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Wednesday, Sept. 22, 2004

Greek Life adds newest members

Sororities gain more than 100 recruits, fraternities have lower than expected turnout

By STUART MACKENZIE
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Northern Kentucky University's Greek Life welcomed its newest members during a formal recruitment period that officially ended Sept. 22.

Over 100 women underwent a five-day process of Panhellenic sorority recruitment that started Sept. 10. Five different chapters gave presentations to 131 girls, with 121 girls affiliating with these organizations.

After they made the initial

cuts, the chapters invited their potential members to more presentations and interviews in order to get to know them better.

"The girls went to every sorority's party on the first day of recruitment on Friday," said Kappa Delta President Stefanie Carpenter.

"Then from there they decided with which groups they would want to be affiliated with. On Wednesday they found out where they got their bid at, and they became members of that chapter."

The next step for these newly initiated members is a "new member program."

"What's next for them depends on what chapter they are affiliated with," Carpenter said.

"Some chapters have new member programs that last six to eight weeks, and after that period they become full-fledged members of the organization."

The recruitment process was different this year because of the addition of a new sorority on campus, Kappa Delta.

"Quota last year was 30 (girls), but we only had four chapters. It was 25 this year with five chapters. There was almost the same number (of

girls), a little bit higher than last year but not much," said Student Life Coordinator Tiffany Mayse.

Mayse said that each chapter's recruitment went very smoothly and with little problems.

"Everything went really well," she said. "We had a new chapter this year, so they did fine with recruitment, and overall everything panned out well. The quota was 25 and almost all the chapters took that number."

Fraternity recruitment began Sept. 17, with significantly lower numbers than in years

past.

"We had 70 pre-register and we are expecting 125, 130 people to show up," said Dustin Lewis, Student Outreach Specialist in the Office of Admissions.

However, on Sept. 17, the first night of rush, less than the original number of the pre-registered 70 showed up.

Numbers were already expected to be lower for each individual chapter because of the addition of a new fraternity, Sigma Phi Epsilon.

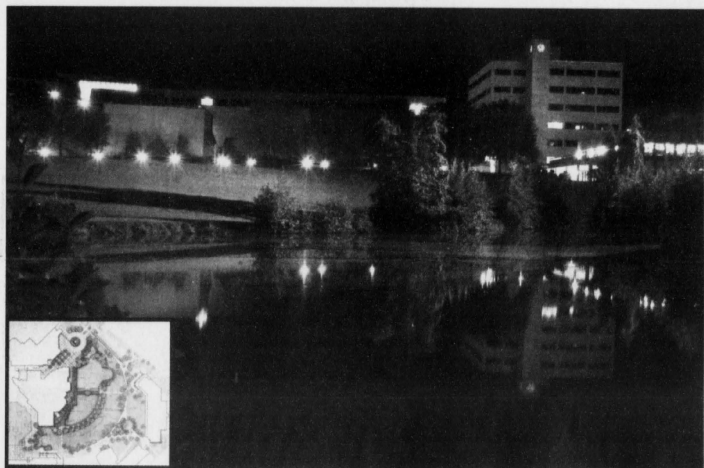
"I don't know why the initial numbers were low; it could be a few things," Phi Kappa Tau

Rush Chair David Pfachler said. "It could be because rush started on Friday instead of a Sunday and people had other things to do on the weekend."

Lewis said the reason for the new pre-registration process was to make it easier to organize who was eligible to rush. "We are trying to get men more conditioned into pre-registering, that way it is a little easier on grade chads and everything," he said.

The potential fraternity members will sign their bids on Sept. 22 and become associate members of their respective chapters.

GOING FROM INFERIOR TO SUPERIOR



Tony Redell / Photo Editor

Lake Inferior will undergo major construction as early as late October. An artist's rendering of the project shows how the renovations will proceed (bottom left).

Lake to be drastically remodeled

\$2.4 million project to improve campus by adding waterfalls, bridge, amphitheater

By C.J. FRYER
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Come next fall, Lake Inferior may need a more appropriate name.

Northern Kentucky University will soon begin construction on a \$2.4 million project, adding improvements to the lake that include a bridge, waterfalls, walkways and landscaping.

"The lake is one of the original features of this land when we

bought it," said Assistant Vice President for Facilities Management Larry Blake. "It was a farm pond — it was built for the animals to get a drink. It wasn't really built as a decorative item."

"For what it was built for, it worked well. But it doesn't really give you the atmosphere you need in the center of your campus." Blake said that these improvements will give the lake a new, positive atmosphere.

In his 2004-2005 State of the University Address, President

James Voruba said this project will be "one of the most dramatic campus improvements" of the year.

"The lake has been a problem for a long time," Blake said, citing maintenance issues as the biggest trouble.

"If we don't treat it at the right time, believe me — you know we didn't do it. It does not have sewage water in it, but that's the odor you get, and it's from the decaying algae and stuff that's in the pond."

University officials will meet in Frankfort Sept. 23 to take bids from

interested contractors for the renovation project. Once a bid is accepted, construction will most likely start within a month, which could be as early as late October.

The first phase of the project includes rezoning the lake, which will be tiered with a waterfall. The lake will be completely drained and will be dug deeper.

Blake said that making the lake deeper will keep the water in better shape. He said that the current lake water is in such a bad condition

See LAKE, page 3

Senate hopeful assures funding

Candidate speaks on college tax credits

By JOSH BLAIR
Arts & Entertainment Editor
jmgld11motatgirl@yahoo.com

U.S. Senate candidate Dr. Daniel Mongiardo called Northern Kentucky University's treatment as a second-tier university "unfortunate."

During a speech at the University Center Sept. 15, Mongiardo said NKU "needs to be funded on par with all universities."

Mongiardo said he understands the need and value of a quality education because he was the first member of his family to attend college.

He is proposing a first-of-its-kind scholarship that would present \$1,000 in Pell Grant funds to first-generation college students. Mongiardo wants to increase Pell Grants for other students as well.

"In the 1970s, a Pell Grant covered 84 percent of the cost of college," he said. "Today that buying power is down to 40 percent, and that's just unacceptable."

Mongiardo is also proposing a \$12,000 tax credit for middle-class families. According to Mongiardo, 4,300 Kentucky students were unable to afford college tuition last year. "No one should be barred from going to college because of their socioeconomic status," he said. "The opportunity for tomorrow's students should never be limited to a privileged few."

"We've got to always make sure that everybody that is capable of going to college has the capability to go to college."

Jeremy Mann, president of the NKU College Democrats, said Mongiardo "hit the nail on the head" when he stated that tuition continues to increase yet little is being done about it.

"Mongiardo understands the under-fund-

See MONGIARDO, page 3

Religious building has a history on campus

Baptist Student Center does not violate separation of church and state by being located on school grounds

By SARAH LOMAN
Reporter
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The history of the Baptist Student Union is a convoluted one. The BSU is sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention (KBC), and operates outside of university funding or affiliation.

So why is it here? Mary Paula Schuh, director of campus planning, admits that the prominence of the building appears awkward.

"It's not the best location," she said. Schuh added that the

placement of the building was not in the original plans of the university, although "we were the only university in the state that was without a Baptist Student Union."

According to Schuh, in 1971, the KBC bought two separate parcels of land near campus grounds. In 1996, the university swapped those two pieces of land for an agreement that the KBC could build the BSU where it stands now — behind Landrum Academic Center. The university holds a lease agreement with the KBC; in other words, the university owns the land that the BSU is

built on, but not the building. The maintenance and operation of the BSU is not paid for by the university. The lease states that it "shall keep and maintain the Center and improvements... provide all janitorial services... (and) provide all utilities for operation."

