectacle will not disappear. Top performers will strut their abilities under the big top in the 135th edition of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

The star of this year's show

is Tyron McFarlan, who is the 34th ringmaster. He credits his military experience with giving him the confidence to land the job. McFarlan sees the circus as an entrée to a magical world, where his love of performing, music, people, animals and fun come together to provide an unparalleled experience.

"I don't ever deny myself an opportunity to do something new, and I'm so glad that I seized this one," McFarlan says.

Some other stars in the show include the clown Bello. Bello is best known for his tall hairdo and his ability to perform daredevil stunts.

The human cannonballs in this year's circus are Brian and Tina Miser. Brian and Tina are husband and wife and will attempt a double cannon shot not attempted for more than 30 years.

The show is also filled with other attractions ranging from animals to high-wire acts. Like every year, Clown Alley will perform, delivering dining disorder at a pizzeria of pandemonium. Also, The Inner Mongolia Acrobatic Troupe will perform tricks like the Chinese Poles and hoop diving.

For their 2006 performances, the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus has part-

nered with the Department of Defense's America Supports You program, established to showcase and communicate America's support for its military forces. Special ticket offers, personal appearances, fund-raising opportunities, special recognition of military during performances and in-show promotions are all part of how the circus contributes to the military effort.

Even the clowns are getting in on the act by engaging in outreach to youth and child development centers, libraries and hospitals.

"We proudly join an impressive roster that includes many of America's largest and most

prestigious corporations," said Kenneth Feld, chairman and CEO of Feld Entertainment Inc., the parent company of Ringling Bros. "It's a special honor and privilege to lift the spirits and create indelible memories for American armed forces and their families."

The 136th edition of the circus is already in the works. A team of television and film veterans have been brought in to help redefine the show. The creative team includes Academy Award winners, 120 performer and over 50 animals.

"This all-new production is introducing the biggest change-

es Ringling Bros. has experienced in 50 years," Feld said. "Our single goal in rethinking The Greatest Show on Earth was to give families a more intimate, interactive and up-close experience."

Nbrief

Tickets for this year's show are on sale now.

• The show runs from March 3 to March 5.

• Tickets are between \$14 and \$80 available at www.ringling.com.

barreview

All things 'Clique' at swanky Covington bar



Rich Shivener/Photographer

Formerly Bar Humbug, Clique features DJs every night.

By Pam Trzop

Staff Writer
trzop1@nku.edu

All directions are pointing to Covington, Ky. As an up-and-coming bar located in the art district, Clique is a much needed addition to the local bar scene. It offers a posh environment that serves great drinks and even better music.

After walking in the door, all eyes are drawn straight to the disc jockey booth, around which the room's decor is centered. Long, lush benches line the walls and there are chairs that can be pulled together to create a circle with friends, to people watch or to check out the DJ as he spins the night away. Clique's decor features mod furniture and interesting, eye-candy artwork.

In the second room is a long silver bar with shelves displaying all the beers, wine, and hard alcohol available.

Clique has all the bar basics, but it

puts an interesting spin on bar drinks, with specialties such as caphrinas, mojitos and sangria. The wine menu is short but fun, with a Latin American influence. Clique also offers a variety of Tequilas. A mixed drink or a glass of wine will cost \$5 and expect to pay \$4 for a beer.

Besides offering a great selection of alcohol, Clique prides itself on the variety of DJs. Every night of the week, different DJs spin from their collections. The music selection never gets boring as it includes indie, soul, deep house and old school.

On a weeknight, the crowd at the bar is sparse but the music makes a visit worthwhile. In order to get the full Clique experience, go on a weekend night when the crowd is hopping and the DJs never disappoint.

Clique is a great place to go on a date, hang out with friends or to enjoy some excellent music. The Covington location can be a drag, but once you are inside the trip is well worth it.

The Lowdown

Clique: 68 West Pike St.
Covington, Ky.

