

THE NORTHERNER

Volume 29, Number 28

Independent Student Publication of Northern Kentucky University

Wednesday, April 12, 2000

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RETENTION WOES:
NKU falls behind other universities keeping students enrolled. The biggest obstacle is keeping students in their freshman and sophomore years involved on campus. Find out what the school is doing to keep students coming back.
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HORSE HISTORY:
The Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington will host an exhibit called "Imperial China, the Art of the Horse in Chinese History," from May 1 to Aug. 31. The display will span a 3,000-year period and will include figures from the terra cotta army of China's first emperor.
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A student gives advice to the advisers about taking advantage of the contact advising gives professors with students and looks at the training (or lack thereof) that NKU offers advisers.
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WEBSITE OF THE WEEK



PEARL JAM RETURNS:
The new album from Pearl Jam is titled "Binaural" and will be released May 16. A U.S. tour will follow, including a Cincinnati appearance Aug. 20 at a yet-to-be-determined location. We're betting it's Riverfront. For all the latest news, including track listings, concert info and a discography check out www.fivehorizons.com, a fan-run information base.

TODAY'S FORECAST

High 60
Low 41
Scattered
Showers

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Lamb steps down as dean, will stay at NKU

By Rick Amburgey
News Editor

Bill Lamb, who has been Dean of Students at Northern Kentucky University for 18 years, is resigning his position to take a job at the Career Development Center. "I don't see it as stepping down. I see it as stepping up, as an opportunity to work more closely with students," Lamb said. Lamb said he has enjoyed being Dean of Students. "But there are a lot of things

[about being Dean of Students] that are not enjoyable," he said. Lamb said the reason he became involved with the profession to begin with was because he enjoyed working with students. He said as Dean of Students his interaction with students was more disciplinary and his new position would allow him to interact with students on a more positive level. However, Lamb said the most important reason he is making the change is because of his family.

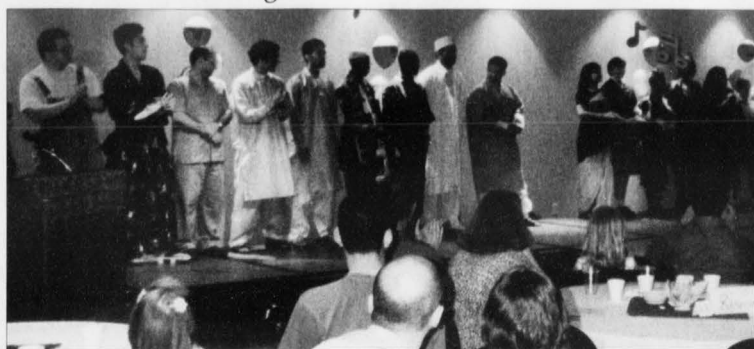
He said he wants to spend more time with his wife and two children, ages nine and 13. "I found myself being pulled between the demands of work and being there for my family. That's not how I wanted to live my life. Family is most important," Lamb said. Lamb said the decision to resign as Dean of Students was not a hasty one - he had been considering it for three years. "I'm interested in doing other things. I want to continue working

at the university," he said. Lamb said as a coordinator at the Career Development Center he will have several responsibilities, including marketing the expertise of NKU graduates to employers and counseling and advising students. Martha Malloy, director of Human Resources, said the position of Dean of Students is currently advertised as open. Malloy expects Lamb to take over his new position when a replacement is found. She said the goal is for the

transition to occur by July 1. Malloy said Lamb will be taking a pay cut but would not disclose the amount. The search for a new Dean of Students will affect Student Government Association, because the Dean of Students is the adviser for SGA. SGA President Chris Boggs says they are sad for about losing Lamb as adviser. "He is an unsung hero of mine," Boggs said.

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Around the world we go...



International potluck celebrates culture

By Robyn Olivia Granger
Staff Reporter

The International Student Union (ISU) produced its largest annual event, Potluck Dinner 2000 on April 1. Mark Bogie, assistant coordinator for International Student Affairs Office, defined Potluck as "A celebration of culture, and recognition of true diversity." The Potluck Dinner has been a long standing tradition at Northern Kentucky University, celebrated for more than two decades. The Potluck theme for this year was Wonders of the World. Included were modern and historical, man-made and natural wonders from all over the world.

Suharu Ogawa, a freshman Japanese student majoring in anthropology and art, had the task of transforming the University Ballroom into the event theme. After a month and half, Ogawa

and many volunteers were able to construct a giant Styrofoam Egyptian pyramid painted and set with hieroglyphic artwork, as well as the Great Wall of China. Ogawa also constructed a large banner for the event. The size of the banner was approximately the size of a full-size bed sheet. In all, Ogawa and 15 decoration committee members constructed an enormous banner, a reconstruction of the Great Wall of China and an Egyptian pyramid, four 6-foot drawings, table decorations and program designs. Ogawa received the Outstanding Art Work Award from ISU. Ogawa said the decorations were impressive to even herself. "So many people helped in decorations. That's why I could do so much more quantity rather than one or two items of quality. Preliminary sketches took two months. If I had more time, I could have done more," she said.

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Kelly Sudazina/The Northerner

The theme of the International Potluck Dinner 2000 was "Wonders of the World." Suharu Ogawa was the head of getting the decorations together with the help of many volunteers. The Great Wall of China and the Egyptian Pyramids were two man-made wonders that were presented at the dinner.

ABOVE: Anamika Soni and Ritin Dev in traditional Indian clothes.