The remaining question, then, would be does this constitute a violation of the First Amendment to the Constitution regarding the separation of church and state? If the university owns the land that the BSU sits on, doesn't that mean that they are endorsing it? Sara

See BSU, page 3



Nicole Jones / Photographer

Students hang out at the on-campus Baptist Student Center.

INSIDE



Recycled Percussion sparked a new musical interest at NKU with their unique sound.

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dpsreports

SEP 19 2004
Sunday 8:48 p.m.
Classification: TRAFFIC - Vehicle Stop
Location: NUNN DRIVE
Disposition: Closed
Summary: Officer observed a vehicle fail to come to a complete stop at a stop sign on Nunn Drive. The driver was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Disregarding a Stop Sign and Failure to Produce an Insurance Card.

SEP 19 2004
Sunday 4:45 p.m.
Classification: SMOKE ALARM
Location: DORMS/UNIVERSITY SUITES
Disposition: Closed
Summary: A smoke alarm was received from the listed location. Officers, Central Campbell County Fire Department and Power Plant personnel responded. Upon arrival there was no evidence of smoke or fire. Upon investigation, it was determined the alarm was possibly caused by steam from a shower. The alarm was re-set, building cleared for re-occupancy. The State Fire Marshal's Office was notified by e-mail.

SEP 19 2004
Sunday 12:21 p.m.
Classification: TRAFFIC - Vehicle Stop
Location: JOHNS HILL ROAD
Disposition: Closed
Summary: Officer observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed on Johns Hill Road. The driver was issued a Kentucky State Citation for Speeding.

These are the latest reports as of our news deadline. For a full listing visit the DPS Web site at <http://access.knu.edu/dps>

campusbriefs

Dragons to be displayed at Newport on the Levee

"NKU Dragon Daze" will be held at Newport on the Levee on Saturday, Sept. 25. The public is invited to vote on the 25 small dragons and 10 large dragons decorated by students, staff and friends of NKU. The voting will take place from 1 to 9 p.m. The dragon with the most votes will win the "Levee's Choice Award" at 5 p.m. Sunday.

APB to host contest for rappers

The Activities Programming Board will hold its Fall 2004 Freestyle Battle on Tuesday, Sept. 28. The most talented "MC" will win \$100. Rappers interested must leave their name and contact information at apb@nku.edu. The public is invited to the first battle being held at 8 p.m. in the University Center Gymnasium.

Spring schedule to be posted online soon

The spring 2005 schedule of

classes will be posted on Norse Express on Friday, Sept. 24. The printed Schedule of Classes will be available on Wednesday, Oct. 20. For more information on registering for classes, academic records or degree requirements, go to the Office of the Registrar in the Lucas Administrative Building, room 301.

NKU to hold Study Abroad Fair

All students interested in studying abroad, academic

exchange or alternative spring break, should attend the Study Abroad Fair on Thursday, Sept. 23. The event, being put on by the Office of International Programs, will take place in the University Ballroom from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

At the fair, students can find out about international opportunities including international internships and other programs.

Representatives from financial aid, scholarship, and all NKU sponsored programs will be present with information and answers to frequently asked questions.

nationalbriefs

American beheaded by terrorists

A rebel group affiliated with terrorist leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi beheaded a second American Sept. 21, CNN reported.

The information concerning the murder came from a report uploaded on an Islamist Web site.

According to the Web site, Jack Hensley, an American from outside of Atlanta, Georgia, was killed.

An unidentified, beheaded body has been located by authorities, but it has not been positively identified as Hensley by U.S. Officials.

Hensley's death was reported one day following the same Web site posted the video of the beheading of fellow American Eugene "Jack" Armstrong.

Both Armstrong and Hensley were kidnapped on Sept. 16, along with Kenneth Bigley of Great Britain.

Edward Furlong arrested in Florence, Ky.

Police arrested an intoxicated indie film star Edward Furlong in a Florence, Ky. Meijer store for taking lobster out of a fish tank, the Cincinnati Enquirer reported.

Furlong, best known for playing John Connor in "Terminator 2: Judgment Day" was "causing a scene at Meijer," said Florence Police Lt. John McDermond.

"Mr. Furlong and his friends would not stop taking the lobsters out of the tank," said Florence Police Lt. John McDermond.

The police did not report the names of Furlong's cohorts but the star is also in town with Rachael Bella ("The Ring") and James Eckhouse ("A Cinderella Story").

Plant built to handle expansion

By JUSTIN DUKE
Contributor
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There's a new building on campus, and it's more than just hot air.

Northern Kentucky University's new \$12 million power plant, used mainly for heating and cooling, can supply the campus with 6,500 tons of chilled water and 120,000 pounds of steam an hour.

Along with heating and cooling every room on campus, the power plant functions as a thermostat for every building.

From the command center, any of the five power plant operators can see temperature, and much like a thermostat in a house, can change the desired temperature of any floor in any building.

Along with monitoring temperature controls around campus, the power plant, in conjunction with DPS, also monitors every fire alarm at NKU. The command center monitors nearly 4,000 points around

campus.

"If there are 500 people in the ballroom, we can turn down the temperature from here, and keep everyone comfortable," said Mike Scott, plant supervisor.

The need for a new power plant grew as NKU grew. The old plant, over 30 years old, could no longer support an expanding university.

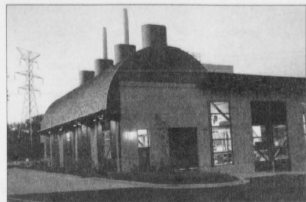
"Last year, when it got hot, we just didn't have the power to keep everything cool. The old power plant was obsolete, but now we have more than enough," Scott said.

The power comes from three new boilers and two new chillers. The new boilers are three times more powerful than the previous ones.

"With the new chillers, we only have to run one at 80 percent on a 90 degree day," Scott said.

Along with this power, the plant has room to expand with space for another boiler and chiller.

"Right now we could probably run two universities with the power we have, and we



Mark Bennett / Assistant Photo Editor

The new power plant provides heating and cooling across campus.

will have no trouble with the new University Center and even an arena NKU was building with future expansion in mind," Scott said.

The power plant operators aren't letting all this power go to their heads. They are keeping students and faculty in mind. They have made comfort a top priority, Scott said.

"If your class is too hot or

cold, let us know. We can't watch all 4,000 points around campus, so we need input. Call us," Scott said.

Work Control, who tells the power plant operators of complaints, can be reached from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at 572-5660, and the power plant can be reached 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 572-5448.

Career Connections

Thursday, October 8, 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. in UC Ballroom

Come network with more than 50 local employers who have both Cooperative Education and full-time opportunities available. All majors and colleges are welcome to attend!

Companies attending include:

Barnes, Dennig and Co., Ltd.
Becker Conviser CPA Review
Bottom Line Systems
Bramel and Ackley
Buckle
Burke, Inc.
Citi, a division of Citigroup
Clark, Schaefer, Hackett and Co.
Coldwell Banker West Shell
Comair
Cookies of Ohio Kentucky Indiana, Inc.
Directions Research, Inc.
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Federated Coporate Services, Inc.
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Is your resume ready?

Attend a Resume Workshop for free!
September 29 from 3 to 5 p.m. in UC 108.

Sponsored by the College of Business Student Organizations and the Career Development Center

Mongiardo

Continued from page one

ing problem," Mann said. "Getting funding for NKU is a big priority of his. He wants the situation rectified."

Mongiardo, a two-term state senator and surgeon from Hazard, shares the Nov. 2 ballot with Republican incumbent Sen. Jim Bunning.

In the past few months, Mongiardo has declined to have a public debate with Mongiardo seven times.

