one day
in the life
at Kent State
On the cover, a preview of our photo story. Top: A lone walker makes her way through the rain on Front Campus. Middle: Students of Darwin Prioleau’s modern dance class find their center as they rise into releve’. Below: Library employee Ann Watson pulls books from the shelves to send to other universities.

cover photos by tanya ackerman and joe macintyre
contents page photos by ryan polack (right) and tanya ackerman (lower left)

table of contents

1 Editor’s note
2 Catching Up With the Past Kent has a history that’s just waiting to be remembered
8 Road Trip Northeast Ohio offers college students plenty of opportunities for travel and fun
12 Fatten Up Your Piggy Bank Saving and investing aren’t as difficult as financially challenged students may think
16 While You Are Sleeping Dreams have hidden significance and a long history
19 All Work and Little Pay Some jobs on campus are a lot harder than they seem
24 One Day in the Life A 24-hour photo story of Kent State University
32 Angels Their surprising popularity has made them an intriguing phenomenon
39 Double Duty College is a balancing act in itself, and marriage makes it all the more interesting
46 Midget Jello Wrestling The Neo Pagan Coalition is one campus organization that is tired of being misunderstood
52 Too Close for Comfort Stalking isn’t just a topic for movies and television shows. It happens in real life, and even at Kent State
I did the math. On May 16, I will have been a student at Kent State for 672 days. That's 16,128 hours filled with walking to classes, sitting through lectures, studying for exams, writing papers, reading assignments, attending meetings and trying to be a good student. I could probably break those hours down even further if I included time spent showering, eating, watching television, exercising, socializing and reading. And then there are the hours the Burr staff and I spent putting together this magazine. That's what my days are like here at Kent State - each minute is carefully allotted to one of the activities and obligations listed above.

College students, myself included, have this unique ability to block out all those things in life that don't immediately affect us. Although I have sat in dozens of classrooms, I never gave much thought to the janitors who swept the floors after we messy students had gone home. I tend to take certain things for granted, like the hot water for my showers and the warm air blowing out of the heater in my dorm room. But these luxuries wouldn't exist without the hard work of certain university personnel who sometimes go unnoticed.

Therefore, the Burr is proud to present the photo story titled, "One day in the Life at Kent State." I won’t even tell you how many hours went into creating this collection of images. Each picture has a story behind it, and some of the best stories are those that I never took the time to listen to. Sometimes we all need to step back and see the big picture. In this case, there are 24 of them.

With the exception of the year I spent at the Ohio State University, the year I spent living in Germany and the summers I spent in Spain, I've lived in Kent my entire life. But I am the first to admit I don’t know much about Kent’s history. After reading Mark Watt's story, "Catching up with the past," I realized how much things change over the course of a century, even in a pretty uneventful town like Kent.

Although no one’s life is perfect, I think I’m pretty lucky to have escaped the trauma one of our writers has experienced. Megan Jenny, a sophomore Kent State student, was brave enough to put into words what it was like to be a victim of criminal harassment. Her reason for writing the story was, as she says, "to make students aware that they need to take action if they’re being victimized. My biggest mistake was to stay quiet and hope it would go away on its own."

On a lighter note, we also have stories about angels, dreams, marriage in college, the Kent State Neo Pagan Coalition and Ohio getaways. And be sure to check out the article on investing. Money is one thing that college students never seem to have enough of. In fact, some students are holding part-time or even full-time jobs while balancing all the other obligations of college. Staff writer Ellen Freiberg interviewed six students who have jobs that I definitely wouldn’t want, but then again, they probably wouldn’t jump at the chance to be editor of the Burr, either.

But I’m glad I did.

Enjoy the Burr and your days at Kent State. They go by faster than I ever would have imagined.

Yours,

Erika Germer
Built in 1836, the brick building at East Main and Water streets (center) was larger than any other edifice in Kent, Akron and Cleveland at the time. The building contained a hotel, several restaurants and office space. It was destroyed by a fire in 1972.

Catching Up With the Past
A look at historical buildings in downtown Kent

Today's view of the block that burned down 26 years ago.
Ghosts of the past often stand unnoticed, quietly lingering in the buildings and landmarks of a town almost two centuries old. As Kent State students wander past shops, bars and restaurants, they may not realize the history that lies beneath the surface of Kent’s downtown.

But for anyone equipped with imagination and a little knowledge, a walk into town can become a walk into the past.

Streets lose their paving, revealing dusty and uneven brick roads that cross through town. A familiar bar turns into a saloon from an old Gene Autry film. And a local restaurant morphs into a frantically busy railroad station, surrounded by haggard men with mutton chops, women in dresses with bustles and curious local kids on bicycles.

**The past catches up for a timeless moment.**

Kent does have a rich history and each building has a notable past. Here is a glimpse into the pasts of some of these structures:

*Pufferbelly: the train station that ‘built the town’*

Overlooking the waterfall in Kent’s downtown, the Pufferbelly glows with an elegance from a time left behind. The red-brick structure, which was built in 1875 in a Tuscan Revival style of architecture, served as Kent’s train station for nearly 100 years. Known then as the Kent Depot, it was one of the largest train stations in Ohio at the time.

In its heyday during the first half of the century, the Kent Depot was the central source of mass transportation for the area.

“It built the town,” longtime Kent resident Ed Beckwith, 83, says. “This was the crossroads, so the railroad brought all kinds of people in.”

Trains would barrel into town and stop at the depot where cargo was unloaded and moved. Some of the goods were transported to other trains, some went to one of the four horse and buggy express companies, like Wells Fargo and American Cargo, and the rest went into town: meat, fruit, wooden barrels of whiskey and New York fashion clothes. Sometimes Ford Model T’s, loaded sideways five at a time in boxcars, were rolled off for customers in town.

Passengers would disembark and bide their time between layovers by perusing a copy of the *Kent Tribune* in the station’s reading room, eating at the dining hall or crossing Franklin Street to have a drink in one of the saloons. Some might take a horse and buggy up to the Franklin Hotel for the night. Others might make their way up North Water Street to catch a vaudeville show at the Kent Opera House.

Kent was a main stop for trains, set at the railway’s division point halfway between New York City and St Louis. Huge, powerful steam engines roared through, with names like B&O, Erie and Wheeling lettered on their sides.

South of the depot was the town’s train yard, a complicated web of train tracks stretched across the land on which Kent’s Post Office now stands. Buildings of all shapes were scattered there, filled with hundreds of busy railroad workers.

Beckwith remembers that the depot’s busiest days were...
during World War II. Some days brought more than 90 trains through Kent during this time period.

But the busy days for the Kent Depot didn't last. With the arrival of commercial jets in the 1950s, the number of train passengers began to dwindle. Over the next two decades, the train industry in Kent slowed to a halt.

The station sent off its last train in the 1970s and was boarded up. But in 1981, the Kent Historical Society was formed and its first major project was to renovate the Kent Station.

Now known as the Pufferbelly, a nickname for an old type of steam engine, the building houses a restaurant on the first floor and the Kent Historical Society's museum upstairs.

The Franklin Hotel: a classy home away from home

The Franklin Hotel, now home to Mooney's Goose and the Cornerstone Grille, was built in 1919 and soon became one of the more luxurious buildings in the area. Unusual for a town like Kent, the five-story hotel was equipped with a ballroom, cocktail bar and restaurant.

Visitors would enter through the double doors facing Main Street and walk straight across a reddish-brown tiled floor to the lobby desk. To their left was the entrance to the restaurant, which is now the Cornerstone Grille. To their right, through another set of double doors was the Pompeian Room, a cocktail bar (now Mooney's Goose). Up a flight of marble steps, on the mezzanine level, the ballroom was set with a balcony that overlooked the Pompeian Room.

Modern for its time, the building was built with an elevator to carry patrons to their rooms on the upper floors of the hotel.

Bill Birkner, 71, the first curator of the Kent Historical Society's museum, says hotel rooms were much smaller and bathrooms were shared by patrons. The clientele was varied, but a large number of visitors were traveling salesmen, says longtime Kent resident Francis Kline, 80.

