

THE NORTHERNER

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Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Snapshot:

NEWS

With resignations and impeachment proceedings under way, SGA could be changing and the intrigue is building. Read about what is happening with your representatives.

See Page 2

FEATURES



Not just any card Recognize this card? While it resembles an ordinary, run-of-the-mill NKU student ID card, this little piece of plastic holds the key to big discounts all over town. Use it wisely.

See Page 6

SPORTS



GLVC ROCKS

The Great Lakes Valley Conference is the conference NKU plays in. Read how the conference is one of the best in Division II, especially when it comes to men's basketball.

See page 5

VIEWPOINTS

Here they are, Mr. and Miss NKU... Are the Homecoming King and Queen elections just a glorified popularity contest? Does anyone really care who wins?

See page 4

WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

www.adcritic.com

This site gives you the low-down on all your favorite commercials, especially those catchy, one-time only Super Bowl ads. It includes top-10 lists for currently airing commercials as well.

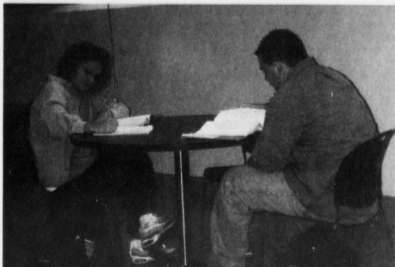
THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Feb. 8, 1587: Mary Queen of Scots beheaded.
Feb. 8, 1924: First lethal gas execution takes place in Nevada.
Feb. 9, 1825: The U.S. House of Representatives elects John Quincy Adams, who received fewer popular AND electoral votes than Andrew Jackson, president.

INDEX

DPS Reports.....2
North Poll.....4
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Steely Library extends weekend hours



Stephanie Ellis, a junior management major, and Robert Bray, a junior finance major, take advantage of the extended library hours Saturday afternoon.

By Kyle Black
Staff Writer

The lights are burning a little longer on Sunday evenings at Steely Library this semester. Sunday hours at the library have been extended to 10 p.m. on a trial basis for the spring semester. The library was open from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. It is now open from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The extension of the library hours on a trial basis was a collaborative effort between the Student Government Association (SGA), library administrators and the librarians.

Student input on library hours was a major factor in the change of hours. SGA distributed surveys through Residential Life and put an ad in *The Northerner*

requesting students' ideas on library hours. The library also helped distribute and collect the surveys.

"Seventy-two percent of those surveyed said that Sunday hours should be extended to at least 10 p.m. About 90 percent wanted some change," said Kara Clark, SGA president. Clark also said that after surveying students and speaking with student groups on campus, SGA realized that it was a priority to have extra hours, especially on the weekends.

A major obstacle that SGA and the library administration encountered to make this change possible was money.

"Ultimately, money is the main problem," said Lois Schultz, acting Associate Provost for Library Services. Dr. Rogers W.

Redding, interim Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, allocated the funds needed for the trial period of extended Sunday hours, Schultz said.

Schultz said at this point it is too early in the semester to tell if students are using the library's extended hours. "I would encourage students to take advantage of using the library on Sunday evenings during this trial period," said Schultz. Schultz also said that she determines whether the library continues extended hours.

Clark says that this is a pilot program, so if students want these extended hours, they should use them so that SGA can make future changes.

College students recruit highschoolers

By Rachel Dietz
Photo Editor

Twenty-five student leaders on campus will travel to local high schools this semester to let senior students know about opportunities to get involved at Northern Kentucky University.

From February to early April, students from the Student Life Ambassador Team will travel to local high schools to speak to seniors. Their main mission is to bring to light the opportunities at NKU. They also want to educate students about campus organizations, leadership opportunities, the admissions process and the general campus climate at NKU.

"We want to show high school students that NKU is not just a commuter campus," said Tiffany Mayse, an ambassador for the Student Life Ambassador Team.

The members of the team were hand-picked by the Student Life Office based on their presentation of good leadership skills at NKU.

Between six and eight ambassadors will speak at each school. They will

give a 50-minute presentation to the students during which the students will receive a folder filled with information about NKU such as when rush weeks are, scholarship information and applications for various leadership positions on campus. The presentation will also include information such as the importance of getting involved and the career steps to take once the student begins college.

Mayse said that even though it is not their main goal, ambassadors will also help in recruiting seniors to come to NKU. "Our main goal is to tell them how to get involved at NKU but of course we also want to try to persuade them to go here," Mayse said.

Michael Daniele, one team member, said he doesn't feel that talking to the students is just a recruitment strategy for NKU because they could use the advice wherever they decide to attend college.

"We are not just giving them facts about NKU," Daniele said. "We are trying to give them help and guidance on how to succeed and thrive in a college atmosphere."

Katie Herschede, an ambassador on

See **STUDENT LIFE**, page 7

Down memory lane with Dean Kelso

By Dan Mecher
News Editor

Dean of Students Kent Kelso has plenty of reasons to strictly enforce the no alcohol policy at Northern Kentucky University, one of which being his previous involvement with a \$10 million lawsuit.

While working in 1995 as acting director of housing at Pittsburg State University in Kansas, Kelso stood accused along with a list of other defendants in a civil trial brought forth by a student.

"This freshman male had been drinking in his dorm room and he was definitely intoxicated when he left to go to a local bar," Kelso said. "The bar served him additional alcohol, even though he was a minor."

The student returned to the dormitory lobby severely intoxicated, belligerent and out of control, from Kelso's description. When another student fought back, causing them both to slip and fall onto the tile floor.

Kelso said the intoxicated student landed on his head, causing severe trauma to his neck and spine and leaving him paralyzed.

The student then used the state of Kansas, the State Board Regents, the university, the president of the university and the director of housing.

"The lawsuit alleged that there was negligence on the part of the university regarding the enforcement of the

alcohol policy," he explained. "It attempted to prove that by showing that RAs were not enforcing the alcohol policy, and that the university had not properly trained the RAs how to do their job."

Kelso disagreed as to who was to blame. "I think that it was behavior on his part that created the circumstances that led to his injury," he said.

Kelso said that although the allegation had some success in proving the leniency of the resident advisors, the court found the student to be 51 percent or more responsible for the accident and the lawsuit failed.

"RAs better be enforcing the alcohol policy if they're working for me," he added.

Jerry Wallace, area coordinator, said that when Kelso arrived at NKU last semester, he brought with him a strong intent to enforce the regulations in the student housing handbook.

"He's very serious and very committed about ensuring that drugs and alcohol are not present in our residence halls," Wallace said.

"If this is a dry campus, I will enforce that," Kelso said. "That's my job."

Kelso said his own tolerance for students drinking on college campuses decreased significantly after the incident. "I am going to make sure there are the policies and training in place to limit that activity and decrease the liability of a university and myself," he said.

New Blood



Future college students visited NKU for Black and Gold Day last Saturday. Admissions staff member Jessica Enderle gives potential freshmen the 411 on what NKU has to offer.

Campuses try new alcohol policy

By Dan Mecher
News Editor

Campuses across the country are giving students who try to sneak alcohol on campus new reasons to fear getting caught.

By mailing letters to the parents of minors found in violation of alcohol policy, many local and national schools are trying to reduce the number of substance-related infractions on their campuses.

The use of parental notification at Eastern Kentucky University began just this spring, said Betsy Bohannon, associate director of student judicial affairs at the institution in Richmond, Ky. "The students were not excited about that," she added.

The letters sent to parents are non-specific, only indicating that the student has been found in violation of a drug and alcohol policy, she

explained.

Bohannon said that because the disciplinary action is still in early stages of use, its effect on students is not yet determinable.

She added that decreasing numbers of substance abuse violations have been a noticeable trend since revisions on EKU's judicial sanctions were made in 1998.

According to her campus records, 203 substance-related incidents were reported from Aug. 21 to Dec. 15, 2000, a 29 percent decrease from the same period during the preceding year.

Other enforceable sanctions for alcohol policy violations mentioned in the EKU Student Handbook include probation, eviction from university housing and mandatory assessments. "We're doing our part to show the students that this high-risk behavior could be detrimental to their time here," Bohannon said.

The University of Kentucky in Lexington also experienced a recent restructuring of alcohol policy, extending its dry rule for undergraduate residence halls to Greek housing in 1999.

Tony Ralph, assistant director of residence life at UK, said the policy enforces a "three strikes" system, suspending third-time offenders usually for a semester.

The university uses a parental notification system, Ralph said, but not in every case. "Sometimes it's not a good thing to do," he said. He explained that if the student's home situation is bad, the parents might not be contacted.

He said the number of violations began to decrease within the first year from when the campus policy revisions were made.