Childhood center option for NKU parents

By Melanie Dawn Brooks
Staff Reporter

What would you do if you had young children and no one to watch them while you attended classes? Answer: Take them to school with you.

The Early Childhood Center, Northern Kentucky University's day care center located in BEP 149, accepts children between the ages of three to six into its program. The program consists of a preschool for 3-year-olds, a prekindergarten for 4-year-olds, and a kindergarten for five and 6-year-old children. "It's an excellent program," said

Diane Arnold, a library science graduate student. Arnold's 3-year-old son Eben attends the center. "We attended the open house, and Eben liked it immediately," Arnold said. Arnold said Eben enjoys playing with the other kids. He is also very busy learning to write the letters of the alphabet and practicing writing his name, Arnold said. The center focuses on developing social skills and offers instruction in art, music and science. It has been on campus for more than 20 years and is licensed to have 60 children per day. "Currently we have about 50 to 55 students per day," said the center's director, Michele Bowen.

Bowen said she has a staff of 12, consisting of eight students and four full-time teachers. "Unlike some other centers, which only require teachers to have a child care certificate, I require that my teachers have, at a minimum, an associate degree," Bowen says. The center will be going through state accreditation for the fall semester and expects to be fully accredited by Spring 2001. To run a day care center, accreditation is not required. Bowen said that because the center is on NKU's campus, it should have the same high quality standards the rest of the university has. "Becoming accredited shows that we are exceed-

ing the national standard by having and maintaining high quality child care," she said. Students say they benefit from working at the center. "This is excellent experience, said junior Valerie Turner. Turner, an elementary education major, is in her third year working at the center. "Most of the students are education majors who work here, but any major can apply. Students must be federal work study students, but most importantly, they must have a real love for working with children," she said. The center is open Monday



Rick Amburgey/The Northerner
David Johnson with Childhood Center student Billy Sapp.

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POTLUCK: International students unite for an evening of cultural diversity, learning and fun

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Part one of the program, 7:00-8:15 p.m., was dedicated to partaking in the more than 100 international dishes provided by guests. Ahmat Acyl, vice president of ISU, deemed the event, "A success! So much involvement from International and American students made it fun to do. There was such a variety of food. Everyone went back for seconds and we still had leftover desserts at the end. I was really impressed with the food this year. It was such intensive work spanning over a four-week period. I'm glad we started planning earlier this year."

Part two consisted of a welcoming speech from Dr. Danny Miller, Chairman of the Literature and Language Department and ISU's academic adviser. Miller became involved with ISU three years ago.

"I respect and admire the international students. They're always so friendly. I wanted to do something for myself to more international understanding. I also want to give a warm welcome from the university and America to the international students," Miller said he was very honored to be given the responsibility of welcoming everyone.

"I had a great feeling of responsibility to do my best, because I wanted to show honor to these people I respect and care about so much," he said.

There were also five entertainment acts that took place during part two of the event: a Japanese Tea Ceremony, a Female Indian Dance, The Blues (Dr. Jonathan Reynolds), Reggae Song (Prince & Hakeem Ellis) and Disco Magic (Robyn Granger & Matt Robinson). Mehdi Lakkhal, a pre-med student from Tunisia, said, "It was all great! The disco dance was funny. I really enjoyed the Indian dance, and the piano duet from

Anna Sysun & Anna Polusmiak were fabulous. Lots of talent...these people are so intelligent."

Ogawa especially enjoyed the American performances. The disco dance was the first time for her to see the famous '60s and '70s based dance. "I don't have much chance to see Americans in their culture." Many guests enjoyed the professionalism and coordination found in the Indian and Pakistani dances; however, the looseness and friendly attitude put out by Reynolds and Prateek Adhikari guitar performances were also highly enjoyable. I personally enjoyed the political roots of the Reggae Song performed by the two popular brothers from Ghana," she said.

Part three of the program was dedicated to the 14 students who participated in the International Fashion Show: Anamika Soni and Ritin Dev (India), Ogawa and Hayato Takayama (Japan), Burhan Mohamedali (Tanzania), Maria Yanez (Ecuador), Mishal Khalid (Pakistan), June Muindi (Kenya), Victoria Uti (Nigeria), Mary & Sean Eddington (U.S.A.), Prince & Hakeem Ellis (Ghana), Fermin Pena (Dominican Republic), Nancy Pena (Peru) and Suzanne Whitrock (Austria).

Mun-Jung Kim, student specialist in the International Student Affairs (ISA) office, explained why she enjoyed the fashion show, "More people are committed to the show. Students really want to join the fashion show, and you actually see the international cultures. You feel the International Potluck event through the fashion show, and you begin to feel that you are there."

Reynolds, a history and geography professor, also found the fashion show an important marker in the overall event. "I can't say I had a favorite act. They were all

just so good. I did enjoy how the Pakistani and Indian students paired up during the fashion show. I'm sure they were making a statement."

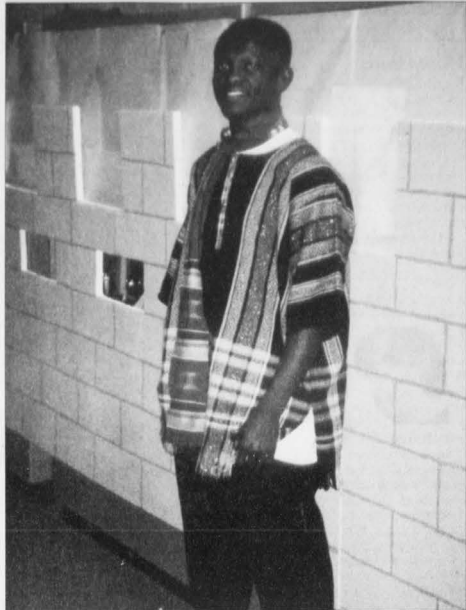
Part four of the program contained four other outstanding events performed by international students: a piano duet (Sysun & Polusmiak), a Pakistani dance (Abdul Rehman), modern music (Adhikari & band) and a Kenyan dance (Muindi & Miriam Gikin). Everything was followed up with a clean-up party and dance until 1:00 a.m.

