

THE NORTHERNER

Volume 30, Number 16

Independent Student Publication of Northern Kentucky University

Wednesday, January 10, 2001

Snapshot:

NEWS

See how NKU's own METS program has established itself as a training program referral hub for local employers.

See Page 2

FEATURES



Are you a die-hard U2 fan? Check out how their latest record fared with one of our staff members.

See Page 4

SPORTS



The NKU men's basketball team attempted to get off to its best start ever against Southern Illinois-Edwardsville at Regents Hall. Read how the Norse fared on page 6.

VIEWPOINTS

How did you spend this New Year's? See how some of your fellow students spent theirs in this week's North Poll.

See Page 3

WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

cooljobs.com

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This site is an excellent jumping-off place if you're looking for the not-so-ordinary job. Category searches include beer, space and clowning. Links lead to other non-traditional job sites where you can post your resume.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Jan 8, 1962-Mona Lisa is exhibited for the first time in the U.S. at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.
Jan 10, 1917-Buffalo Bill dies.

INDEX

DPS Reports 2
North Poll 5
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Water main break floods dorms

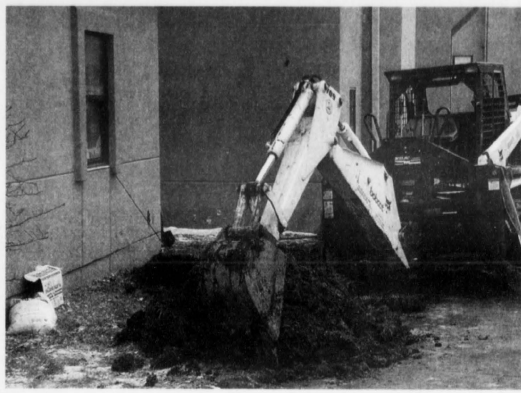
By James Proffitt

Assistant Features Editor

Saturday, Dec. 23 at about 3:45 p.m., a waterline that feeds water to the sprinkler system in a section of Norse Hall broke. Consequently, 12 rooms located in Norse Commons were flooded and seriously damaged. The residents of those rooms have been relocated into other rooms. Patty Hayden, director of Residential Life at Northern Kentucky University, sent out a letter to the students who were scheduled to live in those rooms in the upcoming semester.

This is how it began: We deeply regret any inconvenience or loss you may have experienced due to the recent break in the sprinkler system water line. We sincerely appreciate everyone's understanding, cooperation and good humor. Your patience has helped us handle a very difficult situation. Although we would prefer to meet your families under more favorable conditions, we have enjoyed the opportunity to meet and talk with your families.

In the week before we came back to classes, Patty Hayden and office secretary Julie Bridewell were both very busy. The reassigning of students to other rooms, and the hassles that go with it seemed to be pretty time consuming.



A backhoe fixes a waterline break that occurred in Norse Commons. Two days before Christmas, the break flooded 12 dorm rooms, causing serious damage and reassignments to other rooms.

"It's a problem getting everyone assigned, because there's not a lot of spaces available," said Bridewell. "It happened on Saturday, and people who needed to be moved got moved that night. We were able to move people who

were here with all their stuff immediately."

She said at first, "People were running around trying to get everything in order. Everybody did the best they could to get everyone relocated and as happy as possible.

We tried to keep roommates together if possible."

Hayden said some students are currently being reassigned to one bedroom units in Woodcrest, and some are going to empty spaces in Norse. "Right now, things are bal-

ancing out," she said. By Jan. 5, all of the residents had been given a room assignment.

While Residential Life is staying quite busy trying to make things run as smoothly as possible, some students were not satisfied with the way the situation was handled. Karin Gerlach, who lived in one of the rooms that the flood hit, was one of these students.

"(The flood) happened on the 23rd," she began. "I came back on the 26th, and they said they'd have room assignments by next week." As of the morning of Jan. 4 (four days before school started), Gerlach still didn't have a room assignment.

"They also didn't call everybody when it happened," she said. "They called me, but I'm local. They didn't call my roommates. They should've called everybody." Gerlach, who had to call her roommates herself so they would be informed on what had happened, said that her overall experience with Residential Life during this time wasn't a pleasant one.

"I don't think they're handling the situation very well. I'm very disappointed. They're not being very courteous about (dealing with the students)," Gerlach who was on scene when the rooms were being cleared out, said the firemen on the scene and the physical plant

See Water Main, Page 8

Winter Wonderland



During the holiday break, the Tri-State area experienced a winter wonderland as temperatures reached record lows and snow covered the ground. NKU's Highland Heights campus was an image of snow, ice and sunshine while students were away.



Jason Crisler/The Northern

NKU's classrooms are getting smarter

By Cheryl Ritchie

Staff Writer

Eighteen classrooms on Northern Kentucky University's campus will no longer be dumb.

The classrooms are being upgraded to what is called "smart classrooms." Smart classrooms, at NKU, will consist of a projector, projector screen in most rooms, Panasonic VCR, dual speakers in front of the room, a Dell computer, and a cabinet for a computer monitor and a control panel, according to Gary Pratt, associate provost for Information Technology.

Dr. Gary E. Clayton, professor of economics, said it has made teaching more fun and it's

"absolutely terrific." Clayton pointed out that students will no longer need to move their desks to see a small TV screen; in the upgraded rooms, when professors

"I don't think we will have any media equipment problems at all this semester"

-Gary Pratt

want to show videos.

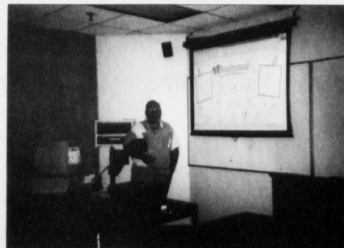
The projector screens in the smart classrooms are able to be easily seen from every seat throughout the room.

Professors, Clayton said, will be able to use the projectors to show their students videos, DVDs, computer presentations and Internet sites.

The dual speakers allow crystal clear sound through the entire classroom. The rooms should be finished by about mid-January. Each room will cover different areas of academics. Every department chair who requested a room has received at least one smart classroom.

