



GOLD RUSH

NOV 2012 NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY



GO FIGURE

1,900

That's how many pounds of food were donated to the Brighton Center thanks to NKU's Great Plate Challenge last month.

21-7

Record of the NKU volleyball team at time of publication. The Norse own the best record in the Atlantic Sun Conference.

15

National ranking of the NKU Chase College of Law moot court program at lawschooladvocacy.com.

GEOFFREY S. MEARNS INSTALLED AS NKU' FIFTH PRESIDENT



Geoffrey S. Mearns was formally installed as the fifth president of Northern Kentucky University inside The Bank of Kentucky Center on Friday, Oct. 26.

The installation ceremony represented the official transfer of leadership responsibilities to Mearns, symbolized by the presentation of the president's medallion and the administration of the oath of office. The president's medallion bears the seal of NKU and symbolizes the authority and responsibility of the office of president. It is worn at all official university functions and is passed on to each president.

The ceremony included a procession of delegates from sister institutions from across the nation, NKU faculty and students, and a platform party of dignitaries. A commemorative prelude concert featuring the combined NKU Symphonic Winds, NKU Philharmonic Orchestra and award-winning NKU Chamber Choir was held prior to the event.

Kentucky Lt. Governor Jerry Abramson spoke of NKU's important role in the commonwealth and the Honorable John Gleeson, a judge in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, delivered one of the most humorous and memorable installation addresses ever given.

The Honorable Boyce F. Martin, Jr., U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit, administered the oath of office. Mearns clerked for Judge Martin while he attended law school at the University of Virginia.

COLLEGE CORNER

COLLEGES OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Starting a unique high-tech company was probably the last thing Sean Thomas and Steve Oldfield thought they'd find themselves doing when they enrolled in the NKU Master of Arts in Public History program. But when the two began working on a class project together, they quickly realized there was a niche for their expertise and their passion.

"We have lots of small towns in this area that have interesting historical value," Thomas said. "But they don't have the money or manpower to have guided tours. People just pass right through them without any chance of learning about the remarkable things that happened there."

Thomas and Oldfield decided their capstone project would put a new spin on traditional walking tours. They teamed up with Brian Sauer, a graduate

student in the NKU computer science department, to develop high-tech historical tours. Their class project became Instant Access Tours, and these history students became entrepreneurs.

Instant Access Tours selects local historical sites, collects existing information and research, and develops engaging web pages with narrative text, photos and video interviews. The company recently launched its first tour, which celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Augusta (Ky.). The tour, available at <http://www.battleofaugusta.com>, provides the rich history of this critical Civil War battle.

Oldfield said there are more to come. "There is so much interesting information out there," he said. "It just takes some digging."



NKU AGAIN AMONG AMERICA'S MOST MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOLS

NKU has been recognized by *G.I. Jobs* magazine as among America's most military-friendly schools for the third year in a row. The 2013 Military Friendly School Guide ranks NKU among the top 15 percent of all colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide.

NKU has initiated a number of programs and services aimed at easing the transition of veterans into college. The university's Veterans for Education and Transition Services group is an active organization that supports veteran students on campus and in the community.

NKU works with veterans to promote the Yellow Ribbon Program, which allows family members of veterans who qualify 100 percent for the Post-9/11 GI Bill to apply for and receive all graduate programs paid in full along with HB 425, which allows non-resident veterans to attend NKU at in-state tuition rates.

Last month, NKU added an annual veterans' orientation that was led by student veterans. The event was geared toward all new veterans and family members starting college. Students learned how to receive university credits for military experience and were able to discuss their benefits and other financial assistance options. NKU also offers University 101 and Social Work 105 classes aimed toward veterans. These classes help veteran students with the transition and success in academics, employment and social setting.

G.I. Jobs magazine is a monthly publication that reaches about 75,000.

THE SCOREBOARD

The NKU soccer teams have fared well during their inaugural NCAA Division I seasons.

The men's team has overcome an 0-6 start to post a record of 7-9-1 at press time. The

Norse have won seven of

their last 11 games and sit in fourth place in the Atlantic Sun Conference. The women's team (6-11) posted a road record of 6-4 in its inaugural season of Division I play and finished seventh in the A-Sun.



BRIEFS

BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE SUMMIT

NKU's third annual Business Intelligence Summit last month brought together higher education administrators and partners from across the country to collaborate on business intelligence and discuss issues ranging from data governance and predictive analytics to implementation of best practices. More than 150 people attended. The goal of the event is to bring together institutions of varying size and business intelligence maturity to build collaborative relationships that can extend beyond the conference and be leveraged to support the institutions' strategic goals.

MORE: <http://tinyurl.com/GRbisummit>

FEMA HIGHLIGHTS NKU PROFESSOR'S RESEARCH

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will feature a copy of NKU Assistant Professor Thomas Lambert's upcoming research titled, "Ex-Urban Sprawl and Fire Response in the United States," in its library and archives. The paper will be published in the December issue of *The Journal of Economic Issues*. It found a significant link between urban and suburban development and the probability of homes in such areas suffering from fire hazards and delayed fire department response.

MORE: <http://tinyurl.com/GRfema>

FACULTY FOCUS

NKU mathematics professor Dr. Chris Christensen was recently honored as the Frank Sinton Milburn Outstanding Professor at NKU for 2012. Dr. Christensen continues to find fresh ways to "teach through problems" after 28 years at NKU. He remains a favorite among students, a model for colleagues and an authority in mathematics and cryptology across the U.S. What connects them all is a passion for helping students succeed in a field that many find challenging and confusing. Said one former student: "We learned a lot of challenging information in a short amount of time, and his lectures provided a springboard into us developing our own research endeavors."

PAUL SAWYIER EXHIBITION RUNS THROUGH DEC. 9

NKU is celebrating the works of Paul Sawyer, a Kentucky son and one of America's great impressionist painters, with "Kentucky Impressions: Paul Sawyer Original Works," an exhibition through Dec. 9 in the Schlachter Family Archives and the Eva G. Farris Reading Room in the W. Frank Steely Library. The exhibition includes over 60 of his best oils and watercolors, many of which have never been displayed and some of which are his most popular paintings.

MORE: <http://tinyurl.com/GRsawyer>

TENTH ANNUAL CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY DAY

Last month, NKU celebrated the 10th Annual Campus Sustainability Day by constructing a "Mt. Trashmore" on the central plaza. Composed of just one day's worth of NKU trash (minus recycling and refuse from the NKU residence halls and food service outlets), the display encouraged people to reduce the amount of trash they personally and unknowingly create. The university also broadcast a national keynote panel on climate change in the Griffin Hall Digitarium.

MORE: <http://tinyurl.com/GRtrash>



ALUMNI NEWS

Towering skylines and masses of people created a new but welcomed perspective for singer, songwriter and actor Aaron Lavigne ('05) as he moved from the region to Astoria, NY, seven years ago with the hopes of transitioning from a starving artist to one who's well-fed. Lavigne independently produced two albums and has a third on the way. He also recently made his Broadway debut in the Broadway Musical *Spider-Man: Turn off the Dark*. Lavigne independently produces and writes all of his music. In 2007, he was selected as the winner of famecasts.com's \$10,000 singer/song writer competition for his "Detroit Song."