- Open 7 days a week
- Monday through Sunday, 8 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.
- DJs 7 days a week 10 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.
- No Cover (except special events)
- Must be 21 to enter

Want your bar or restaurant reviewed? Know one that deserves a shout-out or shout-down? E-mail Pam at pamelatrzop@hotmail.com

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Sunday Crossword

ACROSS
1 Peanut Butter and _____

DOWN
1 Opposite of big

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Rich Shivener
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arts&entertainment

Wednesday
 March 1, 2006
 Edition 37, Issue 8

CDreview

Teenage British band impresses the masses

Arctic Monkeys releases record-breaking album

By Melissa Elrod

Staff Writer
 elrodm@nku.edu

The Arctic Monkeys have barely cut its teeth, yet it is the United Kingdom's hottest new music commodity, already making history. Hailed by some as the best new garage band, it is also the current record holder for fastest selling debut album in British chart history, not bad for a quartet of 19-year-olds who have merely been playing together three years, and barely out of high school.

It was only a matter of time until a band of such caliber made its way across the pond to invade the American music scene.

While the Arctic Monkeys are still fairly underground in the United States, and hasn't quite made it onto the charts, its songs are definitely leaving a mark on the indie dance scene. And why shouldn't it? A majority of the Arctic Monkeys' debut "Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I Am Not" is very danceable. What makes the album great as a whole, though, is the way it combines the dance factor with garage rock, old-school punk, a few new wave ideas and even some ska elements.

Comparable to modern cohorts Athlete, The Strokes and We Are Scientists, but also to such classic bands as the



Photo courtesy of Press Here Publicist

The Arctic Monkeys' first album invades American records stores.

Pixies, Devo, and The Clash, the Arctic Monkeys combines many styles, but does it so that the multiple techniques become one semi-original entity.

"I Bet You Look Good On The Dancefloor," "Red Light Indicates Doors are Secured" and "From The Ritz To The Rubble" are the best garage rock gems of the album, while "Dancing Shoes," "Riot Van"

and "Mardy Bum" change up the vibe of the album, taking on a slower, ska theme. "When The Sun Goes Down" and "A Certain Romance" do a perfect job of combining the two major tempos used, proving to be the strongest songs on the album.

The guitars and vocals are definitely the most notable instruments on the album, with lead player Alex Turner

truly taking on the star role of the group. The rest of the members are nothing to sneeze at though, as all of them have the chops and talent to make this band the success it is. While their name may be one of the most terrible the music world has ever seen, the Arctic Monkeys' music is some of the best to be heard in awhile.

The FIX

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

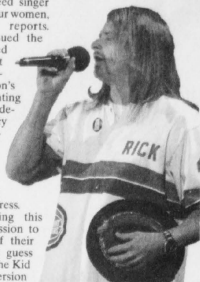


There's no denying the closeness shared between co-stars **Jake Gyllenhaal** and **Heath Ledger** during the filming of their Oscar-nominated film "Brokeback Mountain." However, that closeness wasn't all acting—they're pals in real life, too. "Heath and I are best friends now. Making the film was very intense for us," Gyllenhaal told the London Mirror. More proof of the actors' strong friendship is Ledger and girlfriend Michelle Williams' decision to give Gyllenhaal an important role in the life of their daughter; "I'm actually godfather to Heath's daughter, Matilda, which is an amazing honor," Gyllenhaal said.

Kid Rock is really a "cowboy" between the sheets. The rapper has won a temporary order to stop a California company from releasing an explicit sex video featuring Rock, former Creed singer **Scott Stapp** and four women, Star Magazine reports. Rock's lawyers sued the World Wide Red Light District Company (distributor of Paris Hilton's sex video) for violating the musician's trademark and privacy rights. In fact, falsity is not an issue: "We don't deny the authenticity of the tape," Rock's lawyer told the Detroit Free Press. "But they're using this without his permission to drive the sales of their other products." I guess we should expect the Kid Rock authorized version

of the tape coming soon to a store near you.

Singer **Nick Lachey** could have many reasons for his absence at the Bel-Air Country Club where he and ex **Jessica Simpson** used to frequent, but one insider believes the worst: Nick has been banned from the club due to the machinations of his ex-father-in-law Joe Simpson. "I used to see Nick there all the time," one insider told Star Magazine, "but all of a sudden Nick's gone and Joe's there several times a week." Supposedly, the club's security guards didn't allow Nick entry, but Joe's rep told Star it's not true: "Nick is a welcome member." Of course, Nick's absence could have nothing to do with the fact that he's promoting his new album and spending quality time with a former Miss Kentucky, could it?