"People realize that it is taken seriously," Ralph said, giving his explanation of the recent decline of offenses.

The effects of a notification policy on other campuses have varied, according to results of a study in January 2000 by the Model Policy Committee of the Association of Student Judicial Affairs.

See **ALCOHOL**, page 7

Bush's plan raises the bar for public schools

By Rick Amburgey
Special Projects Editor

President George W. Bush unveiled his plan for education reform Jan. 23. The plan, titled "No Child Left Behind," is designed to reform the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The plan outlines the priorities of the Bush Administration regarding education reform, including the academic performance of disadvantaged students, which Bush cited during a speech in Los Angeles on Sept. 2, 1999 as his main priority.

Dr. Michael Washington, director of Afro-American Studies, has dealt with the issue as a student and as an educator. "The institutions are still structured on class and race so that poor whites and poor non-whites have a hard time getting an education," he said.

Washington said the State of Ohio declared that system of funding unconstitutional.

Washington said disinvestment often occurs in urban areas where "white flight" has taken place and

industry has moved to suburban areas.

"Hence, the quality of education in those urban areas will be considerably less than the quality of education in the suburban areas," Washington said.

"There are high schools in urban areas that don't even have a college preparatory curriculum," he added.

Beginning last year, Ohio state law mandated that all school districts in Ohio receive a performance rating based on 27 minimum performance standards.

Cincinnati Public Schools were classified as "Academic Emergency," having only met six of the 27 requirements. 68 other Ohio school districts also received this classification.

The number of students may be related to the detrimental performance. The number of students enrolled in Cincinnati Public Schools is almost 16 times the state average.

A major part of the educational reform plan is to implement higher accountability standards.

According to the plan, schools showing signs of improvement will be rewarded. As well, schools showing signs of failure will be penalized.

The plan will give the power of education to parents in two ways: they will be informed about how their child's school is doing. If they are dissatisfied, they have the opportunity to place them in the school of their choice.

Under Bush's plan, federal money will be allocated to promote plans that have been proven to promote educational excellence.

Proponents of the plan believe that making schools accountable and making schools a safer environment, will improve the quality of education.

Luan Frost, formerly a teacher in an Ohio school district, disagrees.

Frost said she believes more funds need to be allocated to education, but she feels Bush's plan misplaces those funds by focusing on testing to evaluate. "I think they should spend money on reducing class sizes," she said.

Frost said she left her position as a 7th grade reading teacher because the school district told her she had to follow the curriculum. That meant teaching novels, even though many of the students could not read past the 4th grade level.

"I knew the first day of school a certain percentage of my students were going to fail. I couldn't help them because I was told that if I did I would be fired," she said.

Frost opened "Excellence Academy," a place where students can come for tutoring, in Springfield, Ohio.

"We reinforce the fact they really are smart," she said. Frost believes self-image and excellence are connected.

Frost said local teachers hate her program because teachers at the "Excellence Academy" do not follow a set curriculum.

"I don't care about following curriculum. I care about kindergartners learning the alphabet," she said.

There are two points that Bush and Frost see eye to eye on: improving teacher quality and instilling morals in children.

Bush supports programs such as True Love Waits, which promotes abstinence.

Frost believes that instilling these moral beliefs is the key to the next generation's success.



Bush waves as he leaves for a weekend retreat.

Controversy brews in SGA rift

By Jason R. Crisler
Production Manager

Team 2002 coordinator Josh Wice, a Student Government senator, resigned on Jan. 18 from his position on the committee.

Team 2002's in charge of lobbying Kentucky's General Assembly for funds.

"Josh gave no reason at all for resigning," SGA President Kara Clark said.

She said that Eugene Norman of governmental affairs is investigating charges that could bring about Wice's impeachment from SGA.

Wice said the investigation is based on accusations that he stole Clark's private mail and stored her in the SGA refrigerator. Wice said the accusations are false.

Wice sent an e-mail to SGA officials saying he was resigning but no reason was given. Clark said that was how Wice informed her of his resignation as well.

"Differences with the Executive Board and the direction Team 2002 is going," is why he resigned, Wice said.

"There are no problems with the Team 2002 personnel," Wice said. "The differences are between Kara and I. She is aware of these."

"I left Team 2002 in Josh's hands," Clark said. "Maybe he wanted more help. In all the meetings we had (concerning Team 2002) he was always very positive."

"People told me that Kara was saying things behind my back," Wice said. He said he lost faith in her.

"My record stands high on its own," Clark said. She said that, in her opinion, Wice was being petty. "Everything I've heard has been through a third person," she said.

"Josh works under two vice presidents and they report to me," she said. Wice didn't make any problems known.

"I have an open-door policy," Clark said. "And he didn't bring any problems to me."

Wice said he thinks his and Clark's problems stem from his desire to run for SGA president and Clark not wanting him to be SGA president next year. Wice said he thinks "Clark is basically grooming Jennifer Surgalski to be her successor." Surgalski is vice president of public relations.

See SGA, Page 7

Charity race a "Labor of love"

By Sarah Kruetzkamp
Staff Reporter

Hearts won't be the only thing pounding this Valentine's Day when Northern Kentucky University students pound the pavement for the Labor of Love two-mile race.

The two-mile race will be held Sunday, Feb. 11 at noon. The course starts at the Albright Health Center, runs down to the dorms around the technical school and back to the Health Center.

Participants can run in teams of three or more, as a couple or an individual. Awards will be given for top

finishers in each category. Awards will also be given to the top Greek couple. A party in Regents Hall will follow the race. Music By Request will be provided by music. There will be refreshments and pizza.

Organizers of the event have also planned a Kissing, Eating and Costume Contest. Awards for Kissing Contest winners include a night stay at the Drawbridge Inn.

Coordinators of the event are hoping for a big turnout.

Assistant NKU cross country coach, Mike Moyer said, "the last two years the race has been at Thomas More and they had a pretty good turnout, we are

hoping for the same or even better."

Race day registration is \$25. Kevin Alessandro, cross country team member said, "the proceeds from the race go to the American Heart Association and also to help fund an NKU club track team with the hopes of getting track in the very near future."

A long-sleeved t-shirt will also be provided, while supplies last.

Sponsors of the event include, NKU, The Runners' Club of Greater Cincinnati (RCGC), Sabieux Salon and Spa, Zeinmer Homes, The American Heart Association, Better Bodies, Walz Business Systems and Papa John's.

Students address NKU future

By Erin Johnstone
Staff Writer

The Academic Strategic Planning Steering Committee met Monday, Jan. 29, to generate ideas from students on what they would like to see offered in the future at NKU. Two more meetings will be held which will give students a chance to make their suggestions to the committee.

Several topics were discussed and students from various departments attended to express their interest. One of the topics discussed included an outreach program for students on campus, which could link students to the business world through an internship program.

Karen Butler, an MBA student on campus, suggested that NKU could help students find internships or classes that could pair them with the business environment. She said that she

thinks classes offered at different business locations could be of interest to some students.

A possible incentive for students enrolled in an internship was a suggestion also. For example, a break in tuition was a suggestion for students who still have to work and pay tuition as well as do an internship.

The committee asked the question, "Is NKU offering the programs that students want?" The possible idea of offering more certification classes and programs was an issue. Suggestions were made that more Information Technology classes be offered at NKU.

One student stated that some people may not be interested in bachelor's degrees, but they might be interested in certification programs instead.

Another suggestion that was made, which is a growing interest to some students, was the expansion of on-line

courses. Valarie Macarie, a speech communication major, said that these on-line courses are very convenient for students without much flexibility in their schedule.

The committee posed the question of whether or not there is a student interest for compressed format classes. A student suggested that surveying the student body would be a way to monitor these opinions.

Promotions and advertising for NKU was also discussed in the meeting. The idea of promoting NKU to international students was suggested because of the good price and good reputation combined.

Other topics discussed included existing programs, future programs, mechanisms for future growth within the University, ways to improve the overall image of the University, and student interest in offering classes in off-campus settings.

D.P.S. REPORTS

Feb. 1-3:20 p.m.

Location: DORMS - WOOD-CREST-SYCAMORE - SANCTIONED SUBJECT ON CAMPUS

Residential Life Staff reported that there was a male in the Residential Village that had previously been sanctioned to stay off the Premises. He was located and told to vacate the area or face arrest for criminal trespassing.

At the request of the hall director the man was escorted from the Residential Village in lieu of arrest. He left the area without incident.

Feb. 1-5:10 p.m.

Location: DORMS - WOOD-CREST-WILLOW - VERBAL ALTERATION

There was a verbal altercation between a man and woman in the dorm area. The woman was gone

Feb. 2-12:48 p.m.