"The very heart of democracy is our ability to vote for our leaders," Mongiardo said, "and the best way to vote for the right leader is by being informed

where each person stands on the issues."

"I think the people of Kentucky deserve to be informed, they deserve to see a debate and... I think this is really going to hurt Senator Bunning. It shows that he has a lack of courage to stand up for the people of Kentucky and he's running from his record. He's not interested in having a debate, he is interested in being able to say that the senator will not debate him."

Derrick Reeder, president of the NKU College Republicans, said Mongiardo is running from his own record.

"He refused to vote on the state budget plan that would have brought in a \$47 million special events center," Reeder said.

"When he feels our pain about funding while not voting for an NKU friendly budget, he commits legislative malpractice."

Reeder added that Mongiardo "is not interested in having a debate, he is interested in being able to say that the senator will not debate him."

Mann believes the Bunning campaign is showing little effort. "If there is no debate,

then how do we know where he stands?" Mann said.

"There's no direction from that campaign at all, and no direction is the wrong direction."

One of the issues Mongiardo would like to debate is healthcare. As a doctor, Mongiardo said he believes healthcare is too expensive, covers too few people and is declining in quality.

Mann said the candidate's view on healthcare will play a big role in the election. He said healthcare's importance to the citizens of Kentucky is shown

by the recent talks about teachers going on strike due to increased health insurance costs.

Mongiardo also proposed to modernize Kentucky's health information exchange system from paper-based to computer-based, which he said would bring in high-tech and high-paying jobs.

"If we have the proper education, we'll be able to fill those jobs," Mongiardo said. "With that revenue going to the state, we'll be able to put that back into education so that we can keep our tuition costs down."



Mark Bennett/
Assistant Photo Editor
Daniel Mongiardo addressed college funding issues.

Lake

Continued from page one

because it is so shallow.

Other upgrades include constructing a bridge and a retaining wall.

"The idea is that we want to get the students closer to the lake and make it usable," Blake said.

The second phase of the project will integrate an amphitheater with the lake development and connect the lake to the upper plaza. The amphitheater will host a multitude of outdoor events, such as speaking and music performances.

Contractors will bid on this phase in January, tentatively, and both phases of construction are planned for completion in fall 2005.

Fidelity Investments provided the largest contribution to the project, donating \$1 million. The rest of the funds came from a number of private donors.

Blake said that through the design of the new lake, the university hopes to solve the problem of geese droppings on campus walkways.

"The design is really based on the fact that (geese) do not like walls. They don't like jumping off things into the

water," he said.

"Even though they can fly in and land, they like to be able to walk in. This really should discourage them."

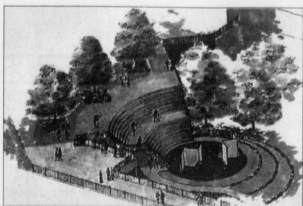
Additionally, the campus' duck population has been recently relocated to a physical plant employee's farm pond.

Blake warned that with this exciting project come some unfortunate inconveniences for students, faculty and staff.

"It's going to be a very difficult project. It's going to cause a lot of disturbance in this area and there's going to be a lot of inconvenience for awhile," he said. "Once we get it drained and we start putting it back together it'll get easier and easier as time goes by, but there is going to be some impact on campus while it's being done."

Foul odor, among other things, is a potential inconvenience of the project.

"There's going to be a lot of not-so-pleasant stuff coming out of the bottom of this thing," Blake said. "If you've ever drained a pool of any kind that sat for years, you can imagine what's down there. So we're looking for ways to control



Contributed by NKU Facilities Management
An artist's rendering shows the proposed amphitheater.

odor, and we know we're going to have some difficult days."

Blake said that some of the odor will be mitigated by the cold temperature.

Despite some degree of inconvenience along the way, Blake said that this is a worthwhile project for the university.

"It really will be a place to go instead of just a place," Blake said. "I look for it to be a destination for students to go and spend a lot of time."

"Commuters will be encouraged to stay and the resident students will be encouraged to come over to this part of campus to do things."

As far as the naming process goes, Blake said that the lake will need a name "that's a little more fitting."

"I guess (the name 'Lake Inferior') is a tradition," he said, "but (when) the lake changes, maybe the tradition needs to change too."

BSU

Continued from page one

Sidebottom, vice president for legal affairs and general counsel, says no.

"The university does not endorse any religions," she said. "For us, it's a business venture."

The BSU, like every other student organization on campus, had to follow a list of regulations to become a student organization.

The university cannot discriminate due to religion when accepting student applications for an organization.

"We're endorsing the organization, not the content," said public relations major Tiffani Jones, who works in the Office of Student Life. "We have an organization that is for the legalization of hemp. We're not endorsing that people use it, just giving them the freedom to be an organization."

The university even has a policy on what can be posted on university grounds. It reads,

"The Dean of Students stamp indicates review of the party requesting permission to post notice and does not indicate an endorsement of content." The only posts allowed are registered student organizations.

Sidebottom believes that it is

increasingly realistic that in the future, as the campus expands more, other students will begin to start their own religious student organizations.

"I don't know if it will be in the best interest of the university to renew it," Sidebottom said. "We'll have to see when the time comes."

"I don't know if it will be in the best interest of the university to renew it," Sidebottom said. "We'll have to see when the time comes."

effort to try and make that happen."

The lease agreement for the BSU is in effect until 2037, and the university will be free to break the lease agreement after the first twenty years (2016), as long as they move the BSU to another on-campus site, or pay for the building.

"I don't know if it will be in the best interest of the university to renew it," Sidebottom said. "We'll have to see when the time comes."

Northern Kentucky University

ALUMNI LECTURE SERIES

2004

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY PRESENTS ITS
FIFTH ANNUAL ALUMNI LECTURE SERIES EVENT.



Bob Dole



George McGovern

This year's lecture features two men who are synonymous with American politics in a lively and candid discussion on
"Governing in America: Patriarchs of Their Parties."

Join former Republican presidential nominee and Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole and former Democratic presidential nominee and U.S. Senator George McGovern.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5TH, at 7 P.M.

in Regents Hall on NKU's Highland Heights campus.

NKU alumna Tricia Macke will serve as Master of Ceremonies for the event.

Tickets are still available.

\$30 - general public, \$25 NKU faculty/staff/alumni, \$5 NKU students.

Tickets can be purchased at the NKU Office of Alumni Programs

or by calling (859) 572-5370.

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further details

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Views expressed do not represent the opinions of the administration, faculty or the student body.

viewpoints

Letters to the editor

Republicans thinking clearly, not 'delusional'

Dear Editor,
I've no idea where Robert Steinback got his information, but it smacks nonsensically of having come from Dan Rafter. His "Republicans 'Delusional'" piece has more inaccuracies than a Michael Moore "documentary." But my 400 words won't allow a full report, so let me hit the high spots.
There is not now and never has been a \$5 trillion surplus for Bush to squander, nor a surplus of any amount in recent memory. Bill Clinton created a fairly tale \$11 billion "surplus" out of a combination of tin air and undedicated Social Security funds. Sadly, the Republicans jumped on the surplus bandwagon because things like that make voters just oh so happy.

Perhaps Robert meant the national debt, a completely different critter that has been around since the Civil War.

That CBS refused to report 18 chemical warheads found by Polish troops on July 1 doesn't mean they weren't there. World Net Daily had no trouble reporting the find.

But anyone with a memory that goes further back than Election 2000 should recall WMD warnings made by Bill Clinton, Madeleine Albright, Al Gore, Kofi Annan, Sandy Berger and some guy named John Kerry, among others.

Then there were, count 'em, 17 United Nations resolutions

between 1993 and 2000 addressing what? That's right, Iraq! WMD.