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 Sunday from 12 noon to 7:30 p.m.

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campuscalendar

Wednesday

• **Lecture:** NASA Astronaut Dr. Ronald M. Sega at noon in UC Ballroom. Limited space available, lunch provided.

• **Catholic Newman Club:** Ash Wednesday Distribution of Ashes at 12:15 p.m. in Budig Theatre.

• **International Coffee Hour** from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second floor of the UC.

• **Career Development Center Information Session** at 5:30 p.m. in University Suites. Pizza and drinks provided.

• **Lecture:** "Beware of the Down Lower" at 7 p.m. in Budig Theatre.
• **Lecture by NKU alumnae** George A. Smith: "Hip Hop vs. Rap" at 8:10 p.m. in Norse Commons 117.

Thursday

• **"Legal Issues and Your Business,"** 6 to 9 p.m. in BEP 461.

• **Chorale and Musicals** at 8 p.m. in Greaves Hall. Admission: \$3 Students, Faculty, and Staff, \$5 General Admission.

Friday

• **Event Cancellation:** Corbett Scholars Recital at 8 p.m. in Greaves Hall. The event has been rescheduled for March 16.

To include the event you're planning in the calendar, contact Regan Coomer at coomer@nku.edu, or call The Northerner at 572-5859.

Horoscopes

ARIES (March 21-April 20) Early this week, private home discussions reveal the hidden fears of loved ones. Public criticism, career failure or the disapproval of authority figures may be more debilitating than anticipated. A long-term relationship may begin an intense phase of emotional negotiation. Key issues involve traditional roles and obligations. Stay alert.
TAURUS (April 21-May 20) Younger friends or relatives may be unusually introspective over the next few days. Allow for extra privacy. Later this week, study financial records for errors. Ask key officials for guidance: this is the best time to rely on creative business solutions.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21) New relationships are exciting, necessary and joyful. Over the next six days, enjoy private moments with potential

friends but avoid long-term goals or future plans. Thursday through Saturday, a business agreement from approximately 28 months ago may demand fast revisions or lengthy negotiations. Don't hesitate: there's much to gain.
CANCER (June 22-July 22) Study daily habits and health regimes for needed improvements this week. At present, the hidden agendas or private politics of co-workers may affect the decisions of authority figures. Later this week, dreams and sudden intuitions may reveal romantic doubts of a friend. Be supportive.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Over the next six days, a colleague or close friend needs extra encouragement. Social isolation will not help heal ongoing family or romantic disappointment. Thursday through Saturday, workplace routines steadily expand. Key officials

may soon ask for volunteers or special advisors. Be consistent: yesterday's successes will need to be repeated.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Business decisions, although controversial, will this week work to your advantage. Ask key officials for special permissions, educational funding or new assignments. Areas of concern may involve romantic triangles, forgotten proposals or lost ambition. Remain diplomatic.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Before mid-week, home plans may be easily disrupted by the emotional demands of a close friend. Romantic advice, social guidance or the recent actions of a potential lover may all be at issue. After Thursday, a colleague or business partner may reveal an unexpected need to your daily life. Be polite but set firm boundaries: private and pub-

lic relationships are this week best kept clearly defined. After Wednesday, a recently shy co-worker may voice strong opinions. Don't back down: your decisions are valid.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) Romantic triangles are this week distracting and unproductive. After Tuesday, a close friend or lover may misinterpret your emotional or social interest in a colleague. Avoid complex discussions: this is not the right time to address ongoing issues of trust and privacy. Stay focused: authority figures may provide purposefully misleading facts.
PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Workplace negotiations will this week provide unique insights into the methods of key officials. Financial improvement, long-term contracts and job promotions may not arrive as expected. Diplomacy and accurate facts are important: thoroughly evaluate all options before offering a response.