"It would serve as their headquarters while they covered five or six towns around," Kline says. Entertainers visiting Kent also stayed at the hotel. Guy Lombardo and Glenn Miller both slept in
the building after playing at “formal hops” at Kent State.

Paul Mosher, 79, worked as a waiter in the Pompeian Room in the late 1930s. At that time, the building was known as the Hotel Kent. He remembers that wealthier customers would be served food in a private dining area, just south of what is now Mooney’s main bar. These folks could close themselves off from the rest of the establishment with a set of French doors.

He says he remembers the hotel had a classy ambience.

“It was a flashy joint,” he says. “It was really a place to be proud of for the community.”

Mosher remembers that the hotel’s bar became a lively gathering place for college students too.

The basement to the hotel held a number of businesses over the years. A barbershop, a bakery, a jewelry store and several bars have all been situated in the downstairs area, with an outside entrance just west of the hotel’s front doors.

Over time, the hotel’s business slowed down. And in 1978, after serving as a boarding house for several years, the building was condemned, leaving only the first level open for other businesses.

“It was really quite a centerpiece for the town in its day,” Mosher says. “But it fell on hard times and was left behind.”

The Central Hotel: ‘a place right out of the old westerns’
The red-brick building that houses Ray’s Place is rich with a history that reaches back into the last century.

In the late 1800s, the building was known as the Central Hotel and enjoyed a steady flow of business because of its prime location across the street from the Kent Depot.

John Cheges, a 71-year-old volunteer at the Kent Historical Society’s museum, says the building had three floors back then (the top floor has since been removed). The first floor held a restaurant and saloon, while the two upper floors were lined with rooms for overnight visitors.

“It was a place right out of the old westerns,” he says.

Mosher, whose grandparents owned and managed the Central Hotel from 1900 to 1909, says he remembers two huge windows that were set on the west wall of the restaurant and bar. A customer could sit at the bar and enjoy a drink while watching trains chug by outside.

“There would be a lot of traffic passing through,” he says. “Traveling salesmen would stop into town to sell their wares and then spend the night in hotels like my grandparents’ place.”

In addition to traveling salesmen, the hotel also attracted trainmen and visitors from out of state. Sometimes, entertainers spent the night as well because the Kent Opera House was a short
Mosher recalls a story of one of these entertainers, whose name is still remembered today.

In 1894, a fellow named Whitey Duckfield, better known as W.C. Fields, came to town. He performed as "The Boy Wonder Juggler" at the Kent Opera House to a less than enthusiastic crowd, and the show flopped. Short on cash, he and his crew found themselves stranded in town. Fields reached an agreement with the Central Hotel's owner that he would leave behind some of his valuables in two luggage trunks in exchange for a ticket back to New York City. Once he arrived, Fields would send back enough money for the ticket and for his valuables to be sent East.

The money never came. Fields never did repay his debts and when the trunks were opened, they contained only some old handbills.

In 1937, the hotel became Ray's Place under the management of Ray Salitore. A college-gear bar called Mother's Junction was eventually housed upstairs.

Charlie Thomas took over the business in 1978. And in 1991, he restored the building so that it looks quite similar to what it would have at the beginning of the century.

The Marvin Kent home: a mansion on the hill
As one of Kent's most recognizable historic buildings, the Marvin Kent home, now known as the Masonic Temple, stands on East Main Street overlooking downtown. The house was constructed by Marvin Kent over a span of four years and was finished in 1880. It stands 2 1/2 stories with a three-story tower in front that faces Main Street.

In the 1800s, Marvin Kent was instrumental in developing the town that was then known as Franklin Mills. His accomplishments included operating and maintaining several of his father Zenas Kent's businesses, including flour mills, glass factories and grain mills, as well as a tannery and the town's first bank.

His most challenging feat, says Kent curator Birkner, was chartering and building of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway. Kent was responsible for creat-
ing a link between existing railroads to the east and west. Because of this link, cargo and passengers could be transported from New York City to St. Louis without switching trains.

The citizens of Franklin Mills were grateful for all the Kent family had contributed toward the growth of their town, and in 1867, they renamed the town after them. Franklin Mills was rechristened Kent.

After Marvin Kent died in 1908, his family continued to live in the house.

The building became the home of Kent's Masons in 1923 and has since been referred to as the Masonic Temple. In 1974, the Kent home was added to the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Register of Historical Places.

The house features ornate woodwork, with handmade fireplaces built into nearly every room, a grand curved staircase and carefully carved window frames. The main entrance is decorated with etched glass windows on a set of double-doors. One of the arched door frames on the first floor was taken from a covered bridge that once stood where the Main Street bridge does today.

A dumbwaiter also remains in the house, its shaft reaching from the dark basement some say is haunted to the third floor where a spacious ballroom was located.

On the second floor is a guest bedroom in which former Presidents of the United States William McKinley, William H. Harrison, William H. Taft and Warren G. Harding each stayed the night when the home belonged to the Kent family. The bedroom is still decorated as it was when the men visited the town.
A weekend in Northeast Ohio doesn't have to be confined to the city limits of Kent. In fact, with a nominal amount of money and a functioning automobile, the adventurous college student can experience the best this region has to offer. What follows are some suggestions of exciting, interesting and even educational destinations. Be forewarned that this is by no means an exhaustive list, but at least you won't be able to say, "There's never anything to do around here."

**Roadtrip**

adventure lies just around the corner

by Jennifer Hamilton

*photography by Tanya Ackerman*

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**Akron**

Sure, it's also known as the Rubber Bowl, but Akron isn't nearly as dull as it sounds. Plus, it's close by and perfect for day trips.

The first stop on your itinerary should be Hale Farm and Village, which takes visitors back to mid-19th century farm life. Costumed pioneers greet you and are eager to answer any questions about their rustic lifestyle. As you tour the 21 buildings in the village, take in the sights of craftspeople demonstrating the arts of glassblowing, candlemaking, blacksmithing and pottery throwing. Gardens and orchards beckon the nature lover, and you can even pet the oxen, sheep and cows that call Hale Farm their home. Ticket prices are $10 per person.

If you're more intrigued by art than by a Little House on the Prairie atmosphere, head to the Akron Art Museum. It offers international, national and regional art from 1850 to the present. Artists include Harry Callahan, Andy Warhol and Frank Stella, to name a few. Outside, the Myers Sculpture Courtyard features permanent large-scale art exhibitions. And in case you're still not convinced, it's free of charge.

Another museum in downtown Akron is Inventure Place, the National Inventors Hall of Fame. Opened in 1995, Akron's Inventure Place celebrates the creative and entrepreneurial spirit of great inventors. The first inductee was Thomas Edison, but other inventors honored since Edison include Henry Ford, John Deere and George Washington Carver.

A fourth nearby place that's worth an afternoon visit is Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens. A tudor-style mansion built between

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Stan Hywet Hall was home to Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. co-founder F.A. Sieberling and his family until the 1950s.
Stan Hywet Hall’s solarium is only one of the opulently decorated rooms in the Tudor-style mansion. It was used by the Sieberling family for reading, writing letters and playing cards.

1912 and 1915, Stan Hywet was home to Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. co-founder F.A. Sieberling and his family until the 1950s. Helen Keller, the VonTrapps and President William Taft were among the more famous visitors before the house was opened to the public. While you’re on the tour, be sure to check out the 23 fireplaces, hand-carved oak paneling and 21,000 panes of glass. If the weather is cooperating, you can venture outdoors to stroll through the Japanese Garden, the Lagoon, the Great Meadow and the Rose Garden. The tour includes the conservatory and greenhouse. The Museum Store and Carriage House Cafe are optional. Admission for both the house and gardens is $7 per person, or $3.50 for the gardens alone.

Columbus

If visiting Akron is still too close to home to be considered a “getaway,” maybe Columbus is the place for you. The city has its appeal, particularly because it’s Ohio’s capital. If you’re prone to shopping sprees, head straight to the City Center in the heart of downtown Columbus. This three-level mall offers two coffee shops, Abercrombie and Fitch, The Limited, The Express, The Gap, The World Bead Company and dozens of small specialty stores.

