



GOLD RUSH

MARCH 2017

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

GO FIGURE

1

Number of years it took the NKU men's basketball program, upon achieving full Division I status, to qualify for the NCAA Tournament

7

Number of NCAA Division I men's basketball programs that have accomplished that feat

15

The team's seeding, earning them a first-round matchup against the Kentucky Wildcats



NKU TO PARTNER WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY AND ST. ELIZABETH HEALTHCARE

The University of Kentucky College of Medicine announced plans to develop a regional medical school campus in Northern Kentucky for four-year medical education. The program is the third regional medical school campus announced by UK designed to increase the overall number of physicians in the Commonwealth.

The newest UK College of Medicine initiative will be in partnership with Northern Kentucky University and St. Elizabeth Healthcare.

"NKU is proud to have the opportunity to partner with the University of Kentucky and St. Elizabeth Healthcare to leverage our individual strengths and the power of our brands to bring professional medical education to Northern Kentucky," said NKU President Geoffrey Mearns. "Among other things, this medical school campus at NKU will help us further the mission of our Health Innovation Center to improve the health of the people that we serve."

The UK COM-Northern Kentucky campus will be a fully functioning four-year campus, utilizing the same curriculum and assessments as UK's Lexington campus. On-site faculty will have UK College of Medicine appointments and teach in small groups and provide simulation/standardized patient experiences with lectures delivered on-site from Lexington utilizing educational technology. Additionally, clinical experiences will occur at St. Elizabeth Healthcare and surrounding community practices.

COLLEGE CORNER

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Dr. Diana McGill, an NKU alumna who spent her entire professional career at the University, has been named dean of the NKU College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1, 2017.

Dr. McGill has served as interim dean since July 2016, and brings more than 25 years of experience and higher education administration.

Dr. McGill earned her B.S. in Biology and B.A. in Chemistry, both from NKU. She went on to earn her Ph.D. in Biochemistry at Harvard University. She was the recipient of NKU's Outstanding Alumni Award in 2015.

LEARN MORE: http://www.nku.edu/news/_170301mcgill.html



A BIG YEAR FOR NORSE BASKETBALL AND NKU ATHLETICS

The Northern Kentucky University men's basketball team was crowned the 2017 Horizon League Tournament Champion on March 7 after defeating No. 10 seed Milwaukee, 59-53, at Joe Louis Arena. The Norse earned an automatic NCAA Tournament berth in their first year of eligibility since being granted full Division I status in August.

The Norse earned the No. 15 seed in the South region of the NCAA Division I Championship and, before this publication went to print, played No. 2-seeded Kentucky in Indianapolis on March 17.

En route to the League championship, the No. 4-seeded Norse (24-10) defeated No. 5 seed Wright State on in the quarterfinals, 82-77, and turned around to defeat No. 9 seed Youngstown State, 84-74, in the semifinals. This marks the second NKU team to win a Horizon League Championship in the University's first year of post-season eligibility. In November, the Norse women's soccer team made history by capturing the University's first Division I conference championship, defeating No. 1 seed Milwaukee, 3-2.



THE SCOREBOARD

NKU men's basketball was only the eighth team in NCAA D-I history to make the tournament in the program's first year of eligibility—and only the second to do so since 1970. NKU earned their first bid to the NCAA tournament after defeating Milwaukee in the 2017 Horizon League Tournament.

On the lighter side, NKU did earn a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament: *USA Today* ranked all 68 team mascots and crowned Victor E. Viking the winner.

BRIEFS

NKU LAUNCHES NURSE ANESTHESIA PROGRAM

NKU has developed a Nurse Anesthesia Program that will help fill the local and national shortage of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists.

The Nurse Anesthesia Program is a 106-semester-hour curriculum culminating in a Doctor of Nursing Practice nurse anesthesia specialization with a population focus of the family/individuals across a lifespan.

Graduates will be eligible for the National Board of Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists, National Certification Exam, and able to assume the role of an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.

LEARN MORE:
<http://nap.nku.edu>

FIRST LEGO LEAGUE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP BRINGS HUNDREDS TO NKU

For the second year in a row, NKU has hosted the FLL Kentucky State Championship—a "Sport of the Mind" that exposes kids age 9-14 to core STEM principles, valuable life and employment skills, and the pure joy of friendly competition between original LEGO robot creations.

"Blackout" from Whitefield Academy was awarded 1st place champion at the event followed by "Super Swaggy Salamanders" and "Classified".

LEARN MORE:
<https://cinsam.nku.edu/fltournament.html>

FACULTY FOCUS

Dr. Ryan Salzman, an assistant professor in the NKU Department of Political Science, Criminal Justice, and Organizational Leadership, has received the regional Kentucky Outstanding Civic Education Leadership Award from the Office of Kentucky Secretary of State, Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Kentucky Department of Education.

The award recognizes a P-16 teacher, educational leader, who has "made notable contributions toward promoting or implementing civic learning to prepare students to be engaged and responsible citizens." "I was honored to learn that I had been nominated for this great award, and I am beyond thrilled that I have been selected," Dr. Salzman said.

READ MORE: http://www.nku.edu/news/_170313salzman.html

NKU NAMED MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOL FOR SEVENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

NKU has been awarded the designation of Military Friendly School by Victory Media, the premier media entity for military personnel transitioning into civilian life. As a 2017 Military Friendly School, NKU is ranked in the top 15 percent of colleges, universities, and trade schools in the country that are working to embrace military service members, veterans, and dependents as students and ensure their success on campus.

NKU is also ranked among the nation's top colleges for veterans by *The Military Times*.

LEARN MORE:
http://nku.edu/news/_030702military.html

NKU IS RECIPIENT OF PEPSICO'S ZERO IMPACT FUND

The Zero Impact Fund encouraged PepsiCo colleges and universities to submit project proposals for the 2016-2017 school year. Proposals were evaluated based on environmental, economic and social impacts, along with desirability, feasibility, longevity and ingenuity.

Winning project proposals include compost infrastructure development, student education and engagement campaigns, renewable energy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, zero waste programs, a bike share program and landfill diversion programs.

LEARN MORE:
http://www.sustainablebrands.com/news_and_views/waste_not/sustainable_brands/pepsico_coca-cola_make_moves_towards_zero_impact

ALUMNI NEWS



TROY HITCH ('94) FROM THEATRE STUDENT TO CHIEF INNOVATION OFFICER

Troy Hitch ('94) is a world-class digital storyteller and this year's speaker for NKU's Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship's annual Chellgren Pathways to Entrepreneurship Speaker Series.

Hitch is the Chief Creative Officer at Barefoot Proximity and a founding member of the Proximity Worldwide Creative Council. His work has been recognized nationally by news outlets from NPR to Advertising Age, and he's been a featured speaker at conferences that include The New York Television Special, Macworld, and ROFLcon.

Hitch is the creator of the breakthrough transmedia hit *You Suck at Photoshop* which has generated over 100 million video views, was named one of *Time Magazine's* Top 10 TV Episodes of The Year, and is the basis for Troy's distributed storytelling methodology.

LEARN MORE: <http://inside.nku.edu/nkumagazine/2017/march/troy-hitch.html>