The first rooms were funded by the Student Technology Fee and Pratt said he is hoping to draw outside money as well for the upcoming classrooms.

See CLASSROOMS, Page 8



Cheryl Ritchie/The Northern

NKU steps into the technological future with new smart classrooms.

METS receives Clinton's OK

By Dan Mecher
News Editor

As a result of a recently passed appropriations bill, The Municipal Education and Training Systems program at Northern Kentucky University will receive a late Christmas gift from Uncle Sam.

President Clinton's signature on the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act assured funding to various government programs, including a \$500,000 allocation to METS secured by Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky).

"The allotment will go toward general program support," said Robert Snyder, program director and NKU faculty member.

METS began its operations in September 1999, assessing regional employers' training needs and supplying them with lists of worldwide providers of the services required.

"It's really going to accel the rate we can make our services available to employers and broaden our client base," Snyder said.

He added that the much of the bill's success was due to the work of Joseph Wind, NKU's assistant vice president of Community and Government Relations. NKU's efforts toward obtaining the funds began in March, according to Wind. He and President James Trotuba met with Congressmen to help push the bill.

"This year we made several trips to Washington to keep our projects in the forefront of the Congressional Members' minds," he said. "We also called on our alumni in Washington to help."

Wind's work as a liaison to Congress has helped to secure more than \$860,000 for NKU in the past two years.

"I have to say that it is important to thank Senator McConnell, Senator Bunning, and Congressman Lucas for their effort to help NKU," he said. "They have truly been supportive of NKU and our educational programs. They have also offered their continuing support to NKU and plan to help us with additional funding this year."

Snyder said the appropriations would not be spent on building the program's newly proposed METS Center. Funding for the projected 50,000 square foot structure designed for hosting education and professional development programs brokered by METS will come from the state, according to Snyder. The Commonwealth of Kentucky is providing METS with a yearly sum of \$700,000 for the center's construction, he said.

The approved Omnibus bill will help move the program into a higher level, Trotuba said. "We will use these funds to connect advanced educational and training programs with the Greater Cincinnati companies and employees who need them," he explained.

Trotuba led in the creation of METS through a financial partnership with NKU, Delta Airlines, the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, and the Tri-County Economic Development Corporation.

"Community leaders have expressed that providing quality work force education and training is critical to the growth of businesses in the Tri-state region," Trotuba said. "NKU's METS program is in answer to this call and Senator McConnell's support will help us accomplish this goal."

Spending details are being developed by the Department of Education and the Research and Grants office. Wind said a formal agreement will be reached in the next few months.

NKU's METS a resource for KY employers looking for training aid

By Dan Mecher
News Editor

Kentucky employers in need of operational changes can look to Northern Kentucky University's Municipal Education and Training Systems Program (METS) for advice.

METS, managed by NKU faculty member Dr. Robert Snyder, seeks education and work force training for the companies in the region.

The program finds the best training programs from around the world and makes them available when and where the employer needs them.

"We provide a slate of possible providers," Snyder said. "Right now we have approximately 250 organizations or individuals in our database."

Employers who use the service meet with METS representatives to discuss their apparent educational, training and development needs. An attempt is then made to identify the most cost-effective solution.

According to Snyder, an external training provider is not always the best answer.

"We don't sell training per se," he said. "We also help employers recognize the ways they can improve their without a training provider."

Snyder added that organizations found training at too many problems that could be fixed internally.

Such alternatives might include changes in the rewards system and employee motivation, he said.

After a plan is established and implemented, METS then evalu-

ates the employer's results at no cost.

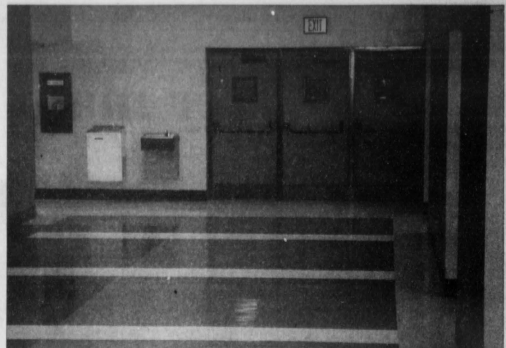
Snyder describes METS as having a completely different perspective in evaluating businesses than other programs who provide their own training services because no conflict of interests exists.

"With us there is 100% total advocacy for the employer," he said.

METS is a public service alliance made up of NKU, Delta Airlines, the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, and the Tri-County Economic Development Corporation.

Additional funding is provided by the Kentucky and Greater Cincinnati Chambers of Commerce.

Face Lift



Jason Crisler/The Northerner

NKU is under renovations. Pictured above is the slicked-up Nunn Hall lobby.

D.P.S. REPORTS

Dec. 2- Auto Accident- no injuries. University vehicle while backing up struck another University vehicle that was parked. Minor damage was done to both vehicles.

Dec. 3- Assault, 4th Degree: Minor injury, no medical attention. A female subject received a minor injury, from her ex-boyfriend, as a result of an argument. The male subject was placed in custody at 2:12 p.m. following a small scuffle with the responding officers. The male was issued a Kentucky State Citation and was transported to the Campbell County Jail.

Dec. 5- Auto Accident: no injuries. Brinks Armored Car backed into a vehicle belonging to the president of NKU. Minor damage was done to

both vehicles.

Dec. 6- Male NKU employee collapsed while on a university assignment. Victim was treated at scene by both the responding DPS Officer and the University's nurse. Victim was transported by Central Campbell County Squad to St. Luke Hospital East for treatment. Upon arrival, the victim was pronounced dead by the attending emergency room physician. The victim died of an apparent heart attack.

Dec. 15- Residential Life Assistants requested a DPS Officer

respond reference an alcohol related incident. Numerous empty liquor bottles and empty beer cans were found during a room inspection. Residents were not present during the inspection. Report forwarded to Residential Life for possible disciplinary action.

Jan. 2- Male juvenile fell while skateboarding on campus. Subject suffered a possible concussion. Subject was incoherent and nauseous when officer arrived on the scene. Subject was transported by Central Campbell County Squad to St. Luke East Hospital for treatment.

Jan. 4- Found/Recovered Property: a wheelchair was found at Parking Lot P. It was secured in the DPS property room.