Location: SOCCER FIELD & TRACK

DPS received a request from Central Campbell County Fire District for assistance in establishing a landing zone for the University Air Care Helicopter. Central Campbell County Fire Units were on the scene of an auto accident with injuries near campus. The victim was eventually transported to University Hospital by the Central Campbell County Life Squad.

Feb. 1-8:20 p.m.

Location: AST - SECOND FLOOR - ATTEMPTED THEFT

A woman said that she saw two male subjects with two Dell computers on the second floor. When the subjects saw her, they left the computers in an elevator and fled the scene. The computers were recovered. The incident is under investigation.

Feb. 3-1:35 a.m.

Location: DORMS-WOOD-CREST-OAK - FIRST FLOOR - MEDICAL RESPONSE

A man complained of severe pain in the groin and was transported by the Central Campbell County Fire District Squad to St. Luke Hospital East for treatment.



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Cincinnati Bell offers free entertainment

By Karen Andrew
Staff Writer

Free admission to a variety of arts events in the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky area this weekend provides students an alternative to paid entertainment activities.

According to The Fine Arts Fund (FAF) Web site, the Cincinnati Bell Fine Arts Sampler Weekend (Feb. 10 and 11) features art, dance, drama, music and readings in numerous locations throughout the Tri-state area.

"This year's schedule includes 44 locations hosting 129 events...arts for every taste and interest," according to the website.

A highlight of the Sampler

Weekend is the closing event, "Romeo and Juliet," to be presented at the Arnoff Center's P&G Hall in downtown Cincinnati. According to an FAF brochure, free tickets will be available on a first come first served basis at the Arnoff Center Box Office, beginning 3 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 11. Preceding the Ballet's performance at 7 p.m., tours of the Arnoff will be conducted beginning at 5 p.m.

If students want to confine their cultural pursuits to the Northern Kentucky area, the Fine Arts Sampler Weekend brochure lists a number of events located on or near the Northern Kentucky University campus.

The Northern Kentucky University

will present its "wonderful offerings" from the "Men in Black Quintet" in Greaves Auditorium, NKU campus, Sunday at 2 p.m.

The Belinger-Crawford Museum, located in Devou Park (accessible from Covington) is the setting for two different visual arts activities: "Landscapes and Lifestyles," an exhibit by local artists, O'Leary Bacon and Paula Mead and "Paper Fantasies - Original Meets the Price is Right" with Jonathan Hare presented Sunday.

The Caden Blincoe "Outland Festival" takes place at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Science Lecture Hall, Thomas More College in Crestview Hills (take the Turkeyfoot exit from I-75). Local

writers will read selections from their works.

A brief look at the history and purpose of the Fine Arts Fund reveals that the Cincinnati Institute of Fine Arts, founded in 1927 by Charles P. and Anna Sinton Taft (their home is now the Taft Museum of Art), established the FAF in 1949, according to the FAF Web site. It goes on to say that the fund provides a "financial base for the arts and ensure a diverse range of cultural expression."

Local organizations conduct fundraising efforts annually to support the fund and thus the area arts community.

"The school (NKU) does not receive funds from the FAF," said Dr.

Don Klein, chairman of the art department. But he did add that students could individually apply for funding from the FAF.

For more information on the FAF, Fine Arts Sampler Weekend listings and descriptions of events, the FAF's Web site can be accessed at www.fineartsfund.org. For a printed brochure, the Web site advises calling (513) 240-5000 and leave your name and phone number. Or one can visit "any public library, the Greater Cincinnati Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Northern Kentucky Convention & Visitors Bureau, the information center in the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport or any of the major arts organizations

throughout the region."

Brochures were found at the Boone County Public Library in Florence as well as the Kenton County Library in Covington. (None were found in the Steely Library or the Campbell County Library Cold Spring branch).

Finally, if students are unable to attend the Fine Arts Sampler Weekend events, there is still good news for art lovers. According to the FAF Web site, these museums have free admission on certain days of the week: the Cincinnati Art Museum is free on Saturdays, the Contemporary Arts Center is free on Mondays and the Taft Museum of Art is free on Wednesdays and Sundays.



Jennifer Davis/The Northerner

An empty darkroom has been a rare sight for photography students lately, and has caused complaints among photography students.

By Michelle Brug
Staff Writer

Crowded darkrooms, crowded classes, complaining students. Something is amiss in Northern Kentucky University's photography department.

This year 42 photography majors and seven students in the BFA program are having a hard time finding space to work in the suddenly overcrowded darkrooms.

Robin Cobb, part-time faculty, has noticed a slight increase.

"It seems as if more students are getting in touch with me trying to get into classes," she said. "Last year there were only about 10 students who stayed in the class when the others dropped. This semester there were 15 who stayed."

There seems to be no plans for better facilities, but there are more classes now than ever have been. There are 13 classes this year, whereas last year there were only 10 classes in the photography program. The Intermediate photography class had to be divided in half to allow the 26 students enrolled equal time in the darkroom.

"It was very helpful to divide the class," said Barbara Houghton, photography teacher. "26 students were way to many for one person."

Diana Duncan Holmes is wonderful with those students," Houghton said. "The students get more attention that way."

There have been complaints among the photography students

about finding space in the darkroom at night and the equipment is constantly broken.

"Wear and tear on the equipment has definitely increased," said Cobb. "I normally fix all the broken equipment in the mornings. There tends to be more people here at night."

"Overall, we have a very good facility. The equipment gets broken because it gets used a lot; that is normal. Most of the problems with broken equipment (are) from misuse and operator error," said Houghton.

"We do have a couple volunteers that go in and fix things," said Barry Andersen, photography teacher. "We also have good part-time faculty that help us a lot."

"The lab should have a staff lab

person that maintains it," he said, "but funding constraints have kept us from doing that."

Andersen said that the department has good equipment and they have to make do with what they have available to them for as long as possible, and always having events going on in the galleries is helping with the retention of the students.

"We always have exhibitions going on. Mary Ellen Mark is speaking next week and last year we had Doug Prince come in," he said.

He said that if the department has gained more students it is because they have "produced successful grads who have done well, making the photography department well-respected."

Lecture on a King starts Black History Month

By Rick Amburgey
Special Projects Editor

What should I be doing now?

Anne Braden used that question as a final thought to sum up Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s message during a lecture on King in the University Center Ballroom Feb. 1.

Braden, an activist, journalist and current adjunct professor at NKU, delivered her impromptu speech on King after the scheduled speaker, Rev. Harry White, was forced to cancel.

Braden spoke at length about the fight to have King's birthday declared a national holiday. She said she's not sure King would be pleased if he saw how his birthday is celebrated.

To me, January is a month we just have to live through. Not only because of the weather, but because we are subjected to program after program...to paint a picture that probably would have made Martin Luther King roll over in his grave," she said. Braden said he would be disappointed because his message has been distorted, one of which is the belief that King was the civil rights movement.

She said King played an important role, but the movement belonged to the people.

"The '60s were the moment in time when African-Americans said 'We've had enough.' When they moved, the country moved," she said. She said most people, even King's

widow Coretta Scott King, doubted that King's birthday would become a national holiday.

Braden said this wasn't only because of his race, but also because of how officials regarded him when he was assassinated.

"He was under severe attack because he was against the war in Vietnam," she said.

He said he began to speak out about the war during his Riverside Church speech in 1967 - exactly one year before he was killed. Braden said King may have known he was going to be killed.

Braden recounted her friendship with King.

"I saw a side of him everyone had an opportunity to see," she said.

She told that King came to help her and her late husband when they were in need of a place to live. They had a house to a black family in a white neighborhood.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards were given out following the speech.

This year's recipients of the awards were students Hievari Baloyi and D.J. Carter. Faculty members were Dr. Joellen Burkholder, Dr. Gregory Stewart and Dr. Michael Washington. The program was sponsored by Student Government Association and served as the annual kick off to Black History Month.

Kara Clark, SGA president, said the Grievance and Affirmative Action committee was responsible for the

selection of the speaker for this year's event.

"I think Robyn [Granger] and her committee did an excellent job," she said.

Granger said we are lucky to have Braden.

"She's a living national treasure," Granger said.

Granger also said she was pleased with the crowd, because it was large, racially diverse crowd.





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
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A word from the candidate

February 1 at 1:25 a.m. I wanted to send this to you before I know what the results of the election are, that way no one can say I am just upset if I lose.

By now I am sure that everyone on our campus knows that I am running for Homecoming King. That in itself is no big deal. The fact that I am a woman and a non-traditional student, running for a position that has always been male and traditionally dominated, is apparently disturbing to some people. Most people have been supportive. But, as with anything that is new and different (scary stuff), there are more than a few people that are having a hard time dealing with my attempt at changing the status quo.