The Short North district, also downtown, is the best and cheapest place to see a controversial play and to buy a cup of gourmet coffee. Stop in the Short North Pole, a specialty ice cream store that is famous for combining your favorite desserts. Choose from homemade brownies, pies or cookies as the toppings for one of a dozen flavors of ice cream.

If you’re not in the mood for local art or dessert, perhaps Ohio State University will interest you. Home to the Wexner Center for the Arts and the Buckeye football team,
Medical services offers a broad range of services including a full-time medical staff, pharmacy, X-ray, laboratory, and physical therapy. Health education programs and services are offered through the Office of Student Health Promotion at 672-2320. Kent State Ambulance offers emergency service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (during academic year), on campus CALL 911, off campus but within Kent city limits, CALL 672-2212.

Hours:
M-F 8 am - 5 pm
SAT 10 am - 2 pm

DeWeese Health Center
Eastway Drive

Psychological Services provides a wide variety of services to the students. Whether the student has concerns around personal issues, managing the stresses of class work and tests, or living more comfortably with other students in a class or residence hall, Psychological Services provides high-quality personalized service.

Hours:
M-F 8 am - 5 pm

Cleveland
If the city skyline is beckoning, but Columbus is too far away, Cleveland is the destination for you. An hour’s drive from Kent, Cleveland is home to one of the best zoos in the state, the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Founded in 1882, the Metroparks Zoo is the seventh oldest zoo in the country. With attendance reaching more than a million visitors a year, it is one of the largest year-round attractions in Northeast Ohio. The zoo is home to thousands of animals of more than 400 species. The RainForest, one of the zoo’s newer attractions, depicts the amazing diversity of the world’s three major rainforests in Africa, Asia, and South America. Inside the two-story jungle live more than 600 creatures, including orangutans, anteaters, and reptiles, in addition to almost 400 varieties of plants. Be sure not to miss the 25-foot indoor waterfall.

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame is another one of Cleveland’s most popular attractions. Exhibits include tributes to Pink Floyd, Jefferson Airplane, Elvis Presley, and the Beatles. There’s a large gift shop and a cafe that serves lunch and snacks. Admission is $15 per person. Nearby is a smaller version of Columbus’s COSI, the Great Lakes Science Center. Here you can catch an eyeful at the Omnimax Theatre, a six-story-tall theater that makes you feel like you’re part of the
film. The science center’s interactive modules, optical illusions, historical artifacts and hands-on experiments are guaranteed to entertain you.

Cleveland is also renowned for University Circle, a cultural park 5 miles east of downtown, where the Cleveland Art Museum is located. One of the top 10 art museums in the country, the Cleveland Art Museum is a favorite destination for art buffs and casual visitors alike. The collection includes more than 30,000 works of art, including some that date back 5,000 years. It opened to the public in 1916. Admission is free.

Hocking Hills

Hocking Hills, about three hours south of Kent, is a nature lover’s paradise. There are several scenic hiking paths, including the well-known Old Man’s Cave, Ash Cave, Conkles Hollow and Cantwall’s Cliffs.

The most popular of all the Hocking areas is Old Man’s Cave, which derives its name from the hermit who lived in the large recess cave of the gorge. Along the length of the trail, the gorge cuts through the entire 150-foot thickness of the Blackhand sandstone and enables visitors to peer into the earth’s subsurface.

In the southermost areas of Hocking Hills lies Ash Cave, which is the largest, most impressive recessed cave in the state. The horseshoe-shaped cave is massive, measuring 700 feet from end to end and 100 feet in depth. Ash Cave is named after the huge pile of ashes found under the shelter by early settlers who believed the ash had been left by Indian campfires.

The recommended time to visit is in the fall when the leaves begin to change color, but it is a perfect area to sightsee any time of the year. In addition to nature hikes, several rural stores in the park’s vicinity sell everything from wind chimes to American Indian paraphernalia. Horseback riding is offered at Stone Valley Ranch. Rates are $20 to $35 per hour.

Unfortunately, dining choices are limited in Hocking Hills because of the rural location, so picnicking is a wise idea. Some recommended restaurants are Blueberry Hill, Raven Wood and the Colonial Inn Restaurant. Because Hocking Hills is quite a drive from Kent, overnight lodging may be necessary. If you are truly an outdoors person, camping grounds are plentiful. Some suggestions are Hocking Hills KOA Kamping, Crockett’s Run and Top O’ The Caves, all of which charge about $20 per night, depending on availability.

Fall is recommended as the best time to explore Hocking Hills’ rock formations, but it is a perfect sightseeing spot for any season.
You could be a millionaire. It’s quite possible.

If your parents had invested about $600 when you were born, the money could easily become $1 million by the time you’re ready to retire, according to Mary Rowland from Money magazine.

What? Your parents didn’t spend the measly 600 bucks? And you don’t know much about investing?

Ignorance can be easily overcome by education, which is what this article intends to provide. It will help demystify the world of money, the one object that seems to disappear faster than a white sock in a Laundromat.

Don’t worry, you have potential. Statistics show more than 60 percent of the nation’s 8 million college students have one credit card. So most of you know a little bit about money, whether you think so or not.

But why now? Why not wait until you’re older and make your kids millionaires? The answer is time. Every day you put it off, you’re eating away at that million dollars. It’s true: Time is money.
**Pinching Pennies**

As with every lesson in life, you have to start small. What would have happened if you'd kept pushing coins through the slot of your piggy bank? Just think how many pigs it would take to hold all that spare change now.

Chances are you spent that money long ago. Well, here are six relatively painless steps to keeping that spare change in your pocket, adapted from Rowland's list.

1. Open a savings account at a small bank, preferably with no minimum account size and no fee, where you don't have an ATM card. Pick up a stack of bank-by-mail envelopes and make regular deposits so you won't be tempted to take "just a little" out on your way to the bank.

2. Write a regular check to your savings account when you get your paycheck — or when Mom and Dad take pity on you — and put it in your deposit envelope. Keep in mind that any amount is better than nothing at all.

3. Start small. Experts suggest you save 10 percent of your income. It's a reasonable goal, but don't give up if you can't. Start saving and save consistently, and you'll be on track.

4. Watch your ATM withdrawals if you have a checking account with an ATM card. Decide how much you will take out each week and make it last. Make it a little tight. And try to decrease it over time.

5. Decrease the number of exemptions on your withholding form at work. If you claim one, go to zero. The government will take a few dollars out of each paycheck. You're giving the government an interest-free loan, but if you would otherwise fritter the money away, you're better off locking it up with the government. Dump your tax refund directly into your savings account.

6. List all of your credit cards with their interest rates, beginning with the highest rates. Cut up all but the two with the lowest rates. Concentrate on paying off the one with the highest rate, and move down the list when you've done so.

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**Demystifying Investing**

Now you have a few ideas about how to start saving money. Should you spend it or try to (gasp!) invest it? Here's what you need to know to get going.

All investments are designed to make you more money, according to *The Truth About Money*, by Ric Edelman and Cal Thomas. There are two ways this can happen: by producing income or by growing in value. If you are paid regular interest, as in a checking or savings account, your investment is producing income. If you would have bought part of McDonald's when all he had was a farm, your investment would have since grown in value. Producing income is the more reliable of the two.

Phil Kousaie, senior vice president of Everen Securities, Inc. on South Water Street, says a student's goals determine how he or she should invest. "If they need money for school, they should invest for income. In other situations, they could invest for growth," he says.

Before investing, you must first study the information available from those businesses you are considering. See if there are Web pages, or go to the library and ask for a copy of the annual report. This report is usually available for free and gives a description of the company's business transactions, its financial statements and other information.

Or call the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's Office of Investor Education and Assistance at 202-942-7040 for more information. Request the handbook published by the Office of Public Affairs, *Policy Evaluation and Research* — it is one of the more readable sources of information available.