Bogie said Potluck 2000 was an outstanding event, given that it is not a professional production. He said the students did a great job.

"I know this is a cliché, but it's going to be hard to top this next year. I believe that Potluck encompassed a wider group of students this year. It's really beautiful to see so many nationalities working together. I wish more people could see it. Unfortunately, a lot of the audience members are repeaters to this event. Which is a good thing, because it shows how big and impressive the event is. This event is important to the students, the university and us. I wish more people could come, but we have limited seating. In fact, the only advice I can offer you is to get your ticket early next year."

Bogie said anyone who wants to find out more about Potluck call or stop by the ISA Office in UC 366 and he can show you videos from prior Potlucks.

Acyl said the event was a success because of the focus on entertainment rather than public speaking. "I heard it was a success from everyone." Reynolds said he believes events such as Potluck are exactly the kind of things the university should be supporting and doing.



Kelly Sudzina/The Northerner

Prince Ellis, from Ghana, was at the Potluck Dinner wearing traditional African dress. Ellis was voted the 2000 president of the International Student Union.

The Potluck Committees for 2000

Chair: Ahmat Acyl
Decorations: Suharu Ogawa
Fashion Show: Ritin Dev
Tickets: Mark Bogie
Publicity: Mark Bogie
Entertainment: Mukti Soni
Clean Up: Ahmat Acyl
Food: Viki Kimball
Technology: Abdul Rehman

After the fashion show, the 1999 ISU officers and new ISU 2000 officers were introduced.

The 1999 officers:

President: Jane Muindi
Vice President: Ahmat Acyl
Secretary: Ritin Dev
Treasurer: Geetu Mishra
Social Chairs: Barbara Miremba, Mukti Soni, Stefan Weiss
U.S. Representative: Patrick Purcell

The 2000 officers:

President: Prince Ellis
Vice President: Suharu Ogawa
Secretary: Victoria Uti
Treasurer: Abdul Rehman
Social Chairs: Mukti Soni, Maria Yanez
U.S. Reps: Jennifer Ledden, Robyn Granger



Photo Contributed

Bassam, from Jordan, brought his nephew to the International Potluck dinner that was sponsored by both the International Student Union and International Student Affairs.



Rick Amburgey/The Northerner

Norse basketball player Julie Cowens is seen working at the daycare center on campus. She and Elliot Stephens are having fun playing with building blocks.

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CENTER:

From Page 1

through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and is closed during the summer. The cost for attending the center varies depending on whether the parent is an NKU student, part of the faculty or a member of the community. The center offers both full day and half day (four hours or less) programs. Prices increase from the student rate. Full day program rates are \$16, \$18 and \$20. Half day rates are \$11, \$12 and \$14.

To have your child be a part of the program they must be three years old by Oct. 1 and potty trained. Preference is given to children of students, then on a first-come first-serve basis.

Students interested in working in the center can call Michele Bowen at 572-6338.

LAMB:

From Page 1

Boggs said Lamb's resignation will have a small effect on the way SGA operates because Lamb has been free about allowing them to operate in a manner they see fit.

"For me personally, Dean Lamb has been the exact adviser that I need," Boggs said.

Boggs said SGA will be giving a William Lamb Award at the annual SGA banquet this year.

"We hope this is something that will continue," Boggs said.

Boggs said he hopes that students will be involved in the search for a new Dean of Students.

Boggs said the new Dean of Students should not try to fill Lamb's shoes, but try to do the best they can in the position.

"There's only one Bill Lamb," Boggs said.

Retention low

In part due to off-campus living

By Cassie Guy
Staff Reporter

The average retention rate for students enrolled in universities is 47 percent, and Northern Kentucky University falls below the midpoint, according to Director of Institutional Studies Gary Graff.

The Kentucky Council on Post-Secondary Education State Coordination Board shows 627 first-time, full-time freshmen started at NKU in fall of 1993, and 118 graduated with a bachelor's degree, equaling 19 percent.

One percent graduated with an associates degree. Ten percent are still enrolled in fall of 1999, and seven percent transferred to other Kentucky public institutions. The remaining 63 percent either dropped out of college or transferred out of state.

NKU has a lower retention rate because there are not many students living on campus, and many students both work and go to school, Graff said.

"By the time degree seeking undergraduates are juniors, 60 percent or more work 20 hours or more a week," Graff said.

According to Fall 1999, director of first year programs, NKU has a number of programs to help raise the retention rate of students.

The biggest obstacle in retention is from a student's freshman to sophomore year, Zaniello said. In order to increase the retention

rate of incoming freshmen, NKU is now offering mid-term grade reports to freshmen with 30 credit hours or less.

"In combination with other support services, such as University 101 classes, mid-semester grading should benefit the freshman," Graff said.

Other support services include the Learning Community program, which started in 1997. The program involves 15 to 25 students enrolling in classes together.

"The Learning Community Program clusters courses together allowing students to network both academically and socially," Zaniello said.

Freshman can learn about the Learning Community Program during Transitions. The classes include courses fulfilling general studies requirements, such as Psychology 100, English 100 and University 101.