Please let me point out that Bush was in Texas then, and it wasn't his CIA reporting the weapons. And let's not forget that supposedly fictitious story about yellow cake uranium that MI-5, the British intelligence agency, still insists was accurate.

Relying on soundbites and failing to use memory, history, research, or even logic, people like Robert feel we should jettison Bush in favor of a man with an abysmal senate attendance record who left his command behind in Vietnam after only four months, and who now claims to have the traits of leadership. With the creation of a media junta like CBS, he and his party are playing a political game with our future in a suddenly very dangerous world.

Republicans are delusional? Check the record, Robert - the REAL record, not Dan Rafter's.

Dennis Fiskel
Anthropology

Mongiardo not concerned about university's best interest

Dear Editor,

Politicians are often accused of being disingenuous when they talk to constituents. I have never seen a better example of such insincerity than Daniel

How to write The Northerner

Editors and staff of The Northerner welcome input from the campus community. Submit letters in the following format:

- E-mail letters to the editor to northern@nku.edu, or submit letters by visiting the online editor at www.thenortherner.com.
- Letters must include writer's name, telephone number, class year and major.
- Letters must be 400 words or less.

- Letters must be received on Friday before publication in order to be included.
- Event or organization announcements will not be printed on the Viewpoints pages. Submit to Angie Casebolt, subtkorn@aol.com.
- The Northerner reserves the right to edit for content and space.

Mongiardo's visit to NKU last week.

Dr. Dan acts as if students are supposed to forget about his record.

This past year in the General Assembly, Mongiardo abstained from voting for the state budget plan supported by Governor Ernie Fletcher.

That budget plan would have given our university \$47 million in bonds for the construction of our much-needed special events center.

Mongiardo thinks he has what it takes to be our senator, yet he can't cast a simple "yes" or "no" vote on an NKU-friendly budget.

Should Dr. Dan ever serve in the United States Senate, he will be expected to vote on issues of war and peace, health care, taxes and terrorism. I

guess you can say that if Dr. Dan voted "pass" in the U.S. Senate, it would be the legislative equivalent of malpractice.

So, though Mongiardo does not support NKU, he expects NKU to support him.

The people of this university are smart enough to know when someone votes against their best interest.

They will not be fooled by Mongiardo's cynical attempt to gain their support.

There is no doubt that some will accuse me of distorting the Senator's record. The fact is, I couldn't make it much worse than it is.

Derrick Reeder
President, College Republicans of NKU

horse poll responses

Compiled by Mark Bennett

What do you think of the upcoming lake renovations?



Brandon Grady, Sophomore, undecided

"I probably won't take advantage of it."



David Otney, Senior, political science

"I have mixed feelings. I'd like to see it become bigger and better, but I like to see the ducks and I'm afraid with the renovations they may disappear."



Samantha Rogers, Freshman, pre-marketing

"I heard they were going to drain it because it's polluted."



Nicole Otney, Senior, liberal studies

"Maybe they should put some picnic tables around it so we can sit and study. There's nothing down there now."



Melissa Dalton, Freshman, undecided

"I didn't hear about it. I'd be nice if they kept us better informed."



Blake Gehring, Junior, radio/television

"I think it will be a good thing. It will make for a nicer scene on campus."

Latino history honored

Hispanic Heritage Month is about more than colorful festivals

By Yolanda Chavez Leyva
and Jose Miguel Leyva
(KRT)

Hispanic Heritage Month, which started Sept. 15, is meant to recognize and commemorate the achievements of Latinos throughout the nation's history.

You may see the typical articles about things like avocados in ethnic food, and colorful local festivals celebrating the month. This is not all that Hispanic Heritage Month is about, however.

Congress first created Hispanic Heritage Week in 1968 and then extended it to a month in 1988.

But in this growing atmosphere of xenophobia and anti-Latino sentiment in the United

States, how can Latinos really believe their culture and contributions are valued? Many of us are told to assimilate and become like everyone else, and to throw aside those things that make us unique.

Samuel Huntington, chairman of the Harvard Academy of International and Area Studies, and author of "Who Are We?" considers Latinos a threat to the nation. In fact, he has written that "the single most immediate and most serious challenge to America's traditional identity comes from the immense and continuing immigration from Latin America, especially from Mexico."

One newspaper reader earlier this year wrote to see the following: "I would like to see every single

Hispanic person who is stopped by the police for a traffic infraction, required to produce legal green card or citizenship papers or be immediately deported. Any child whose parents cannot show legal residence to be kicked out of school."

Has anti-Latino hysteria reached the point where we are no longer descendants of the basic rights every other citizen is granted?

Fortunately, this is an election year, and politicians have to take Latinos seriously, since the number of eligible Latino voters is about 16 million.

Bush and Kerry are both releasing million-dollar Spanish ad campaigns, and both are making immigration the foundation of their Latino prom-

tion. But immigration is not our central issue. A July 22 poll by The Pew Hispanic Center revealed that immigration was way down the list of Latino concerns, far behind their top concerns of education, the economy and health care.

While we applaud attention to Latino contributions to this nation, Hispanic Heritage Month is not enough. It's mere symbolism unless we're able to win equal economic, political and educational opportunities for all. Latino accomplishments and contributions - often in the face of prejudice and discrimination - ought to be acknowledged every year.

The struggle for equality and justice will continue even when the celebrations are over.

Thoughts speak the truth

Inner voice provides running, sometimes catty, commentary on life

By Lenore Skenazy
New York Daily News
(KRT)

Oh PLEEEASE! Let's not talk that I know EXACTLY what you're going to say: "How was your summer?" Everybody says that. And nobody cares? You think I care how YOUR summer was? Think again, you old warden.

"What's that, Ted? Oh, great summer. And yours?"
"Welcome to my world - both of them. There's my spoken word polite, cheerful, tolerant. And my inner world: silent, snooty, snide."

And while I sometimes think I must have the world's meanest brain, regularly featuring thoughts like - You have got to be the grumpiest, UGLIEST bus driver in Manhattan, I'm so glad I'll never have to sleep with you unless - oh my God! What if you WERE the last man alive? Gross! - it turns out

everyone is mean inside. Or honest, anyway. That's what Norbert Wiley, a Berkeley professor, concluded in his study of inner language. He also concluded most people are pretty salty when they speak to themselves.

And fast. In fact, inner speech is about 10 times faster than outer speech, he says, because unlike outer speech, it's customized.

To say out loud, "Wow is this guy whiny," takes an entire second or two. But if your brain just flashes a picture of Cousin Norman, the family whiner, you have nailed that same thought almost instantly.

This gives your brain more time to form your next important thought, like: Can I reach for the biggest cupcake without him thinking I'm a pig? What if I reach while laughing, as if I KNOW I'm a pig? Charming, maybe? And who cares what that whiner thinks anyway? I

wouldn't sleep with him if ... Yes, our inner speech can be that petty. And that's helpful. "It's sort of a steering wheel," Wiley says.

It's the inner voice that dictates shopping lists and reviews mental directions (I take a left when I see that ridiculously big house, like I'm really impressed by anybody who would waste that much money on a hard-to-find monstrosity, and just think how hard it would be to find your shoes there ...).

Basically, inner speech tells us what to do next, even while providing a running commentary.

Incredibly repetitive running commentary. Wiley observed. But, as he also noted: Who cares?

"There is no one to impress or please, so one can be as terse, grumpy, repetitive or blunt as one likes."

This explains why maybe 78 percent of my inner conversa-

tions consist of: Put your foot on the brake! NOW! NOWWWWW! even though I know my dear husband has never plovered us into the car in front of us. (Yet.)

My inner voice is harping and carrying all the time. You wouldn't want to sleep with it.

But to me, it is the perfect companion - my own Andy Rooney.