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Envoy seeks peaceful ending to Colombian war

By MICHAEL EASTERBROOK
Associated Press Writer

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — A government envoy flew into a rebel-held southern enclave Thursday on a widely watched mission that could decide the fate of peace negotiations to end Colombia's 36-year conflict.

Presidential peace commissioner Camilo Gomez was investigating allegations that guerrillas assassinated a prominent congressman last week. Gomez was meeting outside the town of San Vicente del Caguan with rebel leaders, including Manuel Marulanda, the aging founder of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, the envoy's office said.

The Dec. 29 assassination of Diego Turbay, who headed a congressional peace committee, has unleashed heated calls for President Andres Pastrana to either suspend or alter the course on peace talks with the FARC.

"If they were to admit that they did it, it would be very hard for the government to accept that and most likely it would be the end of the talks," former peace envoy Daniel Garcia-Pena told The Associated Press.

Turbay, his mother, and five others were stopped on a highway in southern Caqueta State, not far from FARC headquarters, and shot in the head.

Colombia's military has accused the guerrillas in the killings, producing radio inter-

cepts allegedly implicating them.

FARC, Colombia's largest guerrilla faction, has neither claimed nor denied responsibility for the slayings. The 15,000-member group has been fighting since the 1960s to topple the South American country's elected government.

Pastrana's Conservative Party said Wednesday the peace process would require a "180-degree" turnaround should the rebels be found responsible for Turbay's death.

The president has indicated he has evidence pointing to the guerrillas. But peace has been the top priority of his administration and Pastrana has been reluctant in the past to break off negotiations over alleged rebel atrocities.

Colombians' patience with the peace process was wearing thin even before the slayings. Two years of talks have failed to produce any breakthroughs, and rebel attacks on small towns and kidnappings continue.

The FARC froze talks in November to protest alleged complicity between the government and rightist paramilitary militias and to show their opposition to \$1.3 billion U.S. aid package that provides the Colombian military with troop training and dozens of military helicopters to destroy drug crops protected by groups including the FARC.

The rightist militias, who oppose the peace process, also have had a presence in

the cattle-ranching region where Turbay and the others were killed. In the northeastern town of Yombito on Wednesday, more than 100 militia gunmen rounded up 11 suspected guerrilla sympathizers and killed them, said a state prosecutor investigating the massacre.

Pastrana must decide by Jan. 31 whether to extend a 2-year-old land concession for peace that gives the FARC control over the huge five-township area that includes San Vicente del Caguan.

U.S. and Colombian officials accuse the rebels of using the safe haven to recruit fighters, smuggle cocaine and conceal kidnap victims, and ending it would almost surely kill the negotiations.

Israel to follow Clinton's negotiation formula

By BARRY SCHWEID
AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton's drive for a Middle East peace accord inched ahead Friday as Israeli officials announced approval of his formula for settlement negotiations with the Palestinians.

White House and State Department spokesmen said Israel still had reservations about the proposals Clinton gave to the two sides before Christmas. They said U.S. mediators were working with Gilead Sher, an Israeli emissary, to try to overcome them.

Sher was dubious that much ground could be gained toward the accord that would crown Clinton's eight years with a peacemaker's legacy. Prime Minister Ehud Barak's office director told Israel radio from meetings Thursday and Friday that "the chances of a breakthrough or even of progress by Jan. 20 are slim."

Still, Sher planned to reassure Clinton Friday night that his government accepts the president's outline, provided Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat did as well.

Arafat told Clinton at the White House on Tuesday that he accepted the president's formula, also with reservations.

On a positive note, meanwhile, State Department spokesman Richard Brasher said, "We have seen less violence in the last couple of days, and that is much welcomed."

Israel has insisted that Arafat stifle attacks, and the Palestinian leader assured Clinton on Tuesday that he would do what he could to stop the shootings and resume cooperation with Israel on countering terrorism.

Sher was taking to the White House a detailed response to Clinton's proposals. Contents of the six-page document, addressed to Sandy Berger, the president's national security adviser, were not disclosed.

An Israeli official said the response contained no surprises.

Clinton's spokesman Sievert said the president "is determined to keep working at this," and it was critical in his last days "to do everything he can ... to see whether we can put the parties in a place where they can begin to talk."

At the same time, Sievert said Israel had agreed in principle to parameters of a negotiated settlement. But he added: "They've expressed some reservations, as have the Palestinians. And the president will take the opportunity to talk to them about how we might reconcile the interpretations."

Sievert said, "We're obviously expecting at some point that a Palestinian negotiator will come in and do something similar that we've done with the Israelis."

Clinton's framework would establish a Palestinian state on about 95 percent of the West Bank and in Gaza, give the Palestinians some control in East Jerusalem and sharply reduce the 144 enclaves on the West Bank in which 200,000 Israeli Jews live.

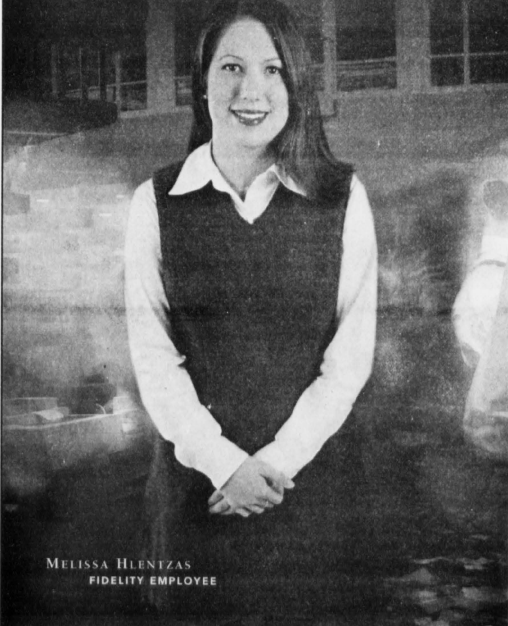
Arafat is demanding certification of a right of Palestinian refugees to return to Israel, from which they say they were expelled on Israel's founding in 1948. Including descendants, this could involve close to 4 million Arabs. The Palestinians also seek sovereignty over East Jerusalem, to establish a capital, and a different configuration of their projected state.