Kousaie says potential investors also need to use common sense. "What I would recommend to college students — who by definition have limited investment funds — is for them to find something they know something about," he says. "These are just examples, but take Walt Disney, Intel or pharmaceutical stock. You know something about what it does, it appeals to you and your generation. What you're buying is tomorrow's stock prices, not today's."

**Getting Advice**

What you plan to accomplish with your money determines how it should be invested, says Beth Goldthwaite, an account executive and stockbroker for Butler Wick and Co., Inc. on South Water Street in Kent.

"It's different for everybody," Goldthwaite says. "I can't recommend specific funds without knowing the person, knowing their needs and where they want to go."

She says cost averaging is a good bet for college students. Where a savings account might give 3 percent back to the investor, a cost averaging account might give 4.5 percent, Goldthwaite says.

"If you're just letting the money sit over the semester, you can make more money just by moving it from one account to another," she says.

Goldthwaite and several others agreed mutual funds work well for college students. Wayne Y. Lee, a professor and Firestone chairman of corporate finance, picked mutual funds as being one of the most student-friendly ways to invest.

"For students with limited resources, I would suggest investing in mutual funds rather than stock," Lee says. "You need to reduce your risk as much as possible. This is money that is important to you — it is not frivolous. At the same time, you want the highest return possible. It seems conflicting to have no risk and a high return, but you want a balance: the lowest risk with the highest possible return."

"You also want liquidity. You want to invest in something where if you need the money you can get it. With mutual funds you can write a check to access your funds," he says. "You can't write a check everyday — you can't use a mutual fund to buy groceries. There's a limit to the number of checks you can write, but you could pay for rent or major expenses like tuition and books — they're for large amounts but they're infrequent."

Kathryn Wilson, an assistant professor of economics at Kent State, also picked mutual funds, as well as index funds, as good ways for students to begin investing.

"In mutual funds, a company is going to manage a portfolio — that's just a whole
bunch of different stocks — for you," she says. “There are two nice things about mutual funds: One is they do all the managing, two is they receive a high return. The downside is they’re risky. When the stock market fell a few months ago, there was no guarantee of a return.”

One of the first things a novice investor needs to determine is his or her risk. At one end of the risk spectrum is a bank savings account. What goes in, comes out — it’s a very safe investment. At the other end are investments with different types of risk associated with them, each type affecting each student differently.

What it all comes down to, Wilson says, are three basic elements.

“Students need to realize there are three factors in investing. One is risk. A high risk means a potentially higher return. Then there’s liquidity, which is how quickly you can get the money. A savings account is super-liquid, but has a low return,” she says. “The third is taxes. Some securities have advantages. But students shouldn’t be too concerned about that — most of them are in the low tax bracket anyway. The main thing is all things have trade-offs.”

Hank Schueler, an investment representative at Investment Management and Research, Inc. on West Main Street in Ravenna, says mutual funds aren’t what he would recommend for students.

“With mutual funds, there’s a load fund and a no-load fund. With the no-load fund, people do everything by themselves. They get the form, fill it out and don’t get advice. A load fund gives you advice, but they are going to charge you right off the bat,” Schueler says. “I would rather go with a money market fund. It’s similar to a checking account and earns roughly 5 per cent now, twice the rate of a savings account. These funds are very liquid and the only disadvantage is the return, but there is very little risk.”

Julie Johnson, a senior computer information systems major who owns a CD, a bond and stock in two companies, advises students to take the low-risk road, but doesn’t recommend mutual funds as the first step.

“I would probably recommend CDs because the interest is high for them. I got mine during the summer when there was a special at my bank. The interest rate was high, and it was well worth it,” Johnson says. “Where else can you put your money
in an account and earn 6.7 (percent interest) a month? You don’t have to wait too long to get your money out either.

A CD, or a certificate of deposit, works much like a short-term savings account, but your money is locked up and unavailable for a certain amount of time.

But Schueler warns students against locking up their money in a CD. “You have terms: If you buy a 6-month CD, you cannot get your money for six months. If the someone is planning for retirement, I would recommend a CD,” he says.

Johnson says bonds also work well for students because they are so secure, but stocks can be more difficult to handle. A bond is basically an IOU from the government or a company. When you buy a bond, you’re loaning the bond issuer (i.e., the government or company) your money. The issuer promises to repay what you paid for the bond — called the principle — plus interest.

Bonds do have their risks, the biggest one being inflation. Consider the fact that $50 went a lot farther 20 years ago than it does today. But as a general rule, bonds are considered safer than common stocks.

A stock is a “share” of a company. It is worth more when a company is doing well and less when a company is doing poorly. Of course, stocks are open to marketability risk, which means that if you own stock in a company and its worth drops, you’ll have a harder time finding someone to buy your stock.

Many people see the stock market as risky. In reality, it is not the market that is unstable, but the people who invest in it, Rowland says. Novice investors often sell their stock shares as soon as the market starts going down and only buy stock when the market goes up. The general trend of the stock market is to rise. The key lies in the patience and ability to leave your stock alone while the market fluctuates.

“Stocks are not really for students,” Johnson says. “You have a limited amount of money, and you can’t afford the best stock. If it fails, you owe money, but you really need it.”

OK, now you’re armed with the basics. Piggy banks aside, investing can really pay off. Congratulations, you’re on your way to your first million. b
People have always been interested in the unknown and the mysterious. Dreams are a common focus of human inquiry, right along with debates over the plausibility of alien life. But unlike extraterrestrial encounters, dreams happen every night around the world and have done so for thousands of years.

In attempts to solve the mystery of dreams, evidence dating back to the ancient Greeks has been documented and studied, says Kelly Bulkeley, president of the Vienna, Va.-based Association for the Study of Dreams. Religious and spiritual leaders, philosophers and medical experts have tried for years to discover what dreams reveal. But despite scientific developments and a greater understanding of dreams, people's quest for answers remain.

The ancient Greek philosopher and playwright Aristotle believed dreams were a healing resource. "He often talked about dreams being able to reveal subtle bodily changes that would lead to illnesses — changes that wouldn't be revealed in the waking state," says Bulkeley, who is also a professor at the Graduate Theological Union at the University of California-Berkeley, where he teaches about dreams and spirituality.

Others alive during the time of Aristotle shared his dedication to dreams. The ancient Greeks built temples throughout the Mediterranean region to honor Asclepius, the mythological god of healing. People would go to the temples, pray to the gods and drift off to sleep.

"While they slept," Bulkeley says, "they waited for a dream to come from the gods. There were hundreds of reports that gods came to them in dreams. Virtually every culture throughout history has regarded dreams as important and worth paying attention to. Some have seen dreams as divine intervention — that dreams were a good way of communicating with the divine, whether it was God, ancient spirits or sacred powers."

The ancient Chinese and Japanese cultures held the universal belief that dreams helped to heal both the body and
the mind. "In modern culture, it's the same kind of thing," Bulkeley says. "It is just more modernized." Dreams still fascinate, and some even believe dreams can be therapeutic.

The Australian aborigines, whose culture dates back more than 40,000 years, used dreams to connect themselves to mysterious spirits and as a vital resource in the process of becoming a shaman, according to Malcolm Goodwin's *The Lucid Dreamer - A Waking Guide for the Traveler Between Worlds*, a book dedicated to nocturnal experiences. The aborigines believed that the shaman, or "karadji," was taught by the "rai," or spirits, through conscious dreaming. Dreams were the way to connect the aboriginal people with "Dreamtime," a primal state that allows them to embrace "the creation of the world at the dawn of time" and to connect to the dimension of the mythical beings responsible for creating the universe.

The Iban shamans of Indonesia, Taoists and Buddhists were not only conscious of dreams, but also integrated them into their cultures. And in 12th-century Tibet, Dream Master schools were set up because dreaming was seen as a powerful method of meditation that could help speed up the enlightenment process. "Some people used to think that the soul left the body, and then came back during dreams," says Benjamin Newberry, a Kent State professor of psychology who has done research on dreams. "Dreams have had a huge spiritual significance."

But the history of dreams still doesn't answer all the questions.