This Pepsi can says, "Cool, crisp taste. How dumb does it think we are? A liquid can't be crisp! God do we live in a stupid country."

What on Earth made that lady wear hip huggers? She'd look better in a burka. What a stupid country!

I can't believe he's saying we're safer now that we've invaded the wrong country and gotten the Middle East even madder at us. What a stupid ...

Well, you get the idea. It is a relief to speak my mind. If only to one's self.

GENERAL EDITORIAL POLICY

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

STAFF EDITORIAL POLICY

The staff editorial reflects the views and opinions of The Northerner staff. Staff editors are written by a senior staff member. Topics are determined weekly by a majority vote among the editorial board, which is composed of all section editors, assistant editors and senior staff members.

campuscalendar

wednesday

- Women's Empowerment meeting at 4 p.m. in UC 107.
- Student Anthropology meeting at 12:45 p.m. in Landrum 204.
- "What do you want?" forum from noon to 2 p.m. at the UC plaza. APB and SGA will be giving away free pizza to students for suggestions and concerns about programming.

saturday

- Norse Visitation Day.
- NKU Gamer's Guild fall semester meeting at 8 p.m. in UC 303. Contact arcusa@mac.com for more information.
- NKU Dragon Daze at Newport on the Levee from 1 to 9 p.m.

sunday

- NKU Dragon Daze at Newport on the Levee from noon to 5 p.m.

thursday

- Discussion on Judaism, noon to 1 p.m. in UC 303.
- Study Abroad Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the UC Ballroom.

friday

- Women's Empowerment movie night featuring "Iron Jawed Angels" at 8 p.m. in University Suites room 228. Free popcorn.
- Latino Film "In the Times of the Butterflies" from 7 to 10 p.m. at UC's Budg Theatre.
- Azmari String Quartet from 8 to 10 p.m. at Graves Concert Hall. General admission is \$10, student admission is \$5.

monday

- Norse Visitation Day.
- Co-op information session at 5 p.m. in UC 232.

tuesday

- Alcohol Education program, 2 to 4:30 p.m. in UC 116. Contact Karen Bolte at 572-6640 for more info.
- Freestyle battle at 8 p.m. in the UC gameroom.
- Men's Health Awareness from the NKY Cancer Center 12 to 1 p.m. in UC 108. Contact 572-5684 for more information.

To place an event contact Angie Casebolt at 859-572-5859

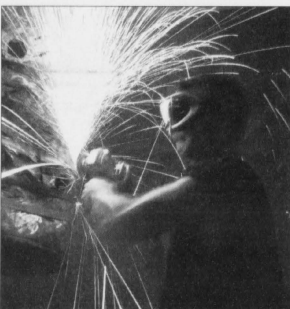


Photo contributed by Shelter Management

Recycled Percussion redefines what is considered an instrument.

Band uses trash to rock campus

By JAMIE McIVER
 Reporter
 northerner@nku.edu

Recycled Percussion drummed up plenty of excitement in Northern Kentucky University students when they performed at Regents Hall Sept. 16.

The band is known for its taped-together buckets and assorted trash items that they use as musical instruments. "The scuba tanks and sink provided a nice 'clink' to the bass of their garbage cans and buckets," junior Alyssa Rowland said.

The group used responsive clapping to involve the audience with the music. A performer hit his drumsticks together in a rhythm and the audience copied. In the end he gave them a more difficult beat, until it was impossible for the audience to repeat.

During the performance, Recycled Percussion brought four students on stage and

handed the drumsticks over to them.

The students were able to bang on whichever item of trash they wanted while DJ Jerami Bullifant provided music.

Afterward, the students signed a hanging piece of sheet metal.

"I really enjoyed the concert. It was even better than when I went to go see 'Stomp,'" freshman Hillary Pullen said.

For the grand finale, they used circular saws on metal trashcans, sending sparks flying high to the ceiling. The crowd backed away, but was fascinated.

Recycled Percussion member Greg Kaspas had his own bucket solo, which he took as his chance to show off his impressive drumming abilities. Recycled Percussion's performance left their new fans wanting more. "I really hope they can come back and do this again," Pullen said, "because I would tell everyone on campus how awesome they are."

northernlife

Guests bow to professor

Professor has royal job at Renaissance festival, second only to the queen

By SARAH LOMAN
 Reporter
 northerner@nku.edu

If you see Margo Jang at the Ohio Renaissance Festival, be sure to grovel. The associate English professor serves as one of the queen's ladies in waiting.

When someone is hired to work for the Renaissance Festival, Jang explains, they have to go through several classes on dialect, Elizabethan history and acting. They also create a character they will play, which can either be factual or fictional.

Jang said she spends a lot of time fashioning and creating her characters, although she does have to do her real job sometimes.

She called performing at the festival "a labor of love."

Jang's character is second only to the queen in commanding the highest level of deference among the other cast members.

"I'm lucky," she said. "Everyone else has to grovel to me."

She credits this occupation to her "impulsive perfectionist" behavior towards her gowns.

Jang has more than 20 gowns, most of which she hand-made. They are made of a wide range of fabrics, intricately hand embroidered, that are representative of her character.

There are so many different layers of a noble lady's gown of that time that some of her gowns weigh over 12 pounds.

"I put a heck of a lot of time into them," she said.

Kelly Bishop, entertainment director for the Ohio Renaissance Festival, agrees.

"Margo has probably the best wardrobe of the cast here," she said. "She's very meticulous about her costumes. She's told me she could go two years without wearing the same gown, and I believe her."

Bishop said Jang and the other cast members wear these because of their love for the history and desire to keep it alive in the midst of others.

"She does very well," Bishop said. "On student days, Margo helps to teach the children about the history, and she's very good at it. She's a cool, smart lady."

Jang also has an unusual talent with birds and used to be referred to by her coworkers at the fair as "The Bird Lady." Part of her character's line of work is dealing with the queen's aviary.



Photo contributed by Margo Jang

Gowns during the Elizabethan era had many layers and could weigh over ten pounds.

With a doctorate in applied linguistics, Jang enjoys helping out the newcomers.

She also lectures during the summer classes on how the different classes of people in that time period would have spoken.

"If we really talked Elizabethan no one would understand us," she said. "We speak in BFA - Basic fair accent."

Jang loves performing because she's close to the other cast members and enjoys

wearing her elaborate costumes.

She even participates in other festivals throughout the country before Ohio's festival in August.

She has been a part to the Ohio Renaissance Festival for 14 of its 15 years. Jang will be performing every festival day this year through Oct. 24, except Oct. 9.

For more information on the festival visit www.renfestival.com.

Autocross transforms daily driver into weekend racer

FORCED
 INDUCTION
 NKU's Campus Car Column

By Josh Blair

Most people in America automatically associate car racing with NASCAR and are oblivious to the hundreds of other racing circuits in this country.

Even fewer people are aware of how easy and inexpensive it can be for them to participate in these types of racing.

Quite possibly the easiest type of racing to get involved in is autocrossing.

Organized across the country by local chapters of the Sports Car Club of America, autocrosses take place in wide-open places, usually a large parking lot.

An autocross course is set up using cones and can include sharp 90-degree turns, wide 180-degree sweepers, hairpin turns, slaloms and straight-aways all within a time span of less than a minute.

Pointer cones mark the corners and help drivers stay on the track.

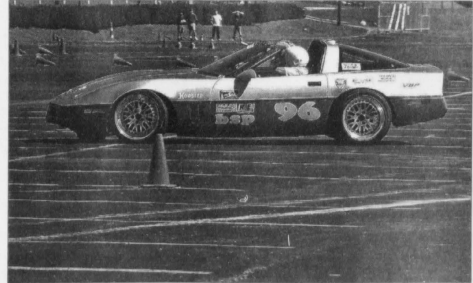
Autocrossing is a time-race event rather than wheel-to-wheel racing. Drivers go out one at a time and maneuver through the turns, giving it their best try to achieve the fastest time.