AP Photo
An Israeli tank rumbles through the war-torn Gaza Strip. Israel has agreed to use President Clinton's formula for peace.

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Korean sushi and BBQ with Jason

Dining Review

By Jason Crisler
Production Manager

As I stared at my raw eel with small shreds of seaweed sticking to it in a barbecue-style sauce while the owner and two Korean servers expectantly awaited my reaction after my first taste of sushi, all I could think about was that I had better not gag.

Talk about performance anxiety. But let's back up a little and take it from the top.

My love of new and original food led me to Chung Kiwa Korean Barbecue, in Florence, to sample their wares. Especially raw fish.

My curiosity to try this eastern delicacy was at a height as I sat in my booth and ordered my main course. Bul Go Ki.

Bul Go Ki is seasoned, thin sliced beef with vegetables served on a steaming-hot plate with a bowl of steamed rice.

The cost of the entree was \$14.95. I had a pleasant yet not overpowering flavor. My guest ordered Bokeum Bob. It was fried rice with beef, pork, chicken, shrimp and assorted veggies. It cost \$10.95.

Bokeum Bob was also a flavorful dish and like the Bul Go Ki, was very similar to many of the Chinese meals I had eaten.

There are also meals on the menu in which your food is brought to your table uncooked and you are able to cook it yourself at a grill that is built into the table top.

The owner, Shea Morgan, said that the barbecue you cook at your table is more flavorful and tastes better. That option by itself is enough for me to go back.

Along with my meal I tried Sake, Ozeki Sake to be exact, for the first time. Sake is Japanese rice. A small single-person bottle cost \$4.00. The bottle came with a small glass that was close to the same size as my shot.

The best description I can give for the Ozeki Sake is that it tasted like a vodka-wine

hybrid. There was no fruity flavor like in most western wines. The taste was dry yet smooth with very little after-taste.

Chung Kiwa Korean Barbecue also has authentic Korean beers for comparable prices to domestic beers.

Finally, it came time to try sushi. I told the owner and our server, who where both very friendly and helpful, that I had never had sushi before. They brought me a sushi menu and suggested Unagi (eel) and a

California Roll.

The thought of eel made me hesitant, but they both assured me that Unagi was very popular with first-timers because it has a barbecue flavor.

I loved the sauce that masks most of the fishy flavor. For \$4.95 I got two pieces of Unagi.

The California roll consisted of small pieces of

crab rolled with kani, cucumber, avocado and rice. \$3.95 will get you six California Rolls.

The sushi was brought to us on a mini cutting board garnished with small ginger shavings that were too sweet for my taste.

We were given small square-shaped bowls meant for dipping the sushi in soy sauce.

After a slight hesitation I was able to dip and then maneuver the Unagi to my mouth with chopsticks.

As promised the most prevalent of flavors were the sauces (oy and barbecue) and the California Roll tasted mostly like vegetables with a slight hint of crab.

Overall my first experience with sushi was a pleasant one and my onlookers seemed satisfied with my reaction. I will eat sushi again; maybe next time I'll try octopus or squid.

If your interested in giving Chung Kiwa Korean Barbecue a try, they are located at 7800 Commerce Dr., Florence, Ky. Their phone number is (859) 525-9930. I suggest the Unagi.

U2 still withstands time

By James Proffitt
Assistant Features Editor

Many bands seem to come and go in the world of music. U2 is not one of these bands.

Bono, The Edge, Adam Clayton, and Larry Mullen have passed the test of time with flying colors. They are arguably the most successful band of the past 20 years. As time passed, the band's music began to change. The evolution was gradual, and culminated with the release of their last studio album, *Discotheque*. On U2's newest project, "All You Can't Leave Behind," the band displays a definite change from some of the tracks on *Discotheque*.

Many critics have claimed that U2 returned to their roots with this record. Being a big fan of the older sound of U2 (not that I didn't also enjoy what I heard of the newer sound), I was excited to hear this. After listening to the album, I must say that I was very pleased with the latest outing from the Dublin

quartet. However, whether they returned to their old style or not is a compounded issue.

Literally, this album reminds me of the U2 from the '80s. The album opens with its first single, "Beautiful Day." "Beautiful Day" is a throwback to the old days of U2, with its solid rhythm and optimistic lyrics (Touch me! I know I'm not a hopeless case).

Music Review

What you don't have/ you don't need it now/ What you don't know/ you can feel it somehow. The currently unreleased tracks on the album display the same lyrical qualities, focusing on such topics as hope (from "Stuck In A Moment You Can't Get Out Of"). And if your way should falter along the stony pass/ it's just a moment/ this time will pass/ contentment (from "Grace"). What left a mark no longer stings/ Because Grace

makes beauty out of ugly things); and spiritual help (from "Peace on Earth": Jesus could you take the time/ to throw a drowning man a line).

Musically, the album features a cross-section of U2's various sounds. It could almost be viewed as a musical retrospective. Some of the songs reminded me of their later '80s albums ("Joshua Tree" and "Rattle and Hum"), while their were also traces of their more recent sound (heard on "Zooropa" and "Discotheque"). Overall, if this album could be compared to another in a musical sense, I would say it comes closest to the band's first '90s effort, "Achtung Baby."

Of course, that's just my opinion. Whatever time period it reminds you the most of, one would have a hard time arguing that this album isn't a throwback to the older days of U2.

My thumbs are up in the air for this album.

Definitely a job well done.



U2 is, from left to right: Larry Mullen Jr., Adam Clayton, The Edge and Bono.

NKU grad returns with acclaimed musical

By Jason R. Crisler
Production Manager

1992 Northern Kentucky University graduate of Theater, Regan Forman, is returning to the school and is bringing her critically acclaimed original musical "The Chronicles of Arlechino and Columbino" with her.

Forman, whose mother teaches in NKU's theater department, co-wrote the musical with her co-star and husband Oded Gross.

Gross, who is also a composer, co-wrote all the music as well.

