



GOLD RUSH

APRIL 2012 NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY



GO FIGURE

3

Number of finalists for the NKU presidency. The NKU Board of Regents hopes to announce the university's fifth president by the end of April.

636

Number of games Nancy Winstel won as NKU women's basketball coach before announcing her retirement last month. Winstel graduated from NKU in 1977 and coached 29 seasons for the Norse, winning two national titles. She was named national coach of the decade by Women's Division II Bulletin in 2009.

100+

Number of simultaneous teeter totters attempting to set a Guinness world record this month at NKU to raise money for solar waste/recycling stations

REPORT OFFERS 101 EXAMPLES OF NKU PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



A new report released last month offers 101 examples of public engagement initiatives that have made NKU the model of an engaged metropolitan university.

NKU offers more than 50 service learning courses per semester; students volunteer thousands of hours each year; the university has dozens of examples of applied research for community partners; a student philanthropy program has distributed over \$500,000 to nonprofits; there are 35 centers and institutes with public engagement built into their missions; NKU offers a popular public lecture series and regional policy forum; and there are extensive collaborations on P-12 initiatives in the community,

including an intervention process for boosting high-school math skills for at-risk students. The list goes on.

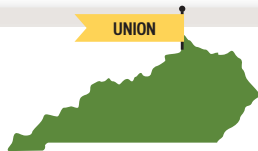
NKU has carefully and systematically constructed a commitment to public engagement into the university's mission, strategic plan and promotion/tenure guidelines. "Public Engagement: The Community is Our Classroom" profiles that commitment.

"What distinguishes NKU is our treatment of public engagement as a core element of our academic mission," NKU President James Votruba writes in the report. "This means every college and every department is involved in this work. In addition, we have made sure that the campus is organizationally aligned to support public engagement work."

To view the report online, visit <http://civicengagement.nku.edu>. You can also find additional examples of public engagement at NKU on the site's "news and events" page.

PINPOINTS

UNION



ERIK PEDERSON is a sophomore communication studies major from Union who last month was elected president of NKU's Student Government Association. The 2010 Ryle High School graduate has served in SGA for two years – first as a senator and then as executive vice president. He ran alongside fellow sophomore Allen Hornung, of Louisville, on a platform that focused on enhancing the student experience, continuing campus improvements and NKU advocacy. Pederson is also actively involved in Alpha Phi Omega and Pi Kappa Alpha. He served as an orientation leader last summer. He is the son of Scott and LeAnn Pederson.

COLLEGE CORNER

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

The NKU Center for Integrative Natural Science and Mathematics (CINSAM) will present a series of camps this summer to engage students in grades 6-12 in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

Camps will be delivered with a hands-on approach that encourages students to research, ask questions and think outside the box. Middle school and high school students will

work alongside NKU faculty and community professionals.

Examples include topics such as java computer game programming, engineering, residential construction management, network security, astronomy, aeronautics and a Jurassic fossil camp in Utah.

A complete list with descriptions is available at <http://cinsam.nku.edu/Student-and-Parents/K-12/SummerCamps.html>.

NKU AMONG AMERICA'S MOST DISABILITY-FRIENDLY COLLEGES

NKU is named one of America's most disability-friendly colleges in a new book, "College Success for Students with Physical Disabilities," released this spring.

Planning for college can be one of the biggest moments in a teen's life, but for those students with physical disabilities and chronic medical conditions the college experience can be fraught with frustration, uncertainty and lowered self-confidence. This guide, which is published by Prufrock Press Inc., seeks to provide students with the confidence, strategies and guidance they need to effectively choose a college, prepare for university life and make the most of the collegiate experience.

The guide includes the only listing of colleges in the United States that provide accommodations for students with physical disabilities that go beyond the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. NKU is one of only two colleges in Kentucky (the University of Kentucky is the other) to receive the designation.

The book retails for \$18.95. It is available at <http://www.prufrock.com>. ISBN: 978-1-59363-861-0

THE SCOREBOARD



At publication time, the NKU baseball team had rattled off 12 straight wins and was sitting at 19-9, 12-2 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. The Norse are led by junior catcher Phil Smith, who is hitting .403 with 21 RBI and five home runs. Junior hurler Brett Loeding has posted a 4-1 record with a 1.71 ERA and five saves. The Norse lead the GLVC East with one month to go in the regular season.

BRIEFS

PRESIDENT'S COMMUNITY SERVICE HONOR ROLL

For the third consecutive year, NKU's commitment to community service and public engagement is receiving top honors. This week the Corporation for National and Community Service admitted NKU to the 2011 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for continuing to engage students, faculty and staff in meaningful service that achieves measurable results. NKU has been named to Honor Roll list five of the six years it has been presented.

MORE: nationalservice.gov

NKU LOW-INCOME TAXPAYER CLINIC

This spring NKU is offering a Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic to provide assistance to those in disputes with the Internal Revenue Service. The clinic provides counsel and advice to qualifying clients and represents their cases before the IRS and in tax court. Services provided will include proving eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit, innocent-spouse tax issues and negotiating a tax reduction and/or payment plan.

MORE: tinyurl.com/NKUtaxclinic

FACULTY FOCUS

The NKU Haile/US Bank College of Business has announced that Eileen Weisenbach Keller will serve as the new director of the Fifth Third Bank Entrepreneurship Institute. Dr. Weisenbach Keller earned a bachelor's degree in marketing from Indiana University, an MBA from the University of Chicago and a Ph.D. in strategy from Kent State University, where she was also a faculty member. Before her academic career, she worked in brand management for Mr. Coffee and Flambeau Products Corporation. In addition to teaching and consulting Dr. Weisenbach Keller conducts and publishes research on disruptive technology; nonprofit branding; and strategy, curriculum design and teaching quality in higher education.

NKU HELPING STUDENTS PREPARE FOR HIGH SCHOOL, CAREER

NKU Educational Talent Search recently hosted a workshop designed to prepare local 7th and 8th grade students for high school and subsequent careers. The program included about 90 students from several local middle schools. The day began with a presentation on the transition from middle school to high school and also included career sessions centered around music, informatics, biology, education, law enforcement and business entrepreneurship.

MORE: tinyurl.com/NKUETprogram

CELEBRATION OF STUDENT RESEARCH AND CREATIVITY

Scholarly and creative work produced by NKU students was showcased at the Celebration of Student Research and Creativity earlier this month. Students highlighted their research, artistic and creative projects through more than 150 poster sessions, oral presentations, interactive demonstrations, performances or exhibits in a variety of campus locations. These projects are often critically acclaimed and shown in the broader community.

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

ALUMNI NEWS



Brenda Mastin finds grace in Togo, West Africa

At the foot of the clouded West African Danyi mountain range, three degrees from the equator, Brenda Mastin ('05) follows her calling in a lush Togolese village dusted with the sands of the Sahara. There is a custom in this village, when guests head home after a visit, for the host to walk beside them along the way, as a sign of love and friendship. When Mastin first witnessed this custom in 1992 she fell in love with the people of Togo, and she has dedicated her life to serving them ever since as a missionary nurse and educator. Today, Mastin trains local nurses to work in a 50-bed hospital. She is also passionate about her HIV/AIDS ministry, traveling to churches and communities to erase the stigma that surrounds HIV and AIDS in Togo.