"There is a lot of controversy over whether dreams are important phenomena," Bulkeley says. "Some experts think they are just the 'frothy stuff' that bubbles up during sleep." Some dreams are just nonsense, but even those dreams serve a valuable function, he says. Dreams help the brain process new information, help consolidate new memory and help maintain a "sense of emotional balance."

Newberry says dreams are legitimate and necessary to function in the waking state. From evidence charted in sleep laboratories, Newberry says that if a person is physically waked up while dreaming, he or she "becomes irritable and tired."

Dreams most likely reflect individuals' waking preoccupations, but during the slumber state, the brain allows itself to delve further into those thoughts.

"When you go to sleep, your brain doesn't completely shut down," Newberry says. "You are just conscious in a different way." Dreams occur during the state of sleep known as rapid eye movement, more commonly referred to as R.E.M., into which the brain enters about four or five times every night.

"The brain becomes incredibly lively during this state," says Bulkeley, whose doctorate of philosophy has an emphasis on dreams and spirituality.

"In fact, the brain is as active in R.E.M. as it is when you're awake. In that sense, evolution has created us to be dreaming creatures."

Many people argue that they do not dream, but Bulkeley isn't convinced by such a claim. "The functions of dreaming are valuable - even if you don't remember the dream. We are not always aware our stomach is digesting food, but it happens. Dreams are the mind digesting an experience," Bulkeley says. "It is probably a good thing that we do not remember everything because there wouldn't be enough room in our heads."

Bulkeley says there is a "natural ebb and flow" to remembering dreams. Daily experiences help to create dreams, and when dreams are remembered, it serves as a kind of signal for a person to give the problem or concern "some conscious reflections," he says. "If you do remember a dream, there may be a reason it has stuck with you."

DREAMS CAN BE USED AS A TOOL because if a person has a recurring dream every night - and it does not gradually change bit by bit - it can signal that there is a problem. Unchanging, recurrent dreams are a cause for concern. Many times people who have been in wars or have been sexually abused have these type of dreams because of post-traumatic stress syndrome. "This can make the person aware he or she needs help," Bulkeley says.

But do some dreams delve so deep into the mind that they can produce psychic abilities and help a person foretell the future? "This is hard to study," Bulkeley says, "because you cannot just put someone in a sleep lab and say, 'Have a prophetic dream now.' You just can't do that. But I wouldn't rule out the possibility."

There have been thousands of documented cases in which people claim they have been warned of something or given a message about the future, Bulkeley says. One documented case involves the experience of President Abraham Lincoln.

In nearly every Lincoln biography, the dream in which Lincoln may have foretold his own death is mentioned. According to numerous books, as described by family members to the authors, Lincoln dreamed before his assassination that he was in the White House and heard people talking about someone having died. In the dream, he jumped out of bed and went to the East Wing of the White House and saw a coffin. He watched people standing around a coffin crying, so he asked, "Who is dead in the White House?" and was told, "The President. He was assassinated." Then Lincoln woke up. Two weeks later, he was shot at the Ford's Theater, and died soon after.

"If this is not a random coincidence, how can you explain something like that?" Bulkeley says. "If nothing else,
since we assume he was not making it up, this is at least a reason to keep studying dreams. This is all very exiting. It is, and will probably remain, a controversial area of research for a long, long time. Just think of dreams as a gift from the deeper part of the mind. Dreams open up a window to the deepest tower of the human mind and soul."

Dreams are a bizarre and mysterious phenomenon, but there is a way to discover the underlying meaning, Bulkeley says. “If you look at dreams and ask questions, meanings start to emerge,” he says. “But there is not a one-size-fits-all meaning. It would be nice if this were true, but every person’s dreams come out of their own life context.”

First, the dreamer needs to ask himself or herself a question of specification “because dreams have infinite creative abilities,” Bulkeley says. Simple parts of dreams that are often overlooked can indicate the underlying importance behind a dream. “Ask questions and let the answers emerge,” he says. “But don’t overly intellectualize. This requires letting go of some of the rational ways we think.”

Another part of interpretation explores the places in a dream to help discover meaning. “Look at the places in a dream with a sudden change and transition,” he says. “Points of change are often where something new is being created.”

Bulkeley says a person also needs to pay attention to exactly what changed, how it changed and if this is the kind of change the person dreaming would make in his or her own waking life. “You need to ask yourself, ‘Is this dream giving me an idea?’ It may be providing new potentials and new visions of life.”

And to set the record straight, not all dreams are about repressed sexual wishes as claimed by psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud’s theory, Bulkeley says. “The emergence of sexual and romantic dreams can be troubling, and part of dreaming seems to be part of the arousal,” he says. But romantic and sexual issues are so predominant in some relationships or in some people’s minds they are natural subjects for dreams.

“Many dreams do deal with concerns and desires, but they are not necessarily about sex,” Bulkeley says. “Not every long object that occurs in a dream is phallic and not every time an enclosed object appears does it symbolize something vaginal. This is a bad interpretation.”

These sexual dreams can symbolize “deeper, creative powers,” he says. Sexuality can be the symbol for general creativity.

Though dreams should not be discounted, Bulkeley warns that some people are offering false interpretations.

“There is all sorts of silly stuff,” he says. “There are booklets that have symbols in dreams that say you can match them to the winning lottery numbers. This only takes advantage of gullible people.”

People should never believe everything that ‘experts,’ like himself, say about dreams, Bulkeley says.

“While it’s usually helpful to hear what professional researchers say about the possible meanings of a dream, in the end, only the dreamer can know for sure what the dream means for his or her life,” he says. “The key test is always the dreamer’s own personal intuition.”

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It's close to 10 p.m. and for six Kent State students, it's another ordinary night at work. Nick Argentiero is at Eastway washing dishes for what seems like the 500th time that night. Jennie Griveas is scanning the pages of tomorrow's Daily Kent Stater, waiting for a dozen frantic reporters to finish their stories before the midnight deadline. Tami Rathburn is walking the halls of Leebrick hall, keeping her eye out for misbehaving students who often hide from her burgundy jacket marked “Security.” Kathleen Raumberger, wearing an infamous orange jacket, is dodging puddles as she checks for illegally parked cars. Brad Opsincs is sitting in his apartment grading a stack of papers written by his freshmen orientation students. And Jim Reimer is acting as the mediator between two angry roommates who until 10 minutes ago were the best of friends.

Finding the time to study, exercise, eat, sleep and breathe isn't the easiest thing for a busy college student to do. Now add

by Ellen E. Freiberg
photography by Tanya Ackerman
a part-time or even full-time job to that equation. And some Kent State students have the extra pleasure of holding what could be the hardest jobs on this campus.

“Hardest” is a subjective term, but the basic parameters are clear. They are the jobs that make the workers into enemies, the jobs that involve constant controversy and the jobs that evoke a disgusted “eeeww.” In fact, they are the jobs that make one wonder why a person would ever choose to do them at all.

Let’s start with the obvious. Two words: Parking Services. These five syllables strike fear in the hearts of some, anger in the hearts of many. No one enjoys finding one of the infamous yellow envelopes containing a parking ticket on the windshield. However, according to one member of the parking patrol, some people take getting a ticket very personally.

Sophomore Kathleen Raumberger, 20, says she has encountered several very irate parking violators during her three semesters as a parking services employee.

One night in late January, Raumberger and another employee of the parking patrol ticketed a vehicle in a 15-minute parking space. “The student we ticketed happened to get back to his car just as we were leaving,” Raumberger says. “He started screaming obscenities at us and chased us on foot and by vehicle. When we stopped at another lot, he tried to trap our truck into a space. I don’t know what would have happened if my partner didn’t know how to drive.”

Raumberger, a biology and pre-veterinary medicine major, says the student followed them back to the office in the Michael Schwartz Center and was detained by the campus police. No charges were filed against the student, but the police made him apologize to Raumberger and his partner.

Violence is not a problem of all student jobs. Some have much simpler and safer difficulties.

“Pay is the biggest issue,” says Nick Argentiero, student manager at Eastway cafeteria. “The job is not bad in the sense that I’m working at Eastway, but for food services as a whole. I don’t think any of the food services employees get paid enough for the work we do.”