Arretta Baumgartner, NKU theater fine arts manager, said the musical, a comedy, consists of two acts. The first

act is the "Comedy of Romeo and Juliet" and the second act is the "Comedy of Oedipus Rex."

The only performers in the play are Forman and Gross. Forman's mother, Sandy Forman said, have taken two of theater's most famous tragedies and made them into comedies.

Romeo and Juliet come to Arlechino and Columbino with their problems," she said. Oedipus Rex does the same.

The two acts are connected in that they tell the story of Arlechino and Columbino but Sandy Forman said she cannot say more without ruining the musical.

The musical debuted in Los Angeles' Powerhouse theater and was scheduled to be performed in New York until Forman broke her foot during her wedding reception, and they were forced to cancel, Sandy Forman said.

"It was the L.A. pick of the week," she said.

Baumgartner said the musical has humor, music, improvisation and stage fighting.

Sandy Forman added that there will be some audience participation as well.

Baumgartner said this is a rare event at NKU because plays performed on the West Coast rarely are performed by

the original cast in the Midwest.

Forman also demonstrates, Baumgartner said, how NKU alumni are becoming successful after graduation.

Forman is to receive NKU's 2000-01 Alumni Success Award.

Forman will be giving a speech in the Black Box Theater Jan. 19 at 1:00 p.m., sponsored by the Arts and Sciences Lecture Series. It is free and open to the public.

The play will only show for two



Photo Contributed/The Northern

NKU grad Regan Forman and husband Oded Gross both star in the original musical *The Chronicles of Arlechino and Columbino*. The musical is a combination of two other famous productions: *Romeo and Juliet* and *Oedipus Rex*.

nights, Jan. 20 and 21. Tickets are only \$3.00 for students.

For ticket information call NKU's Box Office at (859) 572-5464.

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America has done it again. It has again "elected" to the office of the President someone who is staggeringly mediocre—both in terms of competence and in intelligence. Call it Dan Quayle all over again.

Even his own campaign staff played up how mediocre this man is. Before every major debate this fall, his campaign staff tried to downplay expectations about Dubya's performance, fully aware that Al Gore was both more intelligent and competent on the issues than their own man.

Congratulations, America, you've elected your favorite drinking buddy from college as executive

of the most powerful nation on earth. The last time we elected someone this mediocre (1980, Ronald Reagan, for those of you who don't buy into the current Republican revisionism), we had to elect a competent and intelligent man (Bill Clinton), to clean up all his mistakes.

I guess we'll have to do that same thing four years from now.

By Matt Birkenhauser

Matt is a Literature and Language instructor at NKU's Grant County campus. He lives in Ludlow.

For a New Year of success, try some ancient science

By Maria Ferrari

Daily Northwestern (Northwestern U.)

(U-WIRE) EVANSTON, Ill. — The fifth day or so of a new year is always significant — at least in my experience — as the time my New Year's resolutions crawl off in search of a place to die. Wild parties late at night are notoriously poor environments for decision-making. Yet our society encourages us to invent entire systems for self-improvement even as it takes away our car keys. Perhaps you have experienced this: "The rest of that SoCo is looking pretty good, and I'm going to SPAC every morning before class for the next millennium."

Fortunately, I've discovered an art that takes the "self" out of "self-improvement." I offer it to you as the ultimate New Year's resolution: This year, promise your c'hi that you're going to give feng shui a chance.

Feng shui is the ancient Chinese art of placement, used for centuries to enhance health, wealth, and relationships. It boils down to the concept that if something in your life is not working out well, you should rearrange your furniture. It is a great system. As a person who wants to increase my prosperity without having to leave my apartment, I found feng shui easy to incorporate into my Western lifestyle.

One of the best things about feng shui is that you don't have to believe in it per se. It's not a religion or philosophy, it's just the way you've set up your dorm room.

Refusing to "believe in" feng shui is like refusing to believe in college a cappella groups. You might choose to ignore them, but they're there, influencing your life in subtle ways. Because feng shui is universal, getting a book on Feng

shui is a good chance to go around correcting things you really hate about other people's rooms. When bad things happen to those who don't let you repaint their walls, you can nod in a way that suggests you tried to protect them from just this sort of misfortune.

Another good thing about feng shui is that it's rooted in common sense. For example, it requires you to get rid of clutter — defined as anything you do not use or love. If you live in a dorm, your roommate probably has lots of things you don't use or love lying around. These should go because they are bad for your c'hi.

A third obvious advantage is that it makes everything you buy for your apartment an investment. A new DVD player carefully placed to stimulate the "wealth" sector of your home will surely pay for itself.

According to the Feng Shui Society (online at www.fengshuisociety.org.uk), "success in life is dependent upon five influences: (1) fate, (2) lucky or unlucky eras, (3) feng shui, (4) virtue and (5) personal factors."

Mathematically, this tells us that if you might have dated five people fall quarter but in reality you were able to date zero people, at least one of those relationships failed to happen because you debunked your bed so that your feet point towards the door.

This is too great a percentage of your total success to ignore, especially since altering your fate is impossible and altering your virtue or personality is really hard.

So why not take an ancient art form for a test drive?

Let me know how it works out.



Temptation? Just say no!

By Abby Freedman

The Daily (U. Washington)

(U-WIRE) SEATTLE — Who knows what evil lurks in the heart of men? The FOX network executive board knows!

Its latest production, *Temptation Island*, is yet one more voyeuristic show in a long line of lurid but fascinating exhibitionistic pieces.

The basic idea of the show is that four couples and 26 single people (a baker's dozen of each gender) are stuck on an island together. The couples are supposed to try to stay together, and the single people are supposed to lead those in the relationships astray.

The basic argument for this show is pretty obvious: They're only giving us what we want, right? Reality shows sell. They're addictive in the same way that rifling through someone's drawers is addictive. It's something that you shouldn't do, that is stupid to do and is basically an invasion of privacy. The only difference here is that the TV shows are the equivalent of people dumping out the contents of their drawers in front of you — and the drawers being filled with sex toys.

In short, only stupid, shallow people would agree to let their lives be video-

taped and broadcast in this manner, and this rationalization has gotten even more through some admittedly stupid shows that were, nonetheless, the broadcast equivalent of heroin — except that the stomach pains come during usage, when I realize just how painfully idiotic Americans can be.