Sounding interesting about autocrossing is one that has a good power-to-weight ratio and handles well.

While it may not seem like it, autocrossing isn't necessarily bad for a car. The only wear is to the brakes and tires, and a casual autocrosser won't even notice it.

People who are serious about autocrossing usually have an extra set of performance brake pads and racing wheels and tires.

In Greater Cincinnati there are two autocross clubs, the Cincinnati chapter of the SCCA and the Cincinnati Sports Car Club (CSCC).



Josh Blair / Photographer

Autocross involves both precision driving skills and car control for a driver to achieve their fastest time.

turns, the best type of car for autocrossing is one that has a good power-to-weight ratio and handles well.

While it may not seem like it, autocrossing isn't necessarily bad for a car. The only wear is to the brakes and tires, and a casual autocrosser won't even notice it.

People who are serious about autocrossing usually have an extra set of performance brake pads and racing wheels and tires.

In Greater Cincinnati there are two autocross clubs, the Cincinnati chapter of the SCCA and the Cincinnati Sports Car Club (CSCC).

Between the two clubs there can be 20 or more events in a year. This gives drivers the area plenty of opportunity to hone their skills and wear out their tires.

The Cincy SCCA has events at River Downs horse track and

Kentucky Speedway and the CSCC has events at Scarlet Oaks vocational school in Sharonville, Ohio.

Each club brings in a large crowd, showing that autocrossing is becoming a popular sport in Greater Cincinnati.

Autocrosses are safe and legal events. The participants work during the heats in which they are not running. Workers stand at each major corner of the track with fire extinguishers and walkie-talkies.

Before autocrossing the first time, it's a good idea to watch one. It's also beneficial to ride with someone and get tips from some of the veterans.

Most of the people that race are friendly and willing to help out novices.

So if you're looking for an adrenaline rush, for a test of your car's performance or just for more to do with your car than commuting, then check

out the next local autocross.

The only thing you need to worry about is getting addicted. Next week's column will discuss autocrossing's dirty cousin, rallying.

E-mail questions to Josh at: blairj@nku.edu

Nbrief

Online resources:

- seca.org
- cincyscca.org
- cincyautotx.org
- autocross.com
- titerack.com/features/solo2/
- handbook.htm

Sports Scene

→ with Kyle Brown

Curbing fan trouble

One of the craziest incidents anybody could ever imagine seeing at a sporting event happened when Texas Rangers reliever Frank Francisco hurled a chair into the stands in Oakland and hit the wife of a fan who was heckling the team.

There have been an alarming number of incidents involving reckless fans and reckless players, especially in professional baseball. Situations where fans go from spectators to headline grabbers are becoming much more frequent.

Fans seem to have gotten a little out of line recently. There is a belief among many people who attend games that heckling is a birthright. While there is some validity to the argument that the fans bought the tickets and are allowed to act as they want, many fans have taken heckling to the extreme.

No longer do fans ridicule players with "my grandma throws better than you," or even simple "you're a bum" insults.

Some fans go so far as researching players' personal lives and learning the names of wives and kids in order to shout insulting things about them.

During a playoff game a few years ago, Cleveland Indians fans insulted the deceased mother of New York Yankees pitcher David Wells.

In addition to insulting getting more and more personal and harsh, some fans are getting belligerent involved. During a game at Wrigley Field, Chicago Cubs fans stole the hat of Los Angeles Dodger Todd Hundley while he sat in the opposition's bullpen. That incident led to a fracas between players and fans.

Within the past three years, two incidents occurred during Chicago White Sox games. During one game, a father and son attacked Kansas City Royals first base coach Tom Gamboa.

The next season, an umpire was attacked during a meeting between those same two teams.

The Francisco incident may be the tip of the iceberg as fans research problems go deeper. Fans players insist particularly harsh words — including racial slurs — were used. The fans deny that anything racially insensitive was said and assert it is their right to heckle. The fans even claim they purchased season tickets in exactly that spot with intent to heckle the visiting team.

In this instance, both the fans and players were out of line. In several of the other incidents, it's obviously the fault of the fans.

Major League Baseball must find a way to remedy this situation before someone, either on or off the field, is seriously injured.

Baseball players are not much different from anybody else, in that they go to their job and do the best they can.

They also have breaking points just like anybody else, and with some of the insults fans hurl, it's amazing these incidents don't occur more often.

There are several suggested solutions; moving the opposing bullpens or changing seats to get fans further away from the action are two of the more popular, however costly, ideas.

Whatever baseball decides to do to fix the situation, it can only benefit the game to prevent it from turning into a player war between fans and players.

Kyle Brown is the Sports Editor for The Northerner. You can e-mail Kyle at kbrown@nku.edu.



Blue I Photographer

Junior forward Kristen Votapek takes control of the ball during the opening week of GLVC play.

Women's soccer on roll

Norse win first two GLVC matches, improve to 4-2

By CHRIS ASHBROCK
Reporter
northern@nku.edu

The Northern Kentucky University women's soccer team scored a major upset Sept. 17 by defeating eighth-ranked University of Wisconsin-Parkside 2-0 at Town and Country Sports Complex.

With the win, the Norse improved to 4-2 (1-0 GLVC). Parkside received their first loss of the early season. The Norse have an unbeaten streak of 58 games against Great Lakes Valley Conference opponents.

The Norse came out of the gates playing extremely well, pinning the Parkside defense down and bombard-

ing them with shots. The Norse out-shot Parkside 4-1 in the first half and 12-5 in the game.

With the clock ticking down in the first half, sophomore Amy Law received a pass from Kristen Lies and put the ball past Parkside goalie Abbigale Wild. The goal gave the Norse a 1-0 lead at the half.

"The goal was huge for us," freshman Jayme Light said. "It took all of the weight off of our shoulders."

After the half, the Norse continued to outplay Parkside.

Around the 58:25 mark of the second half, freshman Jenna Goettelman put the dagger in the heart of Parkside as she took a pass from Amy Martini and put it past Wild for her first career goal.

It was a physical game, with both teams committing several fouls. Overall, four yellow cards were given out.

"After we scored again, (Parkside) got frustrated and they started playing a little dirty," sophomore Krista Rogers said.

The win was a big one for the Norse coming off of a disappointing weekend after losing to Ferris State last Saturday.

The team had a theme for the game Friday: "We must heal as a team, or die as individuals," Light said. "We had to come out and play a lot better than last weekend."

The Norse won their second consecutive GLVC match defeating St. Joseph's College 3-0 on Sept. 19.

*Article by Sports Information

Men's soccer team still unbeaten

Norse battle to a tie in the first GLVC match on Friday, standing 4-0-2 for this season

By AARON STAMM
Reporter
northern@nku.edu

Defense was the name of the game Sept. 17 as the NKU men's soccer team, ranked 18th in the NCAA Division II Poll, tied the University of Wisconsin-Parkside 0-0 at Town & Country Sports Complex in Wilder.

The team remains undefeated on the season but their four game winning streak came to an end.

Head coach John Basalyga was pleased with his team's effort.

"We played hard and with tremendous composure," Coach Basalyga said.

"Every game we are gaining valuable experience for our freshmen."

The entire starting midfield for the Norse consists of freshmen, as well as starting defender Andy Bacon and Dan Impelizeri.

"The more great team we

play the more experience we gain," Basalyga said. "We play a great schedule and our young kids really get exposed to great competition."