Argentiero, a senior business management major, has been a student manager at Eastway for 3 1/2 years. His job requires him to be familiar with every position, including stocking, preparing and cooking the food, and cashiering.

Argentiero says there is “no incentive pay to stay in the reg-
ular jobs." He feels this leads to a high turnover rate and occasional low staffing, which both result in extra stress. Also, Argentiero says part of the job description is having an "Eastway smell" when he gets home. "It's a greasy, smoky smell. I have to shower immediately," he says.

Some jobs don't require a shower, but instead necessitate a major schedule readjustment and loss of sleep.

"We tell people that if you can't handle the hours, don't apply for the job," Campus Security Supervisor Tami Rathburn says. Rathburn, a senior criminal justice and geology major, says staying motivated is a common problem among security personnel. Residence halls are patrolled between 8 p.m. and 4 a.m., making it essential for a patroller to adjust sleeping and study habits.

"Once you are used to the hours, the job isn't bad at all," she says.

Security guards also are responsible for closing Taylor Hall for the night, a task that sometimes requires kicking some architecture students out of the fourth floor lab. "We usually just tell them to go home and get something to eat or a nap, and they generally take it pretty well," Rathburn says.

Architecture majors are not the only people who spend a great deal of time in Taylor Hall.

"I pretty much live here," says Jennie Griveas, editor of The Daily Kent Stater. Griveas, 21, says editing the Stater is definitely a demanding job, but "it's not the hardest on this campus. There are a lot of students who work just as hard or harder."

Griveas, a senior, is responsible for finding any mistakes made in the newspaper and for dealing with the backlash of complaints from upset faculty, staff and students.

"The things that get to me the most are when little things go wrong, like a misspelling in a story," she says. "It's annoying when so many people here work so hard to get everything right."

Despite the hard work and long hours, Griveas says she loves her job. She is compensated out of Stater profits on a monthly basis.

Not all difficult jobs come with a salary.

Junior Brad Opsincs, 21, says, "Teaching new student orientation is hard because your students don't want to be there — they have to be there."

Opsincs, an elementary education major, says orientation teachers get credit for their work but no pay.

"The time you put in with your students is totally rewarding, despite being demanding," he says. "You try to get them involved, show them the reasoning for the class and incorporate your own ideas into how you teach."

Opsincs has a demanding task, especially on top of other obligations shared by all college students. But at the end of the class period, he is no longer responsible for his students.

Some jobs require almost non-stop attention.

"The hardest part of being a resident assistant is that it is a 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week responsibility," says senior technology major Jim Reimer. Reimer is an R.A. in the First
Year Experience area.

"It can get a little wild because it's all freshmen," he says. "But my biggest gripe would be all the meetings and committees that weren't spelled out before I started the job." Reimer, 22, says he is expected to attend several meetings a week.

"That stuff can take up a lot of your time."

Another drawback to being an R.A. in the First Year experience area is that Small Group is so far away from central campus.

"It's a good 20-minute walk from everywhere I have to be," Reimer says. "I've come to love the Campus Bus Service."

Angry parking violators, bad pay, late and long hours, uncooperative students and a really long walk don't sound like a ton of fun. Yet every student interviewed also mentioned something good about his or her difficult job.

"It's not all that bad once you get used to it," was a running theme in each job description.

Essentially, the students doing the jobs that make others wonder why they'd even consider doing them have adjusted to the rigors of their duties. They have found the time to succeed at their demanding jobs, and sometimes they also get to study, exercise, eat, sleep and breathe.

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ON CAMPUS LIVING

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At midnight on a rainy Wednesday, seven photographers were sent out armed with 60 rolls of film and these simple instructions: **Just take good pictures.**

What they brought back 24 hours later is the photo story that follows. It's the story of life at Kent State, a collection of moments that capture both the familiar and the obscure. These pictures aren't the usual campus photos of tired students listening to a professor's lecture. In fact, many of them depict the mundane, the unappreciated and the unnoticed. After editing 1,296 frames, these are the 20 shots that best represent what life at Kent State was like on a dreary February day.
1:13 a.m. Leila Topper looks for a strategic shot at Panini's Bar.

12:25 a.m. Brian Siewiorek, a.k.a. "Schwa," and Clifford Bailey, a.k.a. "Clifford Beetleman," have hosted the International House of Pagans show on WKSR since 1994. The program airs on Wednesdays from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

12:03 a.m. The end of one day and the beginning of another. Kurtis Fraley, a visual communication design major, and his girlfriend, Nicole Lacy, a sophomore fashion design major.
8:45 a.m. Women shower in Johnson Hall before going to class.

1:50 a.m. Rm. 207 Bowman Hall. Terry Thompson of Akron has worked at Kent State since 1982.
2:15 a.m. The powerhouse operates seven days a week, 24 hours a day. Kelly Evans (left) and Ron Wharton (right) work the midnight shift. It controls all the heating and cooling at Kent State.

3:00 a.m. Christine Watt surprises her co-worker Duane Redd with a birthday cake during their lunch break.
10:00 a.m. Student helper Erin Franken reads a story about a mouse named Chester to 3-year-old Amelia Leff and 3-year-old Hayden Wolf at the Child Development Center.

10:15 a.m. Kristy Rop kisses up to her roommates by washing all the dishes before class.

1:08 p.m. Outside, sophomore Eric Harding looks over a paper one last time while, inside, Richele Charlton, senior, grabs lunch at the Hub.
2:20 p.m. President Carol Cartwright meets with Mark D. Lindemood, vice president for University Relations and Development.

8:03 p.m. Senior broadcast news major Ruth Watson listens to a poetry reading in Oscar Ritchie Hall's Malcolm X Lounge.

9:15 p.m. "Crash" Lowe and John Warner, members of the kayak club, practice maneuvering in the Gym Annex pool.
6:10 p.m. Shawn Bishop explains her artistic endeavors during an evening art class.

8:00 p.m. DeNica Scott and Robyn McClenmore act out a skit, which was performed at the Campus Crusade for Christ meeting. The topic was racial reconciliation.
11:00 p.m. D.J. Russell, Darcy Mathis, Kim Silc and Scott Brown keep score in overtime at an intramural basketball tournament.

10:20 p.m. Linda Frund and Erika Buchholz study in the lounge of Verder Hall.

11:29 p.m. Student Manager Bruce Smerchansky waits to close up the Student Center at midnight.

11:58 p.m. Brian Esway, Chris Houck and Matthew Sarnataro make their way home after last call at the Rathskeller.
They first appeared as messengers in the Bible. Centuries later, they showed up in famous Renaissance paintings. Then they ended up on Christmas cards, and sometimes they were imprinted in fresh snow, surrounded by footprints from little boots. And, occasionally, they made an appearance in movies and on television. But now, they're everywhere.

They're all over magazine racks, posters and calendars. They've bombarded Hallmark stores in the form of little ceramics with chubby cheeks. They've even showed up as John Travolta and Denzel Washington.

Replicas of angels and stories of angels in our midst have certainly captured many Americans' – or at least the media's – attention. They have swept greeting-card shops, movie screens, television and magazine covers.

For some, this renewed interest in angels is solely based on their entertainment value. For others, they're inspiring reminders of a higher power.

"Angels are a big part of the cultural landscape," says Mark Dawidziak, a film critic for the Akron Beacon Journal. "You don't have to be religious to enjoy stories about angels. They can still touch you, reach you and inspire you."

The latest surge of media involving angels has varied considerably in the interpretations of the heavenly creatures.

Television offers the drama Touched by an Angel, the story of three human-like angels who roam the earth and take on different personae to help humans in need.

Two of Hollywood's more recent movies reflecting the angel obsession are Michael and The Preacher's Wife. In Michael, a white-winged John Travolta plays an apparently flawed angel who takes to chain-smoking, grooving to oldies and wooing females. In The Preacher's Wife, Denzel Washington portrays a charming angel in a gray trench coat who comes back to earth to fulfill his duty before he is permitted into heaven. However, he gets a bit sidetracked from his heavenly responsibilities when he falls in love with Whitney Houston, who plays the wife of the preacher whom Washington is supposed to save.
Magazines, especially, have offered Americans a variety of stories that spark curiosity about angels. People and TV Guide have featured cover stories about angel encounters and the revival of interest in the phenomenon.