But TI takes this concept one step further than anywhere near necessary, or sane.

Sure, it's what people want. Sure, people will watch. But people also crane their heads to get a glimpse of ambulances carrying away automobile accident victims.

Does that mean we should put it on TV as a prime-time show? Perhaps I should stop before I give FOX any ideas.

The point is that giving people what they want is not always the best thing, despite what the maniacally capitalistic network executives will tell you. Some perversions out there like kiddie porn, some like sex films. Obviously, these are extreme examples, but the fact remains that if we get more and more ridiculously outlandish, where does it stop?

Putting long-standing relationships in danger for the titillation of the audience

is morbid. And conversely, encouraging people to stay devoted to each other in order to stay sane is a complete corruption of the whole point of a relationship.

Some would argue that if a relationship cannot withstand temptation, it was not meant to be anyway. But when in life is anyone's relationship going to be in danger from 13 lascivious strangers on both sides?

On the other side of the coin, people would say that winning a prize simply rewards good behavior. Quite frankly, though, doesn't this society reward good behavior too much already? We plead, we placate, we use positive reinforcement so often that people have begun to ask what is in a certain action for them — and demand an answer before they act.

A relationship is supposed to be its own reward. A relationship is supposed to be inviolate in general — or at least inviolate to all but one or two of the more persistent people in the world.

One or two people tempting a person in a relationship is normal. When in a relationship, one will inevitably question whether there is not someone out there who is better, and perhaps it is a

See Temptation, Page 8

NORTH POLL

"How did last year's New Year's Eve compare to this year?"

Brian Alessandro
Communications
Covington

"Since I thought I was going to die last year in New Orleans this year was pretty mild."



Ryan Carskaddon
Information Systems
Edgewood

"Last year I went to two different parties and it was cool. This year was better when I hung out with my girlfriend and her friends."

Crystal Caudill
Speech Communications
Petersburg

"I had a great time this year. Last year was fun but this one was better because I had more friends to party with."



Cathy Hoehn
Business Management
Williamstown

"Last year I was the designated driver and this year it was my turn to get drunk."

Casey Kidd
Justice Studies
Alexandria

"I had more fun this year because I went to Indianapolis and partied with my sorority sisters."



Chris Lenhof
Secondary Education
Taylor Mill

"We had a party at our house this year and last year I went to New York City and saw Eminem live. By far New York was better than anything I ever did and I highly recommend it to everyone."

THE NORTHERNER

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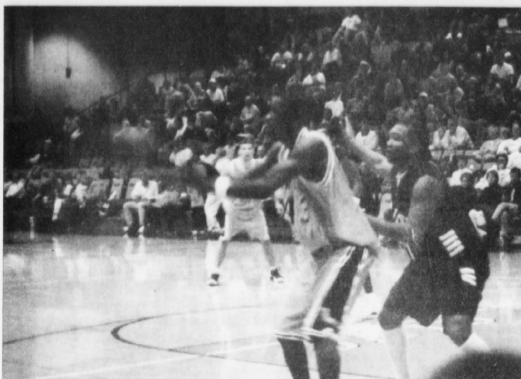
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The Northerner is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press and the Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association. Publication is weekly on Wednesdays excluding university observed holidays and final examination weeks.

NKU men's basketball team records best start ever



Rachel Dietz/The Northerner

Carl Mitchell has been instrumental in NKU's fast start this season. In the five games over Christmas break he has averaged 19.4 points and 7.6 rebounds per game.

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
Sports Editor

The NKU men's basketball team pulled off its best start in its history with a 13-0 mark after its 99-75 victory over Southern Illinois-Edwardsville Thursday at Regents Hall. The win also gave the Norse a 4-0 start in Great Lakes Valley Conference play.

The undefeated start by NKU so far this season isn't a miracle, because the team knew it could pull it off. "If you don't believe it, you won't be undefeated," NKU junior Craig Sanders said.

Sanders was one of five players on the Norse who scored in double figures on the night. He had a team-high 22 points.

In the game, NKU didn't pull away until the second half. The Norse only led by six at the half and its biggest lead of the first half was seven. "We were not

emotional. We were not dictating in the first half," NKU senior Craig Conley, who had 15 points in the game, said.

NKU then stepped up its defense and went on a 10-0 run early in the second half to secure the convincing win. "We had a lot of fire and determination in the second half," Conley said. "They were tired as can be. We kept pressing and wore them out."

Sanders agreed that the Norse defense really picked it up in the second half and that the full-court press shut down SIUE.

Also, NKU made 51 percent of its shots in the game, including 54 percent (22 for 41) in the second half. SIUE was limited to 48 percent shooting in the second half and only 49 percent for the game.

Carl Mitchell helped contribute to the Norse attack with 13 points. He also had three emphatic dunks on the night. Adam Norwell came

away with 14 points and 13 rebounds, and Brian Lawhon had 11 points for NKU.

Garrett Thomas led the way for SIUE with 31 points, 20 of them in the first half. Thomas shot 70 percent (7 for 10) from behind the three-point line.

Despite the overall performance of Thomas, Conley said he felt they controlled him better in the second half. "He was in the zone, and everything he shot was going in," Conley said. "We didn't guard him well. When we put on the full-court press, we wore him out."

Sanders said he felt the team picked him up better in the second half of the ball game. "We eventually wore him down."

NKU now takes its show on the road. The Norse continue its string of conference games with games against IPFW Thursday and Saint Joseph's College Saturday.

The Northerner Athletes of the Week

Photos by Rachel Dietz and
Forrest Berkshire

Left: Craig Sanders
Sanders, who is currently the leading scorer on the men's basketball team, came up with 22 points against SIUE.

Right: Kristin Polosky
Polosky shot 5 for 7 from the field and scored 10 points in only 11 minutes of action in the women's basketball team's win over SIUE.



By Aaron Stamm
Staff Writer

With the help of a strong offensive display, the men's basketball team captured the Porreco Cup Tournament in Erie, Pa., Dec. 29-30.

In the first game of the tournament, the Norse defeated Westminster (Pa.) College by a score of 105-95.