Let me address Miss Wagner's problem personally. Please do not let me bore you with the problems of gender equity in our community here at NKU. I will attempt not to bore you with the other prejudices, besides sexism, that create a hostile learning environment for many of our peers on campus. I am not trying to make a mockery of the election. If you actually knew me, you would know the angst I went through before I even filled out the application.

I know that some people would have a tough time with this new and (gulp!) scary thing. Who would have thought it? A woman breaking out of her gender role

here at NKU! What are they teaching us (biting of nails)? I have every confidence that we will all live through this. Breathe in, breathe out and just keep doing that.

I did not run "just to bring attention to myself and" Feminists at Northern (FAN), that is not my style. (Thanks for the free publicity though.) If you knew me you might know that. I do have a question for you.

Why did you run for Homecoming Queen?

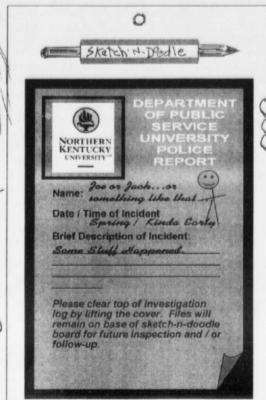
There is just one other person whose problems I feel the need to address. Miss Sorrentino, I am appalled at your choice of words. The use of the word retarded is inappropriate and I believe that most people who actually know me here would tell you that I am not immature. I would really like to know what "that" (Is it my weight, age, what?) it is you assume I am pushing on other people by running for Homecoming King. I am sure there are others who are wondering the same thing.

Thank you Mr. Murphy, I knew some people would figure it out without my having to explain the whole concept to them. Thanks for the support also.

With as much Norse pride as anyone else,
Theresa Geisen



Awww....Man!!!! Leave 'em Alone...They've Got a System!



Maureen B. Jones © NKU 2-7-01

Political correctness ruins Homecoming traditions

Is there anything that isn't politically incorrect, anything that the feminist groups and minority groups don't have to get involved in? A woman running for homecoming king, where does it end? There is nothing demeaning about a man being a king and a woman being a queen, it's been that way for thousands of years. That's great that you want your voice to be heard, but the reason people run for homecoming king and queen is because they respect the people that set it up, they respect the

whole thing, being homecoming king or queen is something that is very important to them, obviously it isn't to you, Theresa Geisen. All you want to do is make some noise, get the feminists a little "15 minutes of fame," why not just write a article or even a whole book, if you want, explaining why you don't like this whole system, don't ruin it for everyone who is putting a lot of time into this.

Doug Grieme
Villa Hills

I was embarrassed and outraged to read the "Does gender a king make?" article on Jan. 31 in *The Northerner*. Northern Kentucky University has sunk to an all new intellectual low. It has managed to fall below the marks set by *The Northerner* in years past. This new lowlight is brought to you by the woman who has been permitted to run for homecoming king. (I refuse to use this female's name because I'm sure she would rather me do so than refer to her as a woman.) In a time when young men and women need strong leaders, especially in higher education, we are unfortunately stuck with a spineless Dean who has allowed this mockery of one of the rare traditions at this university to continue. Not only has

this ridiculous woman disrespected this university, but she has also slapped her fellow female classmates in the face, Homecoming queen and king honors are not awarded on the basis of sexuality, but they are based on gender. Believe it or not there is scientific evidence that shows two opposite genders must and do exist. This does not hinder the diversity of our university but instead adds to it. Differences should be celebrated not aggravated by small minded university officials and feminist kings. Maybe Dean Kelso wants to to forget about our gender altogether. Maybe we should not refer to each other as Miss or Mister any longer. First names should also be abandoned, instead we should only

refer to one another by numbers. "Hello, doctor. I'm student number 10234." Of course we would all have to wear loose clothes and veils because even a hint of the outline of a body would unmask someone of their true identity. We could also take advantage of the new technology and purchase voice scramblers at the book store. Go ahead Dean Kelso. With away under the pressure of militant leftists. The students of NKU are tired of the Gulag they are being held captive in. If the Dean will not stand up for what is right then the students will leave the Dean or Deaneess behind and stand up for ourselves.

It is this simple: age, sex and ethnicity do matter when electing representatives of your university. I

would be proud to have a young African-American woman as my homecoming queen. I would not be proud to have a militant feminist as my king. Besides, wouldn't you have rather lived under Queen Elizabeth than King Henry VII. Being a queen is an honorable position and so is it to be a woman. Maybe we shouldn't expect our king and queen to disclose if they are even human beings or not. God knows we don't want to deny the rights to any other mammals or space aliens for that matter. Are you an alien Miss Geisen?

Kenneth R. Turner Jr.
Political Science major

NORTH POLL

Do you think alcohol should be allowed on NKU's campus?

Joanne Michael
Accounting
Eastgate

"No, I don't think it should be allowed because from my own personal past alcohol leads to problems."



Stephanie Childs
Psychology
Cincinnati

"Well, no. It's stupid to have it at school. But I see it everyday on campus so we might as well allow it."



Jenifred Thompson
Management and Marketing
Newport

"Yes, in certain instances, but not all the time because younger people would take advantage of it."



Kevin Galbaugh
Construction Technology
Cold Spring

"I think we should be allowed to have it but only in certain amounts. Put limitations on how much you can bring on campus."



Ryan Sparks
History
Ft. Thomas

"I think they should just allow it because people do it anyway. It would keep people from getting in trouble."



Tiffany Rice
Construction Technology
Latonia

"Yes, because if you're intoxicated the elevator system wouldn't be so bad-less hostility."



THE NORTHERNER

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

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Asalon ready to begin new baseball season

By Aaron Stamm
Staff Reporter

Replacing a legend is never an easy thing to do. For first year head baseball coach, Todd Asalon, it is something that he is excited about.

"It was a no-brainer. I have always wanted to come back to NKU and be the head baseball coach," he said. Asalon played baseball for the Norse from 1980-83, and he was a three-year starter at catcher. He earned All-Region honors in 1981 as he led his team to the College World Series.

Asalon replaces long-time NKU baseball coach Bill Aker, who retired at the end of last season. He completed a record of 806-572 in 29 years at NKU. Asalon credits Aker with giving him the opportunity and the knowledge to take this job. "Coach Aker has been a very big influence on me as a coach and a person," he said.

Before coming to NKU, Asalon coached six seasons at Thomas More College, where he led the program to a school-record 32 victories last season and its first-ever NCAA Division III Tournament appearance.

"Coaching at Thomas More gave me the opportunity to gain the valuable experience needed. Also gave me the opportunity to make mistakes and learn from my mistakes to make me a better coach," said Asalon.

Athletic Director Jane Meier said she feels the decision to hire Asalon was a easy one for her. "Todd has been highly respected in the baseball community. He has a tremendous work ethic and has had experience coaching at a winning, first-class program like Thomas More," she said.

Asalon said he feels there are many differences between coaching at a Division II school compared to a Division III school.

"The resources that you are allowed to use are better. It is nice to have scholarship money to be able to play around. The facilities at a Division II school are more advanced," he said.

In addition to being the baseball coach at TMC, he also served as athletic director for two years. Asalon said he feels the burden of not serving as AD at NKU will help the baseball program.

"The big difference in this job is the help of athletic director being lifted. I will have more time and energy devoted to coaching baseball and making the



Photo Contributed
NKU baseball coach Todd Asalon will try to continue the legacy that former coach Bill Aker left.

program better" he said.

Senior pitcher Kyle Pletzer said he feels the addition of Asalon will boost the program for years to come. "Coach Asalon has created enthusiasm that hasn't been here for a while. The comfort level is better, the guys are very comfortable talking to him," he said.

Since coming to NKU last summer, he has been planning is team goals for years to come. "We want to improve on our 7-19 conference record last year. We want to be one of the six teams in the conference tournament at the end of the season," he said.

Asalon is taking over a program at NKU, which has been down for a couple of years. He said he feels getting off to a good start is the best thing for the kids and the program.

"We need to get off to a good start. We have guys that have never won on the college level before. It would be nice to see us start well," he said.

Meier said she feels the qualities that Asalon has is what persuaded her to hiring him. "Todd knows base-

ball and also knows how to coach baseball. He is a tireless worker and will be committed to our program," she said.

Playing under both Aker and now Asalon, Pletzer said he feels Asalon is the best possible successor for Aker.

"I feel with Coach Asalon being younger, he connects better with athletes and understand players needs. He is also very goal-oriented," he said.

In the early pre-season, the team has begun to train in the gym due to the weather problems. Asalon feels the players are doing great considering the transition of a new coach.