Wisconsin-Parkside was ranked third in the Great Lakes Valley Conference preseason poll.

They had jumped out to an impressive 5-1 early season record.

Senior goalie Nate Madden recorded his fifth shutout of the season after recording five saves during the game.

Parkside out-shot the Norse 14-6, but were unable to convert their opportunities.

NKU had chances to score throughout the match. The Norse had several corner kick opportunities, but just couldn't net the ball.

"This was a great team we played tonight," freshman mid-fielder Chris Thompson said. "We should have definitely beat them."

"We had many opportunities to score."

Going into Friday's match, NKU was 1-8-1 against

Wisconsin-Parkside during the past seven years and had been outscored by a 26-7 margin in those games.

"We never had beaten Parkside since I've been here," Madden said.

"What this does is it lets people know we are here to play. Going 4-0-2 in the early season really means we are not sneaking up on anyone anymore so we have to be ready to play."

The impressive Norse defense was anchored by junior David Lies along with Bacon and Impelizeri.

"Our defense is the best part of our game right now," Thompson said. "We just have to keep getting better on offense."

Basalyga said, "Our defense is keeping us in games right now."

"We are forcing teams to beat us because we aren't beating ourselves and it's nice to have Madden in the goal to protect our backline."

NKU's next game is on the road versus GLVC opponent Quincy University Sept. 24.



Blue I Photographer

Junior Randy Walters battles with a Wisconsin-Parkside player.

hotseat



with John Rasp

In this week's hot seat, John interviews David Lies. David is a junior on the men's soccer team and also played basketball for the Norse his freshman season. David's sister (Kristen) also plays for the women's soccer team.

John Rasp: Why is this year's record so much different than last year's?
David Lies: I guess this year we've had a lot of good breaks. We have guys that play hard and expect to win now, so we are getting it done.

JR: Between you and your sister (Kristen who plays for the NKU women's soccer team), who will score more goals this year?

DL: Hopefully my sister, because I play in the back. She should definitely get more chances than me and hopefully more goals.

JR: Who will get more cards between you and your sister?
DL: She is a lot calmer than I

am. I get mad on the field and she stays calmer, so I'll probably get more cards.

JR: The defense has only given up one total goal so far this year. If you were playing the women's team, which player would most likely score on you?

DL: Amy Law is a real good player. She's fast so that could get us into trouble, but I think we could handle it.

We could shutout the girls.

JR: If a playoff game came down to a shootout, which five players would you like to see take the penalty kicks?

DL: Randy Walters, Andy Bacon, Kyle Roberts, Chris Berberich and I want to take the

last one.
JR: What is the most fired up you've seen Coach Basalyga?
DL: It was during warm-ups when we were five minutes late and he ran down to the field and chewed us out. We won the game so I guess it worked.

JR: How it like to have 14 freshmen on the team this year?
DL: The freshman have been real good for us this year. There are a lot of them, but they have good attitudes, they listen, they play hard, and they are some of the good players on the team.

So we like to have them around.

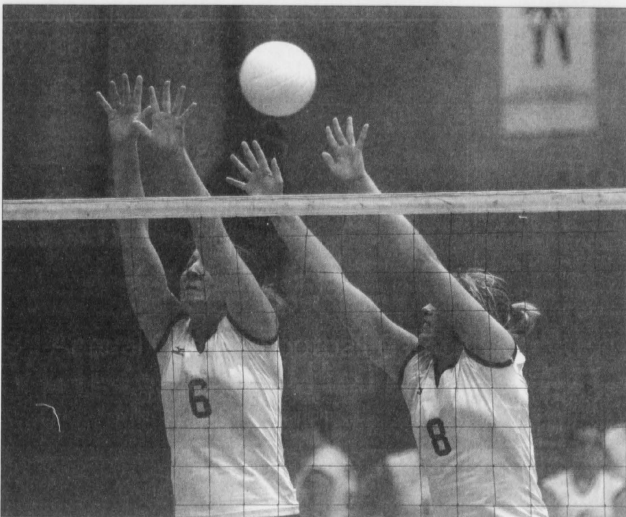


Blue I Photographer

David Lies is a major contributor on a revamped soccer team.

Volleyball team defeats Bellarmine

Norse win fifth consecutive in home opener, record stands at 8-4 overall with 1-0 GLVC



Blue I Photographer

Andrea Lanham and Liz Holmes go up for the block against Bellarmine.

By AARON STAMM
Reporter
norsports@nku.edu

The road to the Great Lakes Valley Conference Championship began Saturday for the NKU volleyball team as they defeated Bellarmine University 30-28, 30-20, 30-20 at Regents Hall.

The Norse have won five straight matches, including winning the Ashland Volleyball Classic Sept. 11. Their record now stands at 8-4 overall and 1-0 in GLVC play.

"We have lots of work ahead," Head Coach Carlos Chia said. "We are still trying to feel comfortable with who we are, playing next to, and we also need to work on communication on the floor."

Senior outside hitter Kristen Koralewski continued her successful season, leading the Norse with 15 kills, two aces, seven digs and a .565 hitting percentage. Koralewski now has 1,100 career kills at NKU and is currently ninth on the all-time Norse list.

Senior middle hitter Maggie Pugh added 8 kills and a .667 hitting percentage.

"Our key players are playing the way they are supposed to right now," Chia said. "It's always important to win every single match, whether it's the first one or last one."

The first game was intense, with both teams going back and forth winning service points.

NKU finally took control of the game late. Koralewski served three big points to send the Norse up 20-16.

"We need to step our game up now for conference play," Koralewski said.

Sophomore setter Andrea Lanham collected 37 assists and 8 digs for the Norse. Junior middle hitter Lynne Fischesser points to Lanham's contributions as a key to the victory.

"Our passing needs work but our hitting was really good today," Fischesser said. "Andrea did an outstanding job getting the ball to our hitters."

The Knights rallied from an 8-5 deficit in the third game to tie the score at 15-15 but NKU used a 15-5 run to end the match.

Koralewski picked up 3 kills to key the run while Fischesser served two aces.

"Hopefully, playing our first home match, we were able to get the excitement and adrenaline out," Koralewski said. "Now we can come out next weekend focused to play."

"It's very important to win the first conference game and get on the right track," Fischesser said. "These games get us ready for the conference tournament."

Norse Sports Schedule

Cross Country

Sept. 25
@ Greensboro, NC

Men's Soccer

Sept. 24 @ Quincy
Sept. 26 @ SIUE

Women's Soccer

Sept. 24 @ Quincy
Sept. 26 @ SIUE

Volleyball

Sept. 24 SIUE
Sept. 25 Southern Indiana

Illustration by Mike Brennan

VERSUS



This year
Campbell Co.
Fire Team
is determined
to win.



3rd Annual Charity Football Game

September 25th at 6 p.m.
Bellevue High School Stadium

Adults: \$5.00
Students: \$3.00
Under 7-years-old: Free



campus recreation
WHERE THE ACTION IS

Rock Climbing

Come Rock Climbing with us! Enjoy 5 hours of world class rock climbing at the Red River Gorge in Kentucky! This trip includes free transportation to and from the gorge as well as professional rock climbing guide to help and instruct beginners.