Senior point guard Craig Conley led the Norse attack with 19 points and 10 assists.

Senior forward Adam Norwell scored 21 points and grabbed seven rebounds for NKU.

In the game, the Norse shot the ball well from the field, going 56 percent. That was helped by Norwell, who shot 8 for 9 from the field for the game.

Junior forward Carl Mitchell is beginning to fit into the Norse system. He went 10 for 17 from the field in scoring 26 points for the game.

NKU led the game 53-46 at the half and took control of the game in the second half, outscoring Westminster by three points for the victory.

In the championship game of the tournament, the Norse defeated a good Gannon (Pa.) team 89-86.

NKU head coach Ken Shields said he felt his team really played a very smart and exciting game.

"Going on the road really exposes our team to different competition and settings. Our team did a great job handling the large crowd and staying focused on Gannon."

Senior guard Craig Sanders scored 32 points to lead the Norse attack. Senior guard Craig Conley had

another good game scoring 19 points.

Conley was named Most Valuable Player of the two-day tournament, scoring 37 points and dishing out 18 assists.

Sanders said he felt the tournament really helped the team get ready for conference play.

"It was one of the best games I ever played. The atmosphere was great. It was nice to see our team handle the crowd noise and be able to handle the run Gannon game up."

Shields said he felt the key to the tournament was just a team effort on both sides of the ball.

"We did a great job on defense and didn't commit many fouls during the tournament. We took more free throws in both games and did a great job with our defensive discipline."

The Norse shot well in the finals, going 47 percent from the three-point line. The team also shot 86 percent from the foul line.

The Norse took a commanding 47-32 halftime lead but Gannon made a run cutting into the lead.

Shields said he felt the team handled the situation very well. "We stayed focused when Gannon made their run and that was the key to the victory."

With the two victories, the Norse pulled its record to 12-0 on the season. They will now enter Great Lakes Valley Conference play from here to the end of the season.

Sanders said he feels the team just has to maintain good solid play to keep winning.

"We just have to take it one game at a time and don't over look anybody."

Academic violation causes Jeff McKinley's dismissal

By Rick Amburgey
Special Projects Editor

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
Sports Editor

Jeff McKinley, a guard on the NKU men's basketball team, was recently dismissed from the Norse after being ruled academically ineligible to play. As a graduate student, McKinley received a B, C and F in his classes and had a cumulative GPA of less than 2.

Scott Eaton, associate director of Intercollegiate Athletics at NKU, said there is no gray area when it comes to eligibility. "He is not in good standing. Therefore, he is not able to participate in extracurricular activities," he said.

NKU men's basketball coach Ken Shields said since that game he has been experimenting with three strategies of replacing McKinley.

"One way to approach it is to add playing time to the other players. Another possibility is that Brian Shaffer will take some of those minutes. The last possibility is to play Adam Norwell at the three position," Shields said.

He said he has used all three possibilities since losing McKinley.

Shields said even though McKinley is ineligible to finish the season, his spirit will not be absent. He said some of the players have decided to wear McKinley's number on their shoes to honor him.

McKinley, who came to NKU primarily to play basketball since

he had one year of eligibility left after graduating from the University of Louisville, does not plan to continue at NKU.

McKinley said he is trying to get hired at a police department in Southern Indiana where his fiancée lives, utilizing his criminal justice degree from University of Louisville.

McKinley said the two plan to be married in a little more than a year. McKinley said his dream would be to work in the Secret Service.

"I am a big George W. Bush fan, and I would like to be in the Secret Service and guard him," he said.

McKinley praises Shields and his former teammates. He said he thinks he had developed friendships with the other players that will last a lifetime. "I hope to have all of those guys at my wedding," he said.

The Norse may not have McKinley on the team anymore, but NKU is currently undefeated on the year and its deep bench continues to produce day in and day out. The team will overlook the situation and go on with the rest of the season.

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Women's basketball win streak climbs to 34

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
Sports Editor

The NKU women's basketball team improved to 10-0 on the year after an 88-61 win against Southern Illinois-Edwardsville Thursday at Regents Hall. With the win, the Norse proved how much better of a team they have become since beating SIUE by a mere three points last season at Regents Hall.

"We prepared a little more. Our defense was more intense," said NKU senior Jessica Jensen, who came away with eight points. "This was our best defensive game of the year as a team."

The Norse started off slow early in the game as SIUE kept pace with NKU through the first 10 minutes of the game. However, with the score 18-10 in favor of the Norse, NKU went on a 14-3 run over the next five minutes to grab 19 point lead.

"Our offense plays off our defense and vice versa," Jensen said. "Our offensive intensity turns around our defense."

The Norse controlled the game from there as SIUE could only cut the NKU deficit to 14 the rest of the way. Also, SIUE's leading scorer, Misi Clark, was limited to a season low of 11 points. "Jensen was guarding her out. She played well defensively," said NKU sophomore Kristin Polosky, who had 10 points in the game. "The rest



Dan Mecher/The Northerner
NKU sophomore Amy Mobley and freshman Emily Phillips stack up the defense on SIUE center Megan Grizzle in order to prevent her from scoring.

of the team had to stop her too."

"I kept their leading scorer down to her lowest points so far," Jensen added. "I had a lot of help from my teammates too."

Senior Michele Tuchfarber led the way for the Norse with 15 points, and senior Heather Livingston contributed 12 points in the team's win. Amanda Bultman was the leading man for SIUE with 14 points.

NKU has now started out Great Lakes Valley Conference competition with a 4-0 record. Even with the fast start, it gets tougher down the road for the Norse. This week, NKU travels to Indiana of Purdue-Fort Wayne (IPFW) and then they head off to play at St. Joseph's College.

However, the women's basketball team knows what lies ahead of them. "We need to take it one game at a time," Polosky said. "Then hopefully, we can chalk another one up."

Following the Saturday evening defeat at the hands of Southern Indiana, the Norse no longer have the burden of the undefeated season on its shoulders. While the Norse would have liked the opportunity to achieve the glory of an undefeated season, the loss may provide the team with a different opportunity: the chance to re-focus on the difficult conference season lying ahead.