Classifieds

Sitters Wanted. Average \$8/hr. Register free for babysitting, pet-sitting & house-sitting jobs near campus or home.
www.student-sitters.com

Warehouse/Packaging. Leslie's Swimming Pool Supplies is the world's largest retailer of pool supplies. Seasonal openings in Dist. Center. Exp. a plus in order selection/receiving/quality audit/loading/packaging. P/T & P/T 2:30-11:30pm shifts available. EOE. Apply 9am-3pm M-F at: 1231 Aviation Blvd./Hebron, KY 41048

Fun in the Sun! Lifeguards wanted in North Myrtle Beach, "Will train," no experience necessary. Apply www.nbslifeguards.com

Babysitters needed. \$8+/hour. www.TheSitterConnection.com

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Sudoku

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No math skills required. Neurons a plus! Here's a puzzle with numbers. Nothing has to add up to anything else. Yippee! Instead, you solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Where do you start solving a Sudoku puzzle? You can begin in any square, but one mistake early in the game and you'll be in a mess later.

In each row, fill in the numbers one through nine (1-9) in any order without repeating any number. In each column do the same. Using the given numbers, fill in each three-by-three box with the correct answer. No number should be repeated in any row, column, or three-by-three box.

There is only one solution, and it can be reached

using logic. Guessing is not necessary!

An EASY puzzle (Neural Numbering May Occur) might take you half an hour the first time, but practice should lower your time. MEDIUM difficulty (Migraines Likely) will probably give you a headache.

On the other hand, if you were on death row, scheduled for execution in the morning, and the guard told you if you solved a HARD puzzle (Risk of Brain Aneurism) your life would be spared - you'd probably die.

Solutions, tips, and computer program at www.sudoku.com. You can visit this Web site to practice, learn strategies, and improve your time.

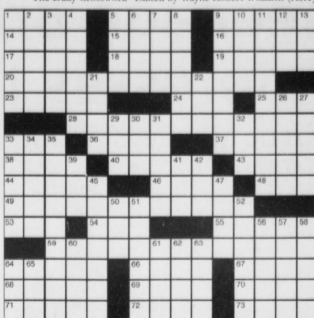
Risk of Brain Aneurism

						2	8
		7		3	1		
5	1			9	7		
2		3		8			
	8					7	
			5	4			9
		2	6			5	1
		5	8		4		
3	9						

Answers to this week's crossword puzzle will be posted on The Northerner Web site at www.thenortherner.com.

Crossword

"The Daily Crossword" Edited by Wayne Robert Williams (KRT)



Across

- Burrowing mollusk
- "The Beverly Hills" co-star
- One Astaire
- Hindu deity
- "Fernando" group
- Cook with dry heat
- Warning sign
- Lahr or Lance
- Oxidizes
- Financial fantasy?
- Gymnast Comaneci
- Vegas intro
- O-U link
- Financial fantasy?
- Play division
- Marsh bird
- Hawkins Dance
- Stimulus
- Scheming group
- Adroit
- Parcel out
- Early Colorados
- Small inlet
- Financial fantasy?
- Mule's sire
- Homily topic
- del Sol
- Financial fantasy?
- Domicile
- Solemly swear
- Pica's river
- Leafy recess
- Take a shine to
- Type of estate?
- Finates
- Took off
- Fabled archer

Down

- Ornamental circlet
- Fennel vampire
- Change for the better
- Praying
- Foxy lady
- Biblical victim
- Spanish river
- Baby's toy
- Collars
- Ill-humored
- 1969 Peter Fonda flick
- D-Day transport
- UFO crew
- Milliner's specialty
- Mai cocktail
- Bookstore sect.
- Fraternity letter
- Mythical bird
- Pers. pension
- Afghanistan's capital
- Excellent, slangily
- Old World lizard
- Pepsi and Coke
- Chat programs
- Jane or John
- NATO word
- Luau souvenir
- Beverage samplers
- Civil rights org.
- Frontier scout Carson
- Into two
- Small racer
- Lively outfit
- Having harmony
- Coral formation
- fixe
- Bad
- Witticism
- Enthralled
- Justice Forces
- Big contractor

Answers to this week's crossword puzzle will be posted on The Northerner Web site at www.thenortherner.com.

BOOKS FOR



The Fells

by Alex Campbell