"A new coach will always ask guys to change positions or routines. So far in the pre-season, the players have been good about the transition and have accepted their roles," he said.

The biggest joy in coaching for Asalon is to watch the kids grow at the college level. "I love watching guys start at 18 years old, they grow up in their four years in college. I love seeing the guys become very successful after college," he said.

"This is a great opportunity to go back and coach where I played college baseball, and it's a dream come to coach the baseball program at Northern Kentucky University," he said.

Capriati overcomes demons

By Laura Parsons
Assistant Sports Editor

A couple of weeks ago, the Australian Open finished play in Melbourne, Australia. Two Americans captured singles titles, but one was more significant than the other. Jennifer Capriati, the No. 12 seed and former teen star of the Women's Tennis Association, fought her way through the opening rounds, the quarter- and semifinals, and defeated top-seeded Martina Hingis to clinch her first career Grand Slam title.

Capriati approached the finals with new-found confidence, sparked by a quarterfinal win over four-time Australian Open champion Monica Seles 5-7, 6-4 and a semifinal trouncing of defending champion Lindsay Davenport 6-3, 6-4. As I watched ESPN intently on Friday night waiting for the match to start, it became clear that Capriati was calm, relaxed, and, best of all, excited to be there. Within her newly muscled appearance, Capriati carried the quiet

calm of an expectant champion.

Perhaps more remarkable than the win of a No. 12 seed over a No. 1 seed in a Grand Slam championship is the road that Capriati took in order to eliminate herself into the world of tennis. She entered the world of professional tennis at age 13 and immediately was seen as part of the star future of women's tennis. In 1990, Capriati became the youngest person ever to win a match at Wimbledon. In the 1990 French Open, at age 14, she became the youngest to ever reach a Grand Slam semi-final. Two years later, at the Olympic Games, she upset Steffi Graf to win the gold medal. Her star seemed to do nothing but rise.

All of a sudden, two major things happened with two major stars in tennis. Monica Seles, whose own career skyrocketed during this period, was stabbed by a deranged fan; and Jennifer Capriati began to lose interest in the tour. She racked up an arrest for possession of marijuana. Eventually, she dropped off the tour altogether in 1994.

Sportswriters began to lambast Capriati as a rebel brat. No one in the public eye seemed to realize that the newsgate sports fame at 14 is not the best way for anyone to live.

When Capriati worked her way back into the spotlight in 1996, she struggled to play solid tennis. Her star had lost most of its luster. It seemed. Then 1999 came along. Capriati stroked to the U.S. Open and won two matches, filled with tennis that stemmed from a child prodigy. Instead of recognizing good tennis, the media tended to look for the angle of "rebel-makes-good." Capriati was criticized again for wanting to concentrate on tennis. After a defeat by Monica Seles, Capriati read a prepared statement to the press focusing on her prior problems and her hopes for the future. The press criticized her again for not wanting to make her entire life public.

The 2001 Australian Open held more for Jennifer Capriati than her first Grand Slam win. It has hung her star, again, for the tennis world to see.

Skeet and Trap Team begins new journey

By Sonja Donelan
Staff Writer

Although Northern Kentucky University's Skeet and Trap team is relatively new, the team is beginning to take shape and members are busy collecting donations so they can attend a competition in Illinois during spring break.

Chef Kiser founded the Skeet and Trap team when he transferred to Northern Kentucky University from the University of Kentucky. Kiser said that there had been a Skeet and Trap team at the University of Kentucky and was disappointed that there wasn't one at Northern. Since there was enough interest for a team, he started the Northern Kentucky University Skeet and Trap Team.

The team practices several shooting sports such as skeet, trap, five stand and sporting clays and has participated in shooting competitions in the past. Team members are currently practicing for upcoming events. The team plans to travel to Illinois University during spring break to participate in an intercollegiate competition.

"We're getting there slowly, but surely," Kiser said. "We are always looking for new members and donations."

The Skeet and Trap team does not receive any financial support from the university and is currently looking for donations. Due to the high cost of ammunition, entry fees for competitions and other travel expenses for away competitions, the team needs financial support. Kiser said that financial support is important because college students do not have the kind of money it takes to participate in all of the events they would like.

The team is also hoping to collect enough money to purchase shooting vests, uniforms and to help finance trips.

The Skeet and Trap team practices on Sundays from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. and on Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. - 11 p.m. at the Lloyd Area Skeet Club in Crittenden, Ky.

If you are interested in joining the Skeet and Trap team, you can visit their Web site <http://commscommunications.msn.com/nkuskeettrap> or stop by a practice.

By Bruce A. Reller, Jr.
Sports Editor

The GLVC currently has three teams ranked in the top 10 in the NCAA Division II Bulletin Poll. Southern Indiana (18-1, 12-1) GLVC is ranked second, the Norse (19-3, 10-3 GLVC) are No. 3 (but will drop, however, from that spot soon after losing to Wisconsin-Parkside Thursday), and Kentucky Wesleyan (17-2, 11-2 GLVC) is ranked sixth.

"That shows the absolute strength and power in the GLVC," NKU men's basketball coach Ken Shields said. "It's a great statement in itself. It bodes well because of the quality in the league."

NKU Athletic Director Jane Meier said that the GLVC has always been considered the top men's conference in the country. "It further shows that's the case," she said.

Southern Indiana, NKU and Kentucky Wesleyan have been the main powerhouses the last few years in the NCAA Division II Tournament. All three teams have been to the NCAA Division II Championship twice over the last decade and all have won once except for the Norse. Despite the fact that the NKU men have yet to win that elusive crown, the Norse are still considered better than Southern Indiana and Wesleyan, Shields said. "Three times, we have won at Southern Indiana, including one regional championship," he said.

Also, the Norse defeated Kentucky Wesleyan a couple of weeks ago by 20 points at Regents Hall. Last season, NKU led both games at halftime against the Panthers but ended up losing two close games.

This Week in NKU Sports

Poor shooting costs men on the road

The NKU men's basketball team began the week ranked No. 3 in the Division II Poll and were tied for second place in the GLVC, only one game behind Southern Indiana.

Thursday, both of those rankings took a major blow, as the Norse were upset by the University of Wisconsin-Parkside 81-60.

NKU shot only 36 percent from the field in the first half and never recovered in the loss. The Norse also shot 30 percent from three-point range.

The Rangers took advantage of NKU's torrid shooting by making 61 percent of its shots in the second half, including 13 of 15 free throws in the half.

Brian Coffman led the way for

Wisconsin-Parkside, scoring 24 points in the team's win.

For the Norse, junior Craig Sanders shined some hope of light for NKU with 19 points. Senior Todd Clark came away with 12 points.

That marked only the second time in history that the Rangers beat the Norse.

NKU eventually regrouped and defeated Lewis University 83-78 in overtime Saturday.

Norse senior Craig Conley led the way with 24 points and 10 rebounds in the win. Conley also hit six clutch free throws in overtime.

Sanders added 13 points as NKU improved its overall record to 19-3 and 10-2 in the GLVC.

Cottrell and NKU moving on up
NKU junior Michelle Cottrell

moved up to No. 3 in Norse history in career points as she helped her team win two GLVC road games this past week.

The Norse first knocked off Wisconsin-Parkside 71-48 Thursday. Sophomores Amy Mobley and Bridget Flanagan each contributed 13 points and Cottrell scored 10 points and eight rebounds in the NKU win.

The Norse next flirted with Lewis University, getting the best of Lewis in a 72-63 victory.

Cottrell scored 16 points in the Norse win and now has 1,516 points in her NKU career. She is also the first junior in NKU women's basketball history to hit the 1,500 mark.

Norse senior Heather Livingston contributed 14 points and 10 assists and senior Michele Tuchfarber added 11 points in the NKU win.

With the two wins, the seventh ranked Norse improved to 17-2 on the year and 11-2 in the GLVC.

See GLVC, Page 7



Friday and Saturday nights from 12:00am until 2:30am
Friday is college night show your ID and get \$1.00 off
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Sunday Early Bird from 9:00am until 12:00pm for \$5.95
Sunday Family from 8:30pm until close for \$10.00/game
There are plenty of spots available for the Radio Have A Ball Bowl for a few weeks, have a great time and get your own ball and bag at the end!

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

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The College of Social Work is currently accepting MSW applications for the Fall 2001 semester to be held at the Northern Kentucky University campus. Scholarships are available covering the out-of-state portion of UK's tuition for all graduate program applicants who meet the 3.25 GPA requirements. Don't put that career move off any longer! Those who qualify can join the MSW program and enjoy Kentucky resident tuition rates!

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NKU Professor honored by Gov. Bush

By **Rick Amburgey**
Special Projects Editor

One of George W. Bush's last acts as Texas governor was naming Northern Kentucky University Regents Professor of History James Ramage an Honorary Texan.