"One reason why retention with first-year students is low is because students do not connect with the campus in their first year," Zaniello said.

According to Fall 1999 One Semester data, 90 percent of full-time, first-time freshmen who participated in the Learning Community program returned spring semester.

In addition, freshman level classes are offered at the Grant County campus in hopes the students will make a transition to the campus, Graff said.

Falling apart

Dear Editor,

I am writing this to address the issue of the white board in room 315 of the Natural Science Building.

The board in question has been deteriorating for some time, but upon returning from spring break, it was discovered that the finish had been completely stripped off, rendering the board unusable.

One solution was to place a portable white board in the chalk tray, leaning it against the damaged board, but the portable board kept falling off. Once it hit a professor.

Currently, the damaged board has been draped in pieces of white plastic that resemble garbage bags.

The instructors are forced to write on these, as there is no other board in the room.

These solutions are woefully inadequate and the fact that this is a state university makes the situation laughable.

This situation is of special concern to me as I will be taking two classes in the room in the fall.

Yes, I am aware that there are

plans to renovate the old building once the new one is built, but that won't help me or any of the other students who have classes in the room.

I will have graduated by the time the new building opens.

Is my education any less important than that of the students who will benefit from the new building?

I don't think so, and I don't think my fellow students would consider their education any less important either.

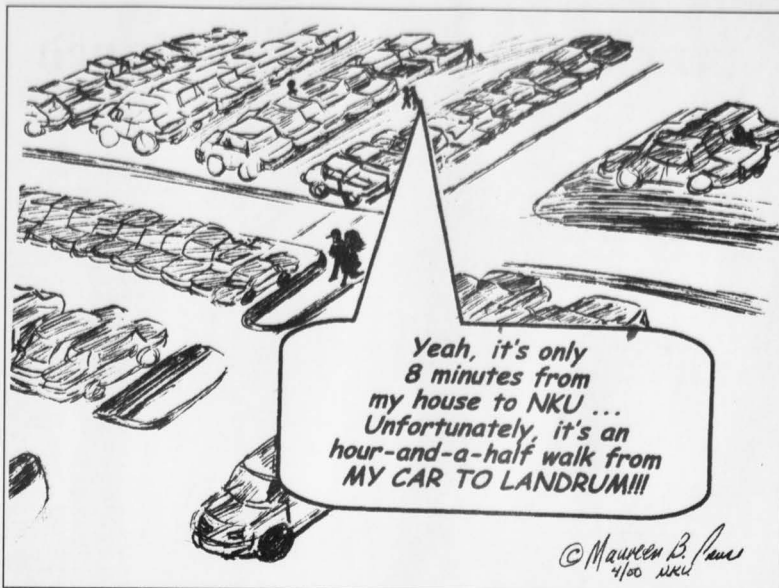
Maybe some repairs shouldn't be put off.

At a time when NKU is striving to retain its students, I would think providing the proper equipment with which to obtain their education would be a top priority for the university.

If NKU wants to shake its community college image, then maybe it should stop looking like one.

As it stands, I would be embarrassed to encourage potential students to come here.

Michelle Davidson



Professors should take advantage of advising

By Alisha Stewart

Staff Reporter

More often than not, advising is regarded, by faculty and administration, as a necessary evil within the academic system. It is busy-work and a great time-consuming chore. Advising should include monitoring student progress as well as seeing that the student graduates in a reasonable amount of time. But it should also go beyond that.

Faculty should take advantage of this one-to-one contact with students, not only to guide them through the sometimes confusing college rules, but also to play a bigger part in the life of the student and help establish the student's role as a life-long learner. Faculty should get to know their advisees and realize the students are not just another statistic passing through.

"I don't think it's the fault of

my adviser, but the fault of the system," said Carrie Eppler, a senior, who transferred to NKU from the University of Cincinnati. "My adviser and my academic department worked very hard to help me, but the rules in admissions changes and the information doesn't seem to make it to the advisers."

It is not uncommon for new faculty members to be thrown untrained into the deep, cold waters of academic advising. If an institution is going to be committed to quality advising, some sort of training system needs to be established for new faculty, as well as continuing education for established faculty. This training needs to include an understanding of different types of students, institutional and curriculum information and relational knowledge and skills. More should be required than simply keeping up with curricular changes.

According to David Emery, director of the Academic Advising Resource Center (AARC), a four to six-week training session is required for all new advisers that enter the center. The AARC advises only those students who have undeclared majors. "This training program is a very organized and structured program," Emery said. "It is necessary these advisers have this comprehensive training because there is a lot of information they need to know."

However, after students have declared their major, the advising is left up to faculty in their specific college. "To my knowledge, there is no organized training program for faculty in the departments," Emery said. He said training for advising would have to be done through the department. "There is no standardized training, that I am aware of, that all new advisers must go through," said Emery. "I agree there should be

standardized and updated training considering there are always changes in academic requirements. Keeping up to date on all changes is critical," he said.

The student body changes over time, and certain skills are necessary for advisers to keep up. It is important to remember there is not one mass student body, but rather a group of individuals, many of which have special needs.

A survey of 197 ENG 101/291 students, 79.7 percent of whom were freshmen or sophomores, was conducted about the advising process. Of these students, 23.9 percent stated they did not know who their advisers were, but 97 percent of the students stated they had met with their advisers at least one time. This data shows that many students don't even know who their advisers are.

The expectations of faculty regarding advising need to be purposefully established and consis-

tent throughout the school. These expectations should be spelled out in the college catalog as well as goals, objectives and strategic plans to make this process more effective. To assure that training and policies continue on track, they should be periodically checked and evaluated.