Some publishers have even ventured to launch magazines dedicated specifically to telling stories about angels.

One such magazine is Angels on Earth. The publishers of Guideposts, a Christian magazine, created a spin-off publication solely for the large portion of their audience interested in stories of angel encounters.

Angels on Earth now has a circulation of more than 800,000, says Lisa Marie Rovito, an assistant editor of the magazine.

Ninety to 95 percent of the stories in the New York-based magazine are sent in by individuals who want to tell of angel encounters or of experiences that strengthened their faith.

Despite the fact that Angels on Earth is a Christian publication, not all of its readers are religious. They simply enjoy the cheerful, inspiring stories.

“It’s amazing how attached to this magazine some of our readers are,” Rovito says. “Everybody likes to read stories with happy endings. A lot of people like to read the stories before they go to bed.”

Dawidziak says the interest in angels may have grown so dramatically because many Americans are trying to increase the spirituality in their lives.

As opposed to the 1970s, sometimes referred to as a “shallow decade,” and the 1980s, during which people were absorbed in their possessions and own self-interest, the 1990s is a decade when Americans are making an effort to return to a more spiritual existence, he says.

The Rev. Chuck Graham, director of United Campus Ministries at Kent State, agrees that more Americans are seemingly searching for greater spirituality.

In the mid- to late 1980s, more and more students on the Kent campus were feeling a rise in a sense of spiritualism and religion, he says.

“Part of it has to do with what is happening in the world in general,” Graham says. “There is a lot of increased anxiety.”

The idea of angels protecting individuals from many of the dangers of the modern world is very comforting, he says. With concerns such as sexual diseases, the break-up of families and finding a place in the competitive job market, college students — and people in general — seem to have multiple pressures weighing on them.

“We’re searching,” he says. “We’re looking for something to take us away from all this and to protect us from all this responsibility.”

Freshman Traci Marcovitz, a member of Kent State’s Hillel Jewish Student Center, says the current trend is similar to when angels first appeared in the Torah, the first five books of the Old Testament.

“In the Bible, they were messengers and were used to communicate hope,” she says. “It’s basically the same thing now that happened in the Torah. The assumed presence of angels helps people believe in something. It helps people deal with everyday life and with death.”

Diana Culbertson, a professor of English who teaches courses on the Bible’s literature, says those who are serious about religion do not focus on angels. Angels are a peripheral issue, she says.

Believing in angels is more appealing to those who are intimidated by the more serious side of religion.

“If people want something cute and pretty that’s not going to demand too much out of them, angels is a good way to go,” she says. “It’s kind of entertaining and curious.”

But Dawidziak from the Beacon Journal says angels don’t always inspire religious reflection. They simply make easy, effective dramatic tools to enhance the entertainment value of a film or a story.

“Angels are wonderful symbolic mirrors for us,” he says. “You can take an angel literally or as a metaphor.

“Often, angels become something grander that serves to inform us about the human condition. And if drama isn’t informing us about the human condition, what’s it doing?”

Adding to their entertainment value is the fact that angels and other supernatural beings are the only options left for heroes in a story, says Robert West, an associate professor of Journalism and Mass Communication.

He says many people today are so cynical that there is no one left to trust in the physical world.

“Many people seem to think, ‘I can’t trust you and you can’t trust me. And we can’t trust the govern-
"Angels are wonderful symbolic mirrors for us," he says. "You can take an angel literally or as a metaphor."

"If people are terribly cynical and untrusting in the physical world, then why wouldn't angels have a shot?"

Margaret Dixon, a junior secondary education major and a member of United Christian Ministries, agrees. "These days, I think it's harder to trust people," she says. "If people do something that's nice or beyond the norm, people think that something is acting within them, like maybe an angel."

However, what makes angels such accepted heroes in movies doesn't make them more believable in the real world, Culbertson of the English department says. She believes that most stories told about angels, especially in the media, are simply "too cute."

"The media's representation of angels is utterly frivolous," she says. "I think their representation is to religion what frosting is to cake."

But this is not always a problem, especially for films, Dawidziak says.

"Hollywood never does anything realistic," he says. "The depiction of police, lawyers, journalists and college students isn't realistic — it's entertainment. You don't want to go to the movies to see real life."

Although angel encounters seem to be frequent occurrences — as incidents are published bimonthly in *Angels on Earth* — some stories seem more likely than others, Rovito says.

She says the magazine gets letters about angels in human form and in full-fledged angel-like form, with wings and white robes. The magazine has also
received stories in which angels are in the form of an animal, like a dog or a wolf. They've also been in the form of the wind and even a pink cloud.

Although she's fairly accustomed to hearing about such incidents now, Rovito says she wasn't always as comfortable with her job.

When she started working at *Angels on Earth* two years ago, she sensed her job was going to be a bit unusual. As an assistant editor, part of her responsibility was to go through letters and to make sure they were worthy of being published. It seemed strange at first talking with so many people who said they had seen angels, she says.

One particular story the magazine was working on when she arrived made her a little leery. It was jointly written by a teenage girl who had been through a traumatic experience and her mother. Because of trauma, the girl had experienced seizures and other mental problems.

That's where the angel came in. "The girl named her angel, 'George.' He was 7 feet tall, and he wore a white tuxedo and top hat," Rovito says. "The girl talked about flying around and dancing with him."

To Rovito, it was more likely that George was the result of the medication the girl was taking for her mental problems.
But since then, Rovito has gained more faith in the people who tell of seeing an angel.

"After talking to the authors, I realized these are real people, and they don't say they see angels every day," she says.

"Plus, many of them are religious, so I believe they're faithful and they're honest."

Regardless of people's faith in angels, a belief in them has a minimal effect on their moral lives, Culbertson says. There are more important things people should be concerned with.

"When you're obsessed with angels, you don't worry about feeding the poor and working for social justice," she says.

"And those are the real issues."
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These vows are meant to last a lifetime. A commitment to be someone’s lifelong partner is an important decision too often forgotten by people who do not have the momentum to fight life’s battles. Although it is a hard one for some to make, others just know they were meant to be together, no matter what their ages may be. It is not uncommon to see teen-agers getting married shortly after high school graduation, nor is it unusual to see fellow classmates wearing wedding bands.

In addition to handling the hassles of earning a college degree, some students at Kent State University are simultaneously experiencing the responsibilities of marriage. Not only are they trying to pursue successful careers, but they also are trying to pursue a healthy married life with their spouses. Although they admit their lives became somewhat more complicated after pronouncing “I do,” they are quick to point out that married life is well worth the extra headaches.

‘It Just Seemed Dumb To Wait’

A successful marriage requires falling in love many times, always with the same person. — Mignon McLaughlin, U.S. journalist and author

Growing up together and attending the same high school and church provided a firm foundation for Jodi and Louie Scalzo’s relationship.

“Our families were friends, and I was best friends with Louie’s sister,” 20-year-old Jodi says.

After she graduated from high school, Jodi went to Southeastern College of the Assemblies of God in Lakeland, Fla.,
where Louie was a senior. As they became closer, they both knew they would someday get married. After Louie graduated, he moved back to Ohio, and Jodi stayed in Florida to finish school. After a year-and-a-half of dating, she transferred to Kent State, and on Nov. 22 they were pronounced husband and wife.

“We knew we wanted to get married, and it just seemed dumb to wait,” she says. “We had the finances, and being with him outweighed everything else. We were ready to make that commitment.” Jodi is now a full-time nursing major and works part-time as a waitress. Louie, 24, works full time and is a youth pastor at Victory Life Church in Stow. They are active with their church on Wednesdays and Sundays and often participate in weekend activities.

“Sometimes we go away for the whole weekend with the church, and it’s hard knowing that I have a test the next Monday,” she says. “But it’s worth it because I’m able to see Louie more.” Jodi says school is sometimes a hassle because she still has to study when she gets home, in addition to the other responsibilities that come with being married.