The framed award was presented to Ramage when he spoke and signed his latest book, "The Gray Ghost," at the Civil War Roundtable in Austin, Texas, Jan. 18. Bush, however, was not present when the award was given.

Ramage was also at the Civil War Roundtable in New Orleans, La., Jan. 17. Ramage said he likes going around the country promoting his book.

"It's part of serving the community and serving the university," he said.

Ramage said most of his trips fall on weekdays, so he usually does not have to miss class. Ramage is very proud of "The Gray Ghost." The book is listed in the History Book Club, featured in *Civil War Illustrated* magazine, and was the best selling book in 1999 for the University Press of Kentucky.

Even though he has enjoyed success, Ramage still remains a very modest man.

"It has been gratifying to know it has reached the national market," he said. Ramage said the book, which chronicles the life of Col. John Mosby, took ten years for him to complete.

He said one of the things that took so long was that Mosby lived to age 82 and died inter-views until the time of his death.

Ramage said he was done with most of his research after seven years.

"I had done all of the out-of-town research," he said.

Ramage said he was introduced to Mosby at

age 17 by the television series, "The Gray Ghost," which ran from 1957-1958.

"I didn't associate it with history, but as entertainment," he said.

Ramage said he read Virgil C. Jones' book, "The Ranger Mosby," two years later while he was in Okinawa during his service in the Air Force. He credits that book as being one of the things that sparked his interest in Mosby and Civil War history.

Ramage said he wrote part of the book while in his office, which is located in Landrum.

"I could write for an hour or half an hour between classes," he said.

Ramage said most of his progress writing the book came at home when he could write most of the day.

Ramage said he really enjoys the writing process.

"When the writing is going well, there's nothing like it. It's a thrilling experience," he said.

Ramage shared his remedy for conquering his bouts with writer's block.

"When I had writer's block, I would do something else, like going antique shopping with my wife," he said.

"The Gray Ghost" is Ramage's third book. His previous books include a book about John Wesley Hunt, a pioneer merchant in early Lexington, Ky., and a book on John Hunt Morgan, who is famed for his raids during the Civil War.

Ramage said that his wife, Ann, plays a major role in his writing. He said she often accompanies him on his research trips and helps with the editing of his book.

Mrs. Ramage said her role on "The Gray Ghost" differed a great deal from her work on the book about Morgan. She said while editing

"The Gray Ghost" she would read each chapter and read the book again when it was completed.

However, she said Ramage wrote the book on Morgan before they had a computer in their home. As a result she manually typed the book four times.

"I felt by the time it was finished, I had it memorized," she said.

Mrs. Ramage, who was an accounting major, said she only took six hours of American history in college. She said taking the trips to the Civil War sites while researching the book gave her a much greater understanding and appreciation for the Civil War.

Mrs. Ramage said while she enjoys editing and taking the trips, she leaves the historical content to her husband's expertise.

"I don't claim to have anything to add there," she said.

Ramage is currently in the research stage for his fourth book, which is about Ulysses S. Grant.

Although all of Ramage's books are purely historical in nature, he said that he sometimes daydreams of writing a novel.

"I would like to write a novel that's historically based. It would be such freedom," he said.

He said he has always admired Margaret Mitchell's "Gone With the Wind" and Michael Shoran's "The Killer Angels."

What would Ramage's historical novel be about?

"It would probably be about a young man riding with Mosby or Morgan. That's what I know the most about," he said.

Future speaking engagements that Ramage has planned include speaking at the Boone County Book Club Feb. 8 and at Northern Kentucky History Day March 10.



Confederate Colonel John Singleton Mosby, topic of Professor James Ramage's book, "Gray Ghost."

Your student ID: a bounty of discounts

Select businesses offer poor college students a break at the register

By **James Proffitt**
Assistant Features Editor

Have any of you ever become upset when thinking about the price of tuition? We give this school all kinds of money, and all we get in return is a lousy higher education, right?

Wrong! Thanks to some organizations in the Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky area, we also get a little of our money back too. Student identification cards are very powerful things. If you show them to the right people, they will throw discounts in your face before you can say "Gee, college is rewarding."

For example, let's say that you're in the mood for some theatre one night. If you take yourself to the Cincinnati Shakespeare Festival and ask for a ticket, they

will in turn ask for \$18. However, if you flash your college ID card, they will be so impressed by your obvious intelligence and great

refinement that they will only charge you \$13. If you show your card at the Cincinnati

Ensemble Theatre, you can get into a show for only \$9.50, instead of the usual \$20. Or if you take your little card all the way to Playhouse in the Park, the good people in the Playhouse box office will salute your studious nature with a pleasant discount. This discount is only offered fifteen min-

utes before a show begins, but if seats are available, a college student can purchase a ticket for only \$13, which is a savings of up to \$30.

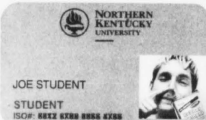
Luckily, theatres aren't the only people who are happy to throw money at college students.

Lane Martha Collins Boulevard, which is the road located directly behind Northern Kentucky University's campus, has many franchises who are sympathetic to the plight of the college student. For example, the Goldstar and Skyline chili restaurants both offer students a ten percent discount off their total

order. Subway gives students a fifteen percent discount off their total orders. Extreme CDs gives students a dollar off any used merchandise.

Many other franchises also offer student discounts. The Papa John's in Southgate will sell anyone sporting a stylish NKU student ID a large one topping pizza for \$7.99, which is \$4 off the usual price. The Cincinnati Art Museum offers students admittance for only \$4, instead of \$5. The newly opened Great Escape movie theatre in Wilder will give students a dollar off evening tickets, making them \$6.50.

Thankfully, after all the money that many of us have given to NKU, certain places are helping us get some of it back.



Tuning Up



Photo by Forrest Berkshire/The Northerner

Sebastian Cornut practices piano in the music department last weekend. Cornut came from Paris to teach piano at NKU.

Black History Month Events

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, February 7

1:00 p.m.

Landrum 506

College of Arts and Sciences Lecture

Series: "I'll be my hair, men's cloth-

ing I'll put on: "Warrior Women in

Folk Songs and History"

Guest Performer: Dr. Duane Dugay

2:00-2:50 p.m.

Administrative Center 506

Poetry Reading by Frank X. Walker,

author of "Afriklachia"

Thursday, February 8

3:00 p.m.

Landrum 506

Military History Lecture Series:

"Myths, Misrepresentations, and

Misconceptions: Samori and

Resistance to Colonial Conquest in

West Africa 1881-1898"

Friday, February 9

11:00-11:50 a.m.

BEP 200

Black History Month Keynote

Address:

Speaker: The Honorable Cleo Fields,

Louisiana State Senator

Tuesday, February 13

12:15-1:30 p.m.

BEP 200

Black History Month Keynote

Lecture: "Workers and Race in U.S.

History: Three Dramas"

Wednesday, February 28

3:00-5:00 p.m.

University Center 108

College of Arts and Sciences

Teaching Workshop:

"Afro-centric Pedagogy and

Classroom Instruction: An

Exploration of the Affective Domain"

Friday, February 23

7:00-9:00 p.m.

Norse Commons 117

"Undoing Racism Workshop"

Saturday, February 24

9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

Norse Commons 117

"Undoing Racism Workshop"

Sunday, February 25

1:00-5:00 p.m.

Norse Commons 117

"Undoing Racism Workshop"

NKU theatre department lures transfer students to campus

By **Sara Reilly**
Staff Reporter

Why are so many students intrigued by Northern Kentucky University's theatre department? With a high rate of transfer students from other colleges and universities, this department must be doing something right.

"I love it," says theatre major Meghan Hibbert, a transfer student from Coastal Carolina University in South Carolina.

According to Mary Lepper, director of NKU's Curriculum, Accreditation and Assessment office, there were no exact numbers available on transfer students. "We do not track transfer students in and out of departments," however, Joe Conger, chairman of NKU's theatre department estimates that 30 percent of theatre majors are transfer students.

Conger says that there is a high number of students who transfer into the department and very few who transfer out. An overwhelming majority of the transfer students are pleased with their decision to come to NKU.

Cory Collinson, a sophomore transfer student from Wright State University, says, "I definitely don't regret it." He maintains that NKU's theatre department has better training for actors and more productions in which to participate.

Former University of Evansville student Justin Sears says he gets more for his money at

NKU. Sears says he came here on a whim, but after arriving found that there are a lot of opportunities within the department.

Sears applied for admission to NKU one day before classes started and found the admissions staff were more than willing to accommodate his needs on such short notice. The only fault he finds with being at NKU is the weather. "I hate the cold. It's a little bit more chilly,"

Sarah Meuler transferred from the University of Findlay in Ohio. She said she enjoyed the theatre department at Findlay until the chair of the department left. She decided she didn't like the direction in which the program was headed, so she opted to come to NKU. For her, NKU was bigger and offered more classes and more competition. She also added, "I love the professors."

The only fear of Phillip Solomon, who transferred in 1997, is the prestige of the University. Solomon, a transfer from San Francisco State University, says, "Sometimes I worry that the name isn't recognizable around the country."

He says as with any college, there are things he likes and dislikes, but overall he is happy with his decision to transfer to NKU. "For a state university I'm really impressed by the amount of muscle and strength that the theatre department has."

HOROSCOPE

By C.C. Clark • eTVData Features Syndicate

February 7 - 13, 2001

Aries (March 21 - April 20)
You feel more emotional than usual. Don't be afraid to tell those around you what you desire are.

Taurus (April 21 - May 20)
If you try to force your beliefs on someone, you could lose a friend forever. Demonstrate your faith by example.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)
Instincts are an important part of the way you make decisions. When you follow your gut, you are usually right about things.

Cancer (June 21 - July 20)
Have you been hiding from the world? You can only use the excuse that you are tired for so long. People may begin to write you off.

Leo (July 21 - Aug. 21)
Check into new investment possibilities, but be cautious when spending your own funds. A friend helps lift a burden from your shoulders.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 22)
Because you believe it is paramount, you make an important decision right away. Relax; you have more time than you think.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)
Your energy level has been low. It may be time to make changes in your diet. It wouldn't hurt to check out a new exercise regimen.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 22)
You must learn to communicate with those who are closest to you. Part of that process involves shutting up and listening for a bit.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 20)
There are things you'd like to do and those you must accomplish. Get the tough stuff out of the way first.

Capricorn (Dec. 21 - Jan. 19)
You can avoid that feeling of being in a rut if you get out and try some new things. Begin small and build up your confidence as you go along.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
You feel as if you are losing your mind, but it isn't really happening. Give yourself a break and get as much rest as possible.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)
A problem with a relationship comes to a head, and you must make a difficult decision. Look to a friend for answers.

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GLVC Hoops

From Page 5
The NCAA Division II Tournament is scheduled to begin in less than a month. There could possibly be as many as four men's basketball teams from the GLVC in the tournament. When it comes down to the national championship, there might even be one of those teams playing for the rights to the trophy.
"If you're competitive in the GLVC, you can be competitive nationally and qualify for the NCAA Tournament," Meier said.
The GLVC might just be the best conference to make a name for itself in Division II, and it should continue to be that way for many years to come.
Coach Shields said it best, "We're respected as one of the best conferences in the U.S."

SGA

From Page 2
A new committee leader, Bryce Rhoades, was appointed Jan. 29 by Clark.
Wice said the 2000 Kentucky General Assembly approved the first phase of the benchmark funding aimed at increasing NKU's state funding to a level up to par with other state universities.
"NKU and Western Kentucky University have been historically underfunded," Wice said.
This was attained with a combined effort by President James Vorruba, NKU administrators and Team 2000, then headed by Brad Hampler.
Wice said the Team 2002 goal is to receive the other half when the General Assembly meets in Frankfort in 2002 to discuss the Kentucky state budget.
Before resigning Wice said he had organized students involved in Team 2002 into House Districts. For example, students living in Wilder would deal exclusively with Rep. Jim Callahan (D-Wilder).
He said that since May 2000 he has worked on recruiting students for Team 2002, sending information

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to the legislature and has arranged to have four speakers come to NKU to talk about the future of higher education. The first speaker, Kentucky Speaker of the House John Richards (D-Bowling Green) gave his speech Jan. 25.
Rhoades, a sophomore who is serving his second semester as SGA senator, said that taking over for Wice will be made easier because he has good people on the committee who worked with Wice.
Rhoades said he expects it will take him one to two weeks to get into full swing since he has "met with everyone I need to meet with."
Clark said that Rhoades had a full transition and that Team 2002 "will move ahead perfectly."
Clark said she chose Rhoades because he is a part of SGA, will be at NKU in the future since he is just a sophomore and will be a leader for years to come.
Clark said Rhoades was the only person to apply for the position.
"I'm interested in politics and it being Team 2002 coordinator will allow me to get my foot in the door and help NKU," Rhoades said.

STUDENT LIFE

From Page 1
the team, said she believes the team is an important one to have at NKU.
"NKU is such an incredible school with so many opportunities and many times people don't realize everything we have to offer," Herschfeld said. "To foster new leadership, it is vital to reach out to the students even before they get here."
Seniors Emily Hastings and Crystal Casdill are also using the team's presentations as the internship requirement for their speech major.
"I'm sure that I could have found a paid internship somewhere else but

this is something that I feel strongly about and enjoy doing," said Casdill.
"A lot of local high schools think NKU is just a local college and nothing to be proud of," Hastings said. "Since I am from this area, I want to let them know what NKU is really about."
The 25 student ambassadors had a 3-hour training workshop on January 12 to learn what topics to discuss with the other high school students. The team also meets in the Student Life Office every other Friday at 1:00 p.m.

ALCOHOL

From Page 1
In the committee's national survey of 189 colleges and universities, approximately 59 percent actively practiced parental notification, and 26 percent were considering the option. Among the institutions using the policy, about half indicated that the notification had the effect of reducing alcohol and drug violations.
The results did not compel the association to recommend implementation for all schools. It suggested that schools should decide individually based on what works for them. The study results and a list of pros and cons of the system are published on the association's Web site at www.aajaa.tamu.edu.
While parental notification is not yet in place at Northern Kentucky University, campus officials say it is being considered.
We are currently looking into issues of parental notification," said Jerry Wallace, area coordinator for the residential life office. Considering the statistical analysis he has seen from other

institutions of similar size to NKU, Wallace said he agrees that such a policy could decrease the rate of alcohol-related incidents in residence halls.
"I believe it would cause the students to feel a much greater level of anxiety about being reprimanded," he said.
Dean of Students Kent Kelso called the regulation a "hot issue" because some students feel it is a violation on their constitutional rights of privacy.
Kelso said that when he implemented the policy at the University of Southern Indiana in fall 1999, the vast majority of students for and against were split down the middle. From his experiences, he also said the policy has dramatically decreased the number of alcohol and drug offenses on campuses.
A parental notification policy for NKU is being prepared for administrative consideration, Kelso said, but it wouldn't be installed until next fall if approved.

WORD LINK

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

[A] [G] [Y] [V] [R]
[B] [I] [C] [U] [L] [E]
[T] [N] [E] [D] [Y]
[T] [H] [I] [W] [A] [T] [C]

Now rearrange the letters you filled in to spell the name of a Daytime Serial: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

Day, Third Watch Answer: All My Children

WORD SEARCH

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

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Basil
Cinnamon
Coriander
Cumin
Marjoram
Nutmeg
Oregano
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Parsley
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Saffron
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U.S. aid plan criticized by European allies

By Andrew Selsky
Associated Press Writer

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — U.S.-trained army troops are sweeping through the world's top cocaine-producing region, protecting crop-dusters from enemy fire as they wipe out coca crops at an astonishing pace.

But the initial success of the anti-drug offensive, heavily supported by the United States and criticized by European nations, cannot be sustained indefinitely, acknowledged a senior U.S. military official based in Colombia.

Washington's gamble that it can win the drug war with military power includes the deployment of U.S. special forces as trainers to jungle camps near the war zone and the delivery of dozens of combat helicopters.

So far, the results of the counter-drug operations in southern Putumayo state, the world's largest cocaine-producing region, have been beyond most anyone's expectations, although some food crops have been destroyed.

In the past month, 62,000 acres of coca have been fumigated in Putumayo, said the U.S. military official, who spoke on condition that he not be further identified. That acreage is at least one-third of the coca crop believed to exist in Putumayo, and more than half the coca that was fumigated across all of

Colombia in 1999.

But the pace will be virtually impossible to maintain, the U.S. official said, partly because of expected "hostile fire" and logistics in the remote Amazonian region.

The country's largest rebel group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, earns huge profits by protecting coca crops and taxing the growers. Rebel threats to resist the offensive haven't yet materialized into major action.

However, 70 percent of the coca fumigated so far by Putumayo was under control not of the FARC but of a right-wing paramilitary group, the U.S. military official said.

The paramilitary group, which also "taxes" the coca industry, is unlikely to fight the army because it often maintains covert alliances with army officers, as noted in a recent White House human rights report.

Gonzalo de Francisco, President Andres Pastrana's point man for Putumayo, agreed that when the U.S.-trained army troops move into guerrilla strongholds, fighting will intensify.

"The FARC has been there for five years," he said. "They will resist."

It's the goal of the U.S. and Colombia that the increased spray operations will eventually outpace the planters' ability to

move to new areas.

Under the U.S. aid package, 10 fumigation planes will be deployed in addition to the 10 already being used. U.S. special forces have also been training three Colombian army battalions, containing about 3,000 troops, to fight the drug war.

The United States also will be sending dozens of Black Hawk helicopters to Colombia later this year and "Super Huey" helicopters by March 2002.

Critics of the U.S. military aid to Colombia often draw comparisons to the early years of the Vietnam War, when Washington's involvement began with the deployment of a few military advisers.

Under Washington's \$1.3 billion aid package to Colombia, no more than 500 U.S. soldiers and 300 contract employees can be in the country at one time. They are barred from going into combat.

The FARC has declared that U.S. troops found in war zones would be considered "military targets."

The U.S. military official insisted that the Green Berets and other U.S. special forces troops are stationed primarily in "areas where contact with hostile forces is unlikely."

"Force protection of deployed U.S. trainers is critical," he said.



Children play in a barren coca field in the southern Colombian department of Putumayo. The U.S. is aiding the Colombian government in spraying the country side with Glyphosate, also known as "Super Round-up," to try to curb coca production.

The U.S. Presidential election: A view from the third world

By Clinton G. Hewan, Ph.D.
Guest Columnist

The recent Presidential election to elect the 43rd President of the United States ended up generating a tremendous amount of interest in the world at large not only because of the process, but more so because of the troubling outcome and its intended impact for the future of the Republic. In the Developing World, as in the highly industrialized countries, interest in the election was intense while at the same time creating some concern as to the question of the legitimacy of its outcome. Many in the respective media outlets as well as government and private entities found it difficult to reconcile with the process, particularly in view of this country's unending bog regarding the assumed level of perfection attained in its electoral process.

As one who was born in what is usually described as the "Third World," I have long

and often listened to the derogatory terms many in this country use to describe the culture, the electoral process and elections in many of these countries. Often times such comments are made by people whose knowledge of geography extends no further than the property line separating them from their neighbors. The ignorance underpinning their knowledge of the political and electoral processes in the Developing World defies imagination, yet statements are made with little regard as to the accuracy and/or relevance of such utterances. Indeed, popular media personalities, equally as ignorant in regard to the facts, say the same things, therefore they are taken to be true.

The irony is that in the "Third World" country in which I was born, I was taught values: values that were not merely talked about, but demonstrated in our daily lives. We were never exposed to racial bigotry, rugged individualism and the horrors of ethnocentrism, and the word democracy has great

meaning. The recent presidential election and its outcome became of particular interest to those of us from that "distant" world for a number of reasons. Bearing in mind how the government and people of the U.S. normally vote elections in many so-called Third World countries, a friend living in the "Third World" proposed the following: Imagine, he said, what would be the reaction if we read of an election occurring in a third world country in which the self-declared winner was the son of the former head of state and that head of state was himself the former head of that nation's secret police.

Imagine that the self-declared winner lost the popular vote but won based on some colonial holdover from the nation's past. Imagine that the self-declared winner's "victory" resulted from disputed votes cast in a province governed by his brother. Imagine that the poorly drafted ballots of one district, a district highly favoring the self-declared winner's opponent, led thousands of voters

to vote for the wrong candidate. Imagine that members of that nation's most despised caste, fearing for their lives and livelihoods, turned out in record numbers to vote in near-universal opposition to the self-declared winner's candidacy. Imagine that hundreds of members of that most-despised caste were intercepted on their way to the polls by state police operating under the authority of the self-declared winner's brother.

Further, imagine that six million people voted in the disputed province and that the self-declared winner's "lead" was only three hundred votes, much lower certainly, than the vote counting machines' margin of error. Imagine that the self-declared winner and his political party opposed a more careful by-hand inspection and re-counting of the ballots in the disputed province or in its most holy disputed district. Imagine that the self-declared winner was himself the chief executive of a major province which had the worst human rights record of any province in

his nation and which actually led the nation in executions. Imagine that a major campaign promise of the self-declared winner was to appoint like-minded human rights violators to lifetime positions on the high court of that nation.

Think of it, he said. None of you, impacted as you are with the myopic shackles of blind, arrogant nationalism, would deem such an election to be representative of anything other than the self-declared winner's will-to-power. All of you, he noted, would wearily turn the page thinking that it was the sad tale of a pitiful pre- or anti-democracy peoples in some strange backward third world country. And certainly that self-declared winner's title, from your perspective, would not be Prime Minister or President, but rather a disdainful Dictator. Think about that, and then tell me it cannot happen there, peaceful transition or not, he said.

Ashcroft settles in at Justice Department

By Michael J. Sliffen
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — On his first day as attorney general, an amiable John Ashcroft walked Justice Department hallways greeting career government workers. But large decisions loom on civil rights issues where Democrats sharply questioned his commitment to equal rights for minorities.

In an e-mail to the department's 125,000 employees Friday, Ashcroft said he was dedicated to "not only enforcing the rule of law, but guaranteeing rights for the advancement of all Americans."

His first day also brought signs he would continue to face controversy over federal judgeships, college admissions and voting rights for minorities. Democrats and conservative Republicans reiterated their conflicting expectations of him on issues involving minorities.

Democrats also loomed over whether or how to press active Clinton administration lawsuits to break up Microsoft Corp. and to force the tobacco industry to reimburse the government billions of dollars spent to treat tobacco-related health problems of government workers.

The beaming, 58-year-old attorney general told reporters at the Justice Department's main door that it was "nice to be here" after a hectic confirmation battle in which Democrats attacked his conservative beliefs

and record as a U.S. senator and governor and attorney general of Missouri.

He said he felt "very pleased," a day after the Senate voted to confirm him 58-42, the narrowest margin ever for an attorney general.

He plunged into the job after stopping at another Justice office to take the drug test required of all new executive branch employees.

Displaying his politician's instincts, Ashcroft spent the next hour and 45 minutes walking every hallway on six of the building's seven floors and shaking hands. Justice workers of all ranks poured out of their offices into the hallways to meet him as aides spread word of the tour.

He said he hadn't been in the building since he was attorney general of Missouri, joked that "sometimes I hit foul," as he tried to master one long name, and offered that he didn't care whether he was called "John, General, Mr. Ashcroft or Hei, you."

After the criticism of the confirmation hearings, one longtime career executive considered Ashcroft's walkabout a good effort to "de-demonize" him.

Later, three dozen chiefs of Justice bureaus, divisions and boards shook hands with him one by one in his conference room and stayed for cookies and punch.

Ashcroft told FBI Director Louis Freeh: "Thank you for your calls and your offer to work together." Unlike most in the room,



John Ashcroft, George Bush's nominee for Attorney General, when he was still Sen. Ashcroft before losing to the late Mel Carnahan.

Freeh spoke by telephone several times and met once previously with Ashcroft to fill him in on pending cases.

Outside the building, pressures began building immediately.

The top House Democrat, minority Leader Dick Gephardt, asked President Bush to renominate black Missouri Supreme Court Judge Ronnie White, a key witness against Ashcroft at the confirmation. The Congressional Black Caucus made the same

request this week.

Ashcroft led the opposition in 1999 that brought about the Senate defeat of Clinton's nomination of White to a federal judgeship.

A rallying point for Democrats and civil rights groups. White told the Senate Judiciary Committee on Jan. 18 that Ashcroft had distorted his record by calling him "pro-criminal" because of several votes to overturn death penalty sentences. Ashcroft never budged from his position,

which he said was based solely on White's rulings.

White House press secretary Ari Fleischer said Friday that Bush has received the requests but "has not given any indications." But later, two senior Republican officials, both speaking on condition of anonymity, said Bush had no intention of renominating White.

An Ashcroft admirer, Clint Bolick of the conservative Institute for Justice, said Ashcroft faces key civil rights tests in his handling of Congressional redistricting based on the 2000 Census and of pending court cases on racial preferences for admitting minority students to colleges and universities.

Under the Voting Rights Act, the Justice Department must approve redistricting throughout nine Southern and Southwestern states and in parts of seven others. Since 1993, the Supreme Court has been hostile to making race the prime factor in drawing election district boundaries. But the Clinton Justice Department won lower-court approval for creating a handful of majority black districts in Southern states and got the Supreme Court to uphold a major Hispanic district in Chicago.

Ashcroft could insist that because racial gerrymandering helps the GOP by segregating minorities into compact districts, but we hope he follows the Supreme Court in arguing that they are constitutional "suspect," Bolick said.