Burrows to be just what Norse women need for next season

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
Sports Editor

The NKU women's basketball team is only 10 games into the 2000-01 season, but the team is already on the prowl for next season. This is because of its new recruit, Elizabeth Burrows, from Eastern Brown (Ohio) High School, has signed with the team for next season.

Burrows is a 5-foot-9 guard/forward who averaged 18 points and seven rebounds in her junior year last season with the Warriors. She also made 62 percent of her shots from the field and was named Southern Hills League Player of the Year.

"Elizabeth is strong and is a very hard worker," NKU women's basketball coach Nancy Winstel said. "She is a good ball handler."

Winstel said it's good to get an early recruit signed for next season. "We are happy to sign her early. We wish we had one more. Elizabeth is a very fine

player. She loves the game of basketball."

This is a critical recruiting year for the NKU women's basketball team since it is losing four seniors after this season. Michele Tuchfarber, Heather Livingston, Jessica Jensen and Julie Covens are all starters for the Norse. "We are losing four outstanding players," Winstel said. "We try to replace them with the best athletes we can. We try to rebuild the program. We have plenty of fine players returning."

With the signing of Burrows, NKU will be able to regain some of its form back for next season. Winstel said, "Elizabeth has Tuchfarber attributes. She plays great defense and is very team-oriented. She is the total package."

NKU Athletics Director Jane Meier, said she also feels that Burrows will be an asset to the team next season. "We are losing two starting guards," she said. "She may not play right away, but

it's good knowing you have someone to fill in with."

Burrows will be joining a basketball team that doesn't lose often, and she is used to that. Her Warriors finished last season with a 25-1 record and made it all the way to the semifinals of the Ohio Division III State Tournament.

"She expects to win," Winstel said. "Has played AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) summer ball since she was a baby."

The recruiting of Burrows also was significant, because she passed up on many other schools to sign at NKU. Meier said, "Division I schools were recruiting her too. She wanted to stay close to home. She is a very fine player."

Even though the women's basketball program has a new recruit for next season, there is still plenty of work to be done. "This is a busy time for us," Winstel said. "In addition to the season, we are recruiting all the time."



Dan Mecher/The Northerner
NKU women's basketball point guard Suzie Smith tries to find someone to pass the ball to in the game against SIUE Thursday night at Regents Hall.

Step by step

Below is a list the mens and womens basketball teams from Division I and II that hold the record for consecutive wins and how far NKU was from catching them.

-UCLA (Div. I men): 88 wins, 1971-74.

-Louisiana Tech (Div. I women): 54 wins, 1980-82.

-Langston University (Div II men): 52 wins, 1943-46.

-North Dakota State University (Div II women): 49 wins, 1993-95.

-NKU: 34 wins, 2000-01.

-NKU: 22 wins, 1998-99.

Norse: Thanks for the great run

By Laura Parsons
Assistant Sports Editor

The Northern Kentucky University women's basketball team's winning streak was stopped at 34 by Southern Indiana Saturday night. It was an impressive streak dating back to the beginning of last season's championship run.

Just for trivia's sake, here are some standing world and national records...

63...Division I University of Washington's winning streak in football between 1907 and 1917...the University of California broke the record, by the way.

Oscar Robertson is coming to NKU. Read more about the event next week.

206...batters American League pitcher Walter Johnson hit with a pitch.

4:17.14...minutes it took Doina Melinte of Romania to break the world record in the mile run.

15...the largest margin of victory ever in a major golf tournament held by, none other than, Tiger Woods.

18...the age when Dara Torres of the United States broke the world record in the 50 meter Freestyle with a time of 25.61.

8...collegiate teams from California to win national championships, the most in the nation. The University of California at Los Angeles racked in four, while

Stanford captured two during the 1999-2000 season.

265...kilograms that Cheryl Haworth lifted in the snatch and clean and jerk to capture the world record in 2000 at age 16.

6...wins for horse trainer Ben Jones, the most in history, in the Kentucky Derby. His legendary horses include Whirlaway, Ponder, and Citation.

7...consecutive years that a school from North Dakota had won the National Championship in Division II women's basketball. North Dakota State held the crown from 1993-1996 while North Dakota beat its in-state rivals to hold the title

from 1996-1999. Northern Kentucky broke the streak last year by defeating North Dakota State.

15...number of tournaments it took Tiger Woods to become the Grand Slam champion, surpassing golf greats Ben Hogan and Jack Nicklaus.

1...number of National Championships won by Northern Kentucky University...

Hopefully this little bump in the road will allow the Norse to refocus on the daunting task at hand if a repeat as NCAA Champions is in the future. Keep up the good work, ladies.

USI hands men and women first losses

Women's 34-game win streak snapped by Southern Indiana

The No. 1 nationally ranked NKU women's basketball team ended its 34 game winning streak Saturday at the hands of host Southern Indiana 72-62. The Norse dropped to 10-1 overall and 4-1 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

The score was tied at 28 apiece at half-time, and NKU led by seven points with eight minutes to go in the ballgame. However, USI went on a 20-4 run to put the game away. The Norse were led by senior Michele Tuchfarber who had 19 points, includ-


ing 3 three-pointers, and junior Michelle Cottrell who contributed 11 points. USI had four players in double figures in points, including Natalie Glaser who poured in 14 points in the victory.

USI, ranked No. 21, improved to 10-1 on the season and 4-1 in the GLVC.

Perfect season ends as men are dropped to 13-1 by Southern Indiana

In the battle of unbeaten, No. 3 ranked Southern Indiana defeated No. 4 ranked NKU by a score of 90-75 Saturday at Evansville, Ind. The Norse

lost its first game of the season and is now 13-1 on the year and 4-1 in the GLVC. USI is 11-0 and 5-0 to start conference play. USI shot 57 percent from the field and led by 24 points midway through the second half to secure the convincing win. NKU only shot 39 percent from the field in the game and missed 19 of its 22 three-point attempts. Carl Mitchell led the way for the Norse with 19 points in the loss. Also, Craig Conley had 15 points in the game for NKU. USI's high man was Marlowe Currie, who scored 27 points in the team's win.



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