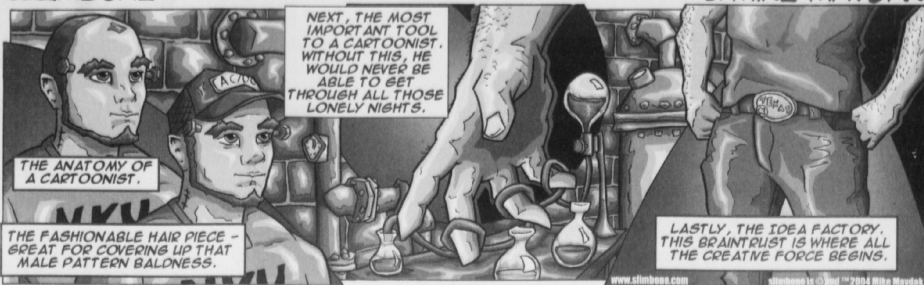


Registration Deadline:
Friday, Sept. 24th
Trip Date:
Saturday, October 2nd
Location:
Red River Gorge, Kentucky
Cost: \$50/person

Register in the front office of the Campus Recreation Center (104 Albright Health Center). Questions, call 572-5728.

SLIMBONE

BY MIKE MAYDAK



horoscopes

For the week of Sept. 20-26

By Lasha Seniuk, Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service (KRT)

ARIES
(March 21-April 20)
Social activities and new forms of entertainment will now be pleasing. Some Aries natives, especially those born after 1976, may wish to change their lifestyle or romantic expectations. Shared home agreements and long-term companionship are accented. Don't be shy. In the coming weeks loved ones will expect participation in romantic and family planning. After Friday several weeks of low physical energy fades. Watch for a quick burst of optimism and vitality.

TAURUS
(April 21-May 20)
Over the next two days your guidance and social insight will be important to loved ones. Delicate family or romantic decisions may now need extra encouragement. Make sure others understand your priorities and intentions. After mid-week gossip, vague innuendo or speculation will not prove helpful in the workplace. Ask for detailed descriptions and respond only to the facts. Key officials will soon take strong positions for errors. Wait for obvious signals. Progress will be slow.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 21)
Marital or long-term relationships will now begin a vital phase of evaluation. Before Wednesday let loved ones vent their feelings or ask probing questions. In the coming weeks romantic and family progress will be unavoidable. Watch for increased intimacy, fast proposals and revised plans. Thursday through Sunday also highlight financial changes and quick workplace improvements. Some Gemini will soon dramatically expand their career options: Stay open.

CANCER
(June 22-July 22)
Financial proposals may be confusing or disjointed over the next three days. If possible, avoid issues of ownership, legal permissions or seniority. Before mid-week key sources of information will be incomplete or unreliable: Finalize old paperwork and all will be well. Wednesday through Friday, accent complex group dynamics. Past obligations and minor jealousies may be bothersome. After Saturday rest and pamper the body: Physical energy and optimism will be low.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)
This week workplace relations will steadily improve: After Tuesday watch for disgruntled colleagues to provide new ideas, assistance or emotional support. Offer encouragement: At present, minor apologies may be difficult for fellow workers. Later this week loved ones may press for fast home decisions or revised travel plans. Someone close may soon reveal a need for greater independence. Stay focused on long-term promises. Minor delays will not be permanent.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Family or romantic discussions may now inspire revised home options or fast emotional agreements. Loved ones will no longer look to the past for answers. After mid-week, positive breakthroughs are available: Let yesterday's social triangles or postponed promises fade. Thursday through Sunday, business relations may be mildly strained by an unnecessary power struggle. Refuse to be drawn into group disagreements: An individual effort will bring results.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Loved ones may offer unusual hints or suggestions over the next few days. Areas affected are shared accommodations, long-term financial planning or deepening commitments. All are positive but may require continuing dedication: Stay open and listen for subtle clues. Thursday through Sunday new friendships are highlighted: Respond quickly to late invitations or rare group proposals. For many Librans, social optimism is now on the rise: Don't hesitate to get involved.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)
Property or rental contracts will now need careful study. Before Thursday hidden costs and poorly defined terms may prove costly. Remain patient and finalize all facts, numbers and expectations: This is not the right time to rush important paperwork. Later this week an intense phase of social isolation will end: Watch for a previously reluctant friend or lover to offer a peaceful resolution or surprising invitation. Group or family events are accented: Join in.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 23-Dec. 21)
Friends and relatives may this week discuss previously private family or social events. Precise communications are vital: Provide clear definitions and avoid sentimental exaggeration. Controversial ideas will need to be thoroughly examined: Loved ones will appreciate your vision and long-term wisdom. Thursday through Sunday, business routines may work to your advantage in the short-term: Avoid long-term or permanent solutions.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 20)
Old memories and past events will have a strong appeal over the next eight days. Some Capricorns may soon be drawn back into a complicated or outdated relationship. Carefully consider all consequences: Emotional risk, although temporarily controversial, will eventually prove rewarding. After Thursday, ongoing errors in the workplace will be revealed. Authority figures may arbitrarily assign blame: Stay balanced and avoid challenging the judgment of others.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 21-Feb. 19)
Group identity, delicate flirtations and social belonging may now be a continuing concern for loved ones. Remain alert to potential social or romantic triangles and expect ongoing dramas. By mid-October long-term friends and close relatives may ask for greater participation in your daily life: Stay focused. Later this week a trusted colleague may admit to private mistakes or rare financial errors. Avoid involving authority figures, if possible: Your assistance will be appreciated.

PISCES
(Feb. 20-March 20)
Business relationships may be difficult over the next eight days. Old records, past mistakes or forgotten comments may soon resurface: Before mid-week, expect solitary duties to bring short-term advancement. If possible, temporarily avoid newly begun team projects: Progress will be slow and complicated. Late Friday a sultry romantic proposal may be irresistible. Carefully consider the feelings of others: After mid-October social triangles will prove emotionally costly.

classifieds

To place a classified ad: contact Crystal Smith at 859-572-5322.

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GIVE A COLLEAGUE \$1000
It's not too late to show your colleagues how much you appreciate them. Nomination forms and guidelines for the 2004 Regents Distinguished Service Awards are now available online. The deadline for nominations is Friday, Sept. 24. <http://laccs.nku.edu/hr/regentsaward.html>

J Crew Now Hiring Part-time Client Specialists
Must have previous customer service experience. Must be able to work 15-20 hours/week (three shifts) including weekends (Friday, Saturday, Sunday - two of three). Must have high energy level, enjoy talking to customers, and have an interest in fashion. Must be 18 years of age. Please apply in person at the Kenwood Towne Center, 7875 Montgomery Road.

Sigma Alpha Lambda is a National Leadership and Honors Organization recognizing academic achievement and focusing on service and mentoring in the community. With over 40 chapters nationwide, we are seeking motivated students to assist in starting a local chapter (3.0 GPA Required). Contact Rob Miner at rminer@salhonors.org

crossword

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

ACROSS

21 One with an IRA
6 List-ending abbr.
10 Woe is me!
14 An Astaire
15 Radames' love
16 Lion's haudio
17 Gold measure
18 Emulate a beaver
19 go bragh!

23 Start of Paul McCartney quote
25 Eagle quarters
26 Make beloved
27 Single grain
28 Body shop's S quote
28 Refrain starter
29 Part 2 of quote
31 Vegas opening?
32 Speculative
36 Fraser Crane's brother
37 Illuminated

DOWN

1 H.H. Munro's pen name
2 Actor West
3 All-purpose
4 Lift the spirits of
5 AARP members
6 Aerie youngster
7 Color shades
8 Hebrew month
9 Members of the bar
10 Make revisions
11 Extensive
12 Ekberg or Baker
13 Mexicali mixer
14 Kudrow of "Friends"
15 Balin or Claire
16 Has title to
17 Seed cover
18 Make lace
19 Danson or Koppel
20 Claiborne or Smith
21 End of man?
22 Perked up
23 off (keep at bay)
24 Abominable snowman
25 Peggy or Pinky
26 Forgiveness
27 Sub
28 Malicious gossip
29 Caesar's seven
30 Works dough
31 Kindness to creatures org.
32 Power option

LAST WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

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