“Working part time is OK because I work at the Hartville Kitchen, and I only work until 8 p.m. on weekdays and on Saturday mornings,” she says. “During the week, it’s hard to handle everything because I want the house to be clean. Sometimes we just can’t do it all.”

After Jodi gets home from school around 3 p.m., she tries to straighten her two-bedroom townhouse in Akron, exercise and make dinner. She says she usually does most of the housework because Louie works all day.

“We both share responsibilities,” she says. “Sometimes when we’re both tired and busy and we haven’t made time for each other, we have disagreements. Sometimes I feel he puts other things before me, but I know that’s not the case.” Jodi says her relationship with her husband comes first, and having God in their lives is the most important aspect of their marriage. At first it was hard to adjust to living with someone else, but it was rewarding at the same time.

“I’m a really clean kind of person, and Louie used to live with three guys,” Scalzo says. “He tries to be neat and straighten things out, but it’s not the same kind of clean I like.” Scalzo says it was also difficult to fall asleep at night when they first started living together. She was used to having a big bed all to herself and felt somewhat claustrophobic when she had to learn to share one.

‘We Knew We Wanted To Be With Each Other’

One does not fall into love; one grows into love, and love grows in him. — Karl Menninger, psychiatrist.

Angela Thomas, 22, was married to Bryan, 23, one week before she started college. They have been together for almost five years now and have a son, also named Bryan.

“We dated for two years before we were married,” she says. “We went to different high schools, and we knew we wanted to be with each other. We just didn’t want to wait to be married.” Angela is majoring in health education and works part time in the university library. Bryan works full time for Konica.

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Quality Photo in Hudson. After Angela graduates in about two years, Bryan will go to school while she works full time.

When they were first married, Angela says most of their arguments were sparked by money issues. Now they usually argue because of stress and a lack of sleep.

"Sometimes we'll make a joke of what we're arguing about," Thomas says. "We'll realize we're both just grumpy, and the disagreement isn't even worth the energy. We usually end up laughing about it."

Thomas says they are successfully handling their marriage and child.

"It helps to have a wonderful husband," she says. "He does his share of cleaning and sometimes has dinner ready for me.

Angela says she and her husband decided to have a child at a young age because she was having medical problems, and different doctors were giving her different diagnoses. She knew it was easier to have children at a younger age, so they decided it was the right time. Angela says she has always wanted a family.

"In high school, I was voted 'Most Likely to Have the Biggest Family.' I wanted six children," she says. "I want to have at least one more child when I'm out of college."

'WE DO OUR FAIR SHARE'

We love the things we love for what they are. — Robert Frost, poet.

Dan Caton decided to get married at age 22 because he felt he was at a good transition point in his life.

"I knew my wife, Rhonda, for two years, and I knew I would marry someone someday," he says. "That's just something I've always wanted. It's been one of my little dreams in life to get married and have a family. I desired companionship, and Rhonda and I are in a very close relationship, and we desired to be together. It has just been a personal goal of mine, and I couldn't think of anything I wanted more."

Dan knew it was time for him to move out of his parents' house when he started to feel pampered. He decided to move out and get married at the same time so there would be two incomes to cover expenses. Because he was against living with a person before marriage, they were united on May 24, 1997.
Daniel and Rhonda Caton play with their cat, Miss Kitty, in their apartment in Stow.

A full-time student studying media sales and management, Dan is co-owner of Mosher Video Services in Hudson. He and his partner videotape weddings and high school events. "Right now we're in the off-season, so I'm going to school during the day and working at night and on Saturdays," he says.

Dan expects to graduate in 1999. He says he is able to spend a lot of time with Rhonda during the mornings and evenings. They live in an apartment in Stow.

"Friday nights are our times together," Dan says. "In the summer, I would like to get a full-time job, so we'd both be working at the same time. But I think everything is going well."

Dan says it is easy when he goes to school part time because he can help out with the work at home.

"We do our fair share at home," he says. "I take cleaning as a big responsibility because I'm not the big breadwinner right now. Rhonda is working full time in the accounts payable department at Akron General, and it's just common courtesy to help each other out."

He admits they each have their own pet peeves, and it takes some time to get used to them.

"She seems to have a problem with my throwing my clothes on the floor," he says, "and I had a problem adjusting to her neatness. It seems that a lot of men aren't used to the house having to be decorated a certain way, or they don't make a big deal about the towels having to be hung on the rack. We are no exception."

Dan says money is also a subject of their disagreements.

"When you're married, money always seems to be a problem, but in the end, a couple is supposed to share their income," he says. "What's the use of getting married if you're going to be selfish?"

Dan says his father was skeptical about Dan's getting married at a young age.

"When I told my dad I was thinking of proposing, the first words out of his mouth were, 'You're too young.' When I asked him how old he was when he was married, he said, 'That's different.' He was about 22 or 23 years old when he was married, too."

Soon afterward, Dan's father realized the marriage was going to happen and gave his blessing.

"We didn't have much financial support from our families," he says, "so we cut a lot of corners to pay for our wedding."

Dan was able to rent his tux for free. They made their own invitations on a personal computer, and they had a family friend bake the wedding cake. Rhonda's brother, who had his own sound equipment, performed the duties of disc jockey.

Dan's friends also had doubts about his early marriage, but he says he and his wife are very happy.

"My wife was also skeptical about living on our own because we both had just moved out of our parents' house," he says. "But we love each other and couldn't get enough of each other. We're always on the same wavelength. But I have my own personal faith and faith in God, and that's what keeps us going. That is what gave me the confidence."

He says they are planning to buy a house. Their golden retriever, Tyler, has exceeded the 25-pound weight limit their apartment complex allows.
"We either have to move or get rid of the dog," Dan says. "So, Tyler will stay with our parents and sort of house hop until we find a place."

The Catons bought Tyler as their first Christmas present to each other.

"He's a good dog, but he's just getting too big," Dan says.

**'On Solid Ground'**

*The difficulty with marriage is that we fall in love with a personality, but must live with a character.* — Peter De Vries, author.

The Rev. Chuck Graham, a campus minister for United Christian Ministries, offers premarital counseling to student couples, and he says every minister has his own format and pre-packaged programs. Graham's first session is an acquaintance period, and the first question he asks is, "Why do you want to risk your future happiness with this person? And you’re not allowed to say, 'I love him/her.'"

"I do this not to be mean but to see if there is more to the relationship," he says. "I want to identify the qualities of the relationship, not just the physical aspects."

Graham wants the couple to be aware of finances, children and any other conflicts that may arise during the marriage.

"The purpose of this is not that I have all the answers," he says, "but within my readings and dealing with other couples, these are things I've learned they need to come to terms with."

As a campus minister, Graham comes into contact with students who are looking for a religious service but do not have a church connection. He hopes the service will have a positive impact on the couple and will give them a fresh viewpoint of the church.

"I would like to plant a seed before they are married," he says. "I would like them to start attending church now rather than waiting until they have children years down the road."

Graham says he has to be honest in a gentle but forthright way. He wants couples to understand and identify their commitment to one another. He wants to make sure they share an affection. Since coming to Kent in 1981, Graham says three-fourths of the marriages he
has performed were for college students, and he says he is comfortable with it. Counseling usually lasts for two or three sessions.

Graham says it takes two people to get married, and if there is a secret to a successful marriage, it's communication.

"Couples just have to remember that the single most important thing in a relationship is being able to share, talk, fight and argue in a way so as not to dominate each other, but to express different opinions," he says. "Then the relationship will be on solid ground.”
The Neo Pagan Coalition is often misunderstood

by Marsha Heller
photography by Lindsay Semple

In a third-floor room of the Kent Student Center, a group dressed in the jeans, T-shirts and sweatshirts typical of all college students discusses possibilities for fundraising. A bake sale is one option and so are spell kits. Psychic fairs have worked well in the past.

Spell kits and psychic fairs? Welcome to the Kent Neo Pagan Coalition. Newcomers are asked if they have come to