According to a survey conducted by a Southern Association of Colleges and Schools subcommittee, more faculty felt well-prepared to advise students in their major (65.0 percent) than in their general studies courses (38.2 percent). Although the faculty thought NKU's advising was average, they overwhelmingly (87.5 percent) felt that advising is important. If more training were offered and required, faculty may become more familiar and more comfortable with advising students on classes outside their majors.

More often than not, faculty advising is merely a tacked-on

duty to their often already stressful workload. It rarely figured into faculty evaluations or promotion/tenure reviews. If advising is to be taken seriously as being critical for the student and to the institution, the time and effort faculty spend in advising must be recognized and rewarded in some way.

Ultimately, it is up to the institution to decide the extent to which the advising process is valued. Is it merely a formality, or is it supposed to be part of the student's learning process?

If it is supposed to be part of the learning process, it is necessary to have specific policies in place, such as training, as well as methods for assessing the effectiveness of the current process. If faculty are expected to make these kinds of commitments, their efforts should be treated fairly with other responsibilities in terms of policy, practice and rewards.

NORTH POLL

Where do you think student fees should go?

Josh Heuser
Speech Communication
Independence

"I think it could be used in student life so that it can support more student organizations."



Kyle Hayse
Pre-med/Biology
Litchfield

"It should be used for new parking to help alleviate our current parking problems."



Danielle Brinkler
Political Science and Journalism
Erlanger

"It should go toward better parking because the fee is high and there isn't ample parking."



Camilla Asplen
English
Irvine

"Use it for parking because that is a large problem right now."



Karen Ziegler
Photography
Taft, Calif.

"The fees could be used for more supplies for all programs and library resources."



Jim Swain
Journalism
Erlanger

"It should be used toward new library resources and materials."



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

Chinese art exhibit displayed in Lexington

By Ginger Jansen
Staff Reporter

A 2,000-year-old bell sits on one of the shelves in the office of Kentucky Horse Park Museum Director Bill Cooke. Winged horses are etched into the sides of the bell and the preserved images tell a story of Chinese history.

In Chinese mythology, the horse and dragon are closely related and both have the ability to fly.

"The Chinese believed that the winged animals were capable of carrying their rider to the home of the immortals," Cooke said.

Cooke said the horse played a very important role in early Chinese history. Horses and pieces of horse artwork were entombed with their owners so they would be with them in the next life. Horses were used in military battle, transporting goods and maintaining contact with surrounding tribes.

More than 300 artifacts and art pieces selected from museums throughout the Shaanxi Province, the capital of China for more than a millennium, will be shipped to the United States and displayed at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington.

The exhibit, "Imperial China, The Art of the Horse in Chinese History," will be on display from May 1 to Aug. 31, 2000.

"The exhibit will span 3,000 years of Chinese equestrian history," Cooke said. "It will cover the entire dynastic period from 1027 B.C. to 1911."

The exhibit will include 13 life-size figures from the terra cotta army statues of China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huangdi.

The figures range from 5 feet 8 inches to 6 feet in height. They are covered in armor or short gowns belted at the waist with leggings and boots, and their weapons consist of bows and arrows, swords and spears. The park's web page on Chinese history states that the figures were part of the burial objects accompanying the tomb of Huangdi.

Bronze artifacts from the Western and Eastern Zhou Dynasty will be on display. A collection of gold, jade, terra cotta and porcelain figures from all dynasties, spanning the Tang Dynasty to the fall of the last Imperial court in 1911.

Cooke said, "Seventy percent of

the pieces pertain to the horse in some way or another."

A collection of the Tang Dynasty's tri-colored equestrian figures will also be on display. The Tang horses were made with a glaze called sancai, which created a streaking pattern on the figures.

Cooke said, "There will be more Tang horses at this exhibit in one room than there have ever been on display in one room in America."

Two pieces at the exhibit will be reconstructed for the first time. Cooke said archeologist uncovered all of the original bronze parts for two chariots from the Western Zhou and Western Han dynasties.

The bronze Han chariot is inlaid with gold.

"One chariot is 2,000 years old and the other chariot is 3,000 years old," Cooke said.

Cooke said the only piece that will not be an original artifact is a war chariot. Four original life-size horses, a driver and two flanking guards will be assembled with the chariot.

Other original life-size figures include a cavalry soldier leading a horse, a figure of one of Emperor Huangdi's stable boys, kneeling archers and one of the army's seven generals.

A brief history written by Cooke states that the Chinese produced three of the most significant inven-



Photo Contributed

Thirteen figurines depict China's terra cotta army during the first Qin Shi Huangdi dynasty.

tions in equestrian history including the breast-strap, the stirrup and the horse collar, which worked together to provide an effective harnessing system.

"Their harnessing system was the first to effectively utilize the horse's power without hampering its ability to breathe," Cooke said. "It was more than 1,000 years before this system arrived in Europe."

A specialty gift shop will contain souvenirs made in China and shipped to the park for the event. Cooke said reproductions of the terra cotta army, chop sticks and

Chinese horse figures are just a few of the items available for visitors to purchase.

"Visitors can also buy old broken pottery pieces that are 200 to 1,000 years old that have been made into jewelry and box covers," he said.

Nore Ghibaudy, director of marketing and public relations at the Kentucky Horse Park, said the event is one of North America's number one events for the year 2000.

"This is the biggest exhibit to ever leave China, and it's the biggest event to ever come to Kentucky," he said.



Photo Contributed

Edwin Bogucki sets up for display a bronze horse and figurines at the Kentucky Horse Museum in Lexington.

Learning communities benefit NKU freshmen

By Tracy Schuster
Staff Reporter

Northern Kentucky University offers incoming freshman many learning community classes to make the transition into college easier.

According to the NKU website, a learning community is a small group of NKU students who take two or three popular courses together.

It also states learning communities are

designed to help students make new friends, form study groups, participate in class discussions and get to know faculty - all keys to academic success in the first year.

Each student enrolled in a Learning Community is automatically placed in two or three classes with the same group of 15 to 25 students.

According to a newsletter from Fran Zaniello, Office of First Year Programs, Learning Communities have increased retention and grade point averages.

The newsletter also stated Learning Community students reported significantly higher scores when asked whether their college experience met their expectations.

Many students have different opinions about Learning Community classes. Rachel Dietz, an NKU sophomore, said,

"I thought UNV 101 was an easy 'A' and a good GPA booster, but it did not really help me adjust to college life," she said.

According to the class description in the NKU 1999-2000 catalog, the goal of UNV

101 is for students to develop college survival skills, familiarize themselves with available university resources and develop responsibility for their own successes in the learning process.

Senior Laura Gilliam said, "I think it all depends on what a student puts into the class. If a student goes into the class thinking it will be an easy 'A,' then they probably won't get much out of it."

She said Learning Community classes can be very valuable for a student if they

have the right attitude because they can learn a lot about the campus.

Learning communities feature a wide range of subjects that freshman students take most often, including UNV 101, English, mathematics, art, biology and history.

Learning communities are restricted to freshman students and all Learning Community classes except UNV 101 and 090-level classes are general studies classes.

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Ten dollar, ten dollar, eleven dollar...SOLD! Phi Kappa Tau members auction themselves for charity

By Kelly Simon
Staff Reporter

On Wednesday, April 19, Northern Kentucky University fraternity Phi Kappa Tau will host their fourth annual service auction from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the University Center Theater.

Phi Kappa Tau invites everyone on campus to the philanthropic event to raise money for The Hole in the Wall Gang, a foundation for terminally ill children.

Isaac Gerdes, Phi Kappa Tau fund raising and philanthropy chairman, said students can purchase Phi Kappa Tau members' services for a four-hour period.

Gerdes, a junior information systems major, said members of the fraternity promise four hours

worth of work or service to the top bidder for the agreed auctioned price the buyer donates.

All active Phi Kappa Tau members participate in the event. They can donate their services for bidding purposes or help plan the event by getting donations such as food, drinks and prizes for participants, he said.

Approximately 28 members of the fraternity plan to participate this year, Gerdes said.

"The purpose is to make as much money as possible for the children," he said.

Jim Cropper, president of Phi Kappa Tau, said, "Last year we had nearly 30 members who were successfully auctioned off. Bids start at \$10 and have been known to reach as high as \$200 in

extreme circumstances."

"The top bidder gets the services of the Phi Tau member," Cropper said.

"We encourage people to use their imagination in coming up with the projects.

We have done all kinds of projects in the past. Everything from washing cars to painting houses," he said.

Cropper said the fraternity asks that the bidders pay the night of the event or sign a promissory note indicating when they will pay the amount they agreed to donate.

"The individual members

reserve the right to refuse to perform any act of services that puts them in danger or that may be construed as hazing," he said.

Last year, the fraternity had "Psycho" Benny from Q102 host the event, Gerdes said. This year they plan to have a disc jockey from Mix 94.1.

Usually, the disc jockeys volunteer their services and time to help the fraternity raise money, Gerdes said.

Each of the members of the fraternity who plan to auction their services get their chance to walk on stage to their song to try

to entice the audience to bid.

Gerdes said a lot of the time parents, particularly mothers, buy their sons' services and have them do things they normally wouldn't do, even if it is just spending time with them. He said one mother buys her son every year.

"The biggest fear for all the guys is that they will get out there and no one will buy them," Gerdes said.

Gerdes said the fraternity's goal is to reach \$1,000 in donations for The Hole in the Wall Gang.

The Hole in the Wall Gang, an alumni of Phi Kappa Tau, to help offset the cost of attendance of specially equipped summer camps for terminally ill children.

The money raised goes to the

Phi Kappa Tau National Fraternity Organization at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Gerdes said the money raised nationally by Phi Kappa Tau fraternities helps terminally ill children who might not be able to afford the cost of the program for summer camp.

Cropper said, "I had the opportunity to visit one of The Hole in the Wall Gang camps in Boggy Creek, Fla., last August. Seeing firsthand happiness that these camps provide to children who otherwise would be spending their summer in and out of the hospitals was without a doubt the proudest moment of my Phi Tau experience. I will definitely be doing my part to raise money for the camps."



The Simpletons' rock 'n' roll the Tri-State

By Mike Brown
Staff Reporter

Local rock band The Simpletons seem to endeavor upon a quality that most modern rock bands today lack, talent.

As record labels thrive to sign bands with similarities to Korn and Limp Bizkit, The Simpletons keep it simple with it's unique blend of traditional rock 'n' roll and intriguing melodies.

The Simpletons' current self-titled release is no exception. The album con-

tains an enticing mix of '60s garage rock and emotional song writing which makes it one of the best indie rock releases the Cincinnati music scene has produced in quite some time.

Songs such as "She's A Bullet" and "Star Park" are driven out by the band with pure emotion and craftsmanship which can be appreciated by any true fan of loud rock 'n' roll. Although The Simpletons have a diverse amount of influences on the album, one band that comes to mind is the British band Radiohead.

The Simpletons are definitely a bit more up-tempo than the heavily influential band, however, as a huge fan of Radiohead, there are noticeable similarities found on various tracks such as "Human Disease."

"Awaiting Saturn" and "Pink Umbrella." Subsequently, having a similar sound to a band of the caliber of Radiohead is not a bad quality to behold, and if The Simpletons keep progressing with their song writing, they will have a bright future in the music industry. Hopefully, The Simpletons do not follow the same road

that many Cincinnati indie rock bands often go, that is, down the road to obscurity.

However, with a successful album under their belt and an energetic live show, The Simpletons have nothing to lose and need only to keep delivering something the music industry seems to have forgotten about, rock 'n' roll.

For information about The Simpletons' new self-titled album and upcoming shows, contact the band at Simpletons at P.O. Box 8604, Cincinnati, Ohio 45208.



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Campus Calendar

Wednesday, April 12:

• Students Together
Against Racism 5:30 p.m.
UC 303.

• Lecture: "Exploring the Amazonian Rainforest for Novel Natural Medicines" 7 p.m. BEP 200.

Thursday, April 13:

• Women in Transition 12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m. UC 232.

• AA meeting 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. UC 232.

• Seminar: "Secrets to Starting a Successful Small Business" 6 p.m.-8:30 p.m. BEP 461.

Friday, April 14:

• Keeneland-A Day at the Races 10:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Mark R. Herrmann Center.

• End of Semester Blue "Fam" Jam 10 a.m.-2 p.m. UC lobby.

Monday, April 16:

• Survivors Support Group 3 p.m.-4 p.m. UC 232.

Tuesday, April 17:

• Common Ground 3 p.m. UC 303.

• AA Meeting 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. UC 232.

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Norse raise banner in celebration

By Bruce Heller
Sports Editor

The black and yellow banner that reads "Northern Kentucky University women's basketball team: 2000 NCAA Division II National Champions" was raised at Regents Hall Wednesday.

The NKU women's basketball team was recognized as the NCAA Division II national champions at a rally to honor its achievements from this past season.

The rally began with emcee Don Weber, who does the Norse Reports for ICN-6, recapping the season.

After the introduction, the players and coaches of the team were recognized for their achievements during the season.

About 500 fans attended and gave a standing ovation during each player's introduction, as well as for the coaches, who were also recognized.

Forward Michelle Cottrell said, "It's great for them (the fans) to come support you and

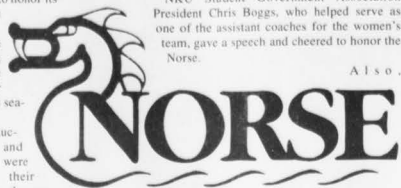
cheer you on."

NKU President James Votruba gave a speech about what he is most proud of for the university.

Once Votruba spoke, proclamations were given out by public officials, such as Congressman Ken Lucas, Highland Heights Mayor Chuck Rottgerger and representatives from Boone County, Campbell County and Kenton County.

NKU Student Government Association President Chris Boggs, who helped serve as one of the assistant coaches for the women's team, gave a speech and cheered to honor the Norse.

A l s o .



NKU President of Academic Affairs and head baseball coach Bill Aker and his wife gave their proclamations to the team.

The final speaker of the night was women's head basketball coach Nancy Winstel.

She talked about how great it was for them to be champions, how she shared the champi-

onship with all her former players, and how it was great to have all the fans supporting them during the season.

NKU alumnus and fan Jay Berry was happy with the championship. "I was able to watch a good basketball team and watch them win a championship."

The night concluded with a video tape that showed the night the Norse defeated North Dakota State to win the national championship.

The tape also showed the festivities that took place the day after the game when the team returned home victorious to a pep rally at Regents Hall.

To end the ceremony, fans rose to give a long standing ovation for NKU's first national championships.

According to NKU women's basketball Assistant Coach Brian Neal, "Everybody here played a role in the success of this program over the years, from the former players to the parents, administrators and fans. Because of the support of them, we have achieved something very special."

Jane Meier, NKU athletic director, agreed that fan support has been good all year for the Norse basketball team.

"Hopefully, next year, we will have more support," she said. "We want people to take time to come and watch and enjoy the atmosphere. The team will be even better next year."



Kelly Sudzina/The Northern
Nancy Winstel not only spoke at the banner raising, but also at the pep rally after the women returned home from the championship game.

NKU teams wheelchair for charity

Norse News and Notes



The Northern Kentucky University men's and women's basketball players will once again participate in the 12th annual wheelchair basketball game at the University Center Plaza.

By Rick Amburgey
News Editor

The 12th annual wheelchair basketball game will take place noon Wednesday, April 19.

The event will take place at the University Center Plaza at Northern Kentucky University.

The game will feature the NKU's men's team playing the NKU women's team.

Dale Adams, coordinator of Disability Services, said the event is fun, but it also brings focus to disabilities.

"I always tell people 'You're a step away from a disability,'" he said.

NKU alumnus Jeff Wilson is the game's coordinator. Wilson said he believes it is positive to show able-bodied people the challenges wheelchair-bound individuals face.

"My motivation was to show people how these athletes, that play a game well, could struggle in a wheelchair," he said.

Wilson said the game leaves both the audience and the players with an very important message.

"I think it has a great impact on handicap accessibility and has a great impact on the athletes that participate," he said.

Wilson said junior Craig Conley and senior Kevin Listerman were among the players for the men's team last year.

He said sophomore Michelle Cottrell and junior Michele Tuchfarber played on the women's team last year.

Junior guard Heather Livingstone said she knows Wilson because he attends many of the basketball games.

She said this will be her first year to participate in the wheelchair basketball game.

"I'm looking forward to it...I've never experienced anything like that before," she said.

Since the event began in 1989, the Norse men have won nine of the 11 games played.

The Northern Kentucky University softball team improved its record to 16-13 on the season with a double-header sweep over College of Mount St. Joseph Thursday with a pair of 8-0 victories.

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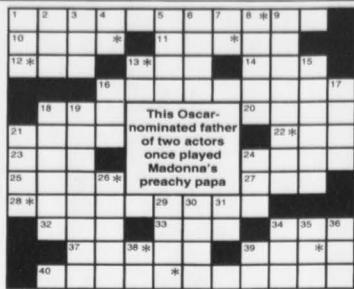
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-TV-CHALLENGE



The identity of the featured celebrity is found within the answers in the puzzle. In order to take the TV Challenge, unscramble the letters noted with asterisks within the puzzle.

- ACROSS**
- Co-star on *Work With Me* (2)
 - Enthusiastic
 - "Ready ____ Here I Come"; '69 Deftones song
 - Longing
 - Life to Live*
 - Cliff Clavin's beat: abbr.
 - Series for Markie Post (3)
 - Dallas school, familiarly
 - Atlantic filler
 - Word with turkey or fox
 - Disallow
 - Actor McKellen
 - Religious group
 - ____ Girl?; 1941 Deanna Durbin film
 - Hawaiian ____ (1959-63)
 - Sasha of *Wasteland*
 - Sault ____ Marie
 - Japanese delicacy
 - VW forerunners
 - Or ____; '48-'52 debate series
 - Farrow and others
 - News magazine series (2)
- DOWN**
- Role on *Murphy Brown*
 - Christmas ____*; 1986 TV movie
 - Sportscaster Scully
 - Like to See* (48-'49)
 - On Golden ____*; '81 Henry Ford movie
 - City in Utah
 - Initials for Mr. Spock's portrayal
 - Ben Cartwright's
 - portrayer
 - Matlock or McBeal
 - Ossie's monogram
 - Carol Burnett's role on *Mama's Family*
 - Working It ____*; '90 Jane Curtin sitcom
 - Student's book
 - "Happy ____ to You"; Western series theme song
 - Tome of *Providence*
 - Turner, for one
 - Sunday talk: abbr.
 - Put forth effort
 - Actress Patricia
 - American shop
 - Candor*; '70 Jim Brown movie
 - The ____ of Madelon*
 - Claudet; '31 Helen Hayes film
 - ____ Hunter
 - Trojans' home, for short
 - Common Latin abbr.
 - ____ and Mom; '85 Holland Taylor series



HOROSCOPE

By C.C. Clark - eTVData Features Syndicate

April 9 - April 15, 2000

**Aries (March 21 - April 20)**

Creative juices are flowing, and you need to put them to use. A romance begins to heat up. A party turns out to be terrific fun for everyone.

**Taurus (April 21 - May 20)**

A little quiet time spent with a significant other is special. Learn to appreciate the simple moments.

**Gemini (May 21 - June 20)**

You are making progress with a project, and others are taking notice. Learn to accept compliments with grace.

**Cancer (June 21 - July 20)**

There are times when you can be too self-involved. Try immersing yourself in a project that benefits those less fortunate.

**Leo (July 21 - Aug. 21)**

Be patient with those who don't understand what you are trying to do. Once you accomplish your goals, they will come around.

**Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 22)**

Life has been way too crazy for you lately. Find some time to be a couch potato and forget the world for a while.

**Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)**

A member of the opposite sex shows definite interest in you. It's up to you to decide what to do about it.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 22)**

Too much of anything isn't a good idea, especially if food and alcohol are involved. Go to the gym or take a walk around the block to get rid of stress.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 20)**

Your health should be a priority. Get regular checkups and eat sensibly. Preventive health measures could save your life.

**Capricorn (Dec. 21 - Jan. 19)**

So many ideas, so little time. Organize your thoughts on paper and then tackle them one at a time.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)**

It may take an unconventional approach to convince a lover you are serious about something. Show your appreciation in inventive ways.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)**

Your financial picture may not be so bright, but things will get better soon. Seek professional help with taxes if necessary.

Born this week:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| April 9 - Dennis Quaid | April 13 - Rick Schroder |
| April 10 - Peter MacNicol | April 14 - Brad Garrett |
| April 11 - Richie Sambora | April 15 - Roy Clark, Emma Thompson |
| April 12 - David Cassidy | |

TUITION: fees to increase

From Page 1

ty. We need to be more responsive to these needs."

To assist in this, there will be expanded services at the Office of Adult Learners, with a coordinator present in the evenings and Saturdays to assist those students.

Another target area is the enhancement of the quality of student life outside the classroom. This entails additional funding to student organizations, notably newer or less established organizations, according to a university memo.

The largest single beneficiary of the student fees will be the proposed outdoor recreation complex.

Shanley said \$100,000 of the \$440,000 building cost will come from student fees, with the remainder coming from the university, fundraisers and private donations.

Other initiatives funded by Invest in Success include:

- implementation of mid-term grades for students with less than 30 hours.
- summer legal analysis program for Chase Law School.
- enhanced academic support services in Chase
- full-time coordinator for African American Student Services
- additional tutoring in developmental math.

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Stop by UC 209 to pick up an application and return it by April 14 to Anna Weaver in University Center 209 or Pat Moynahan in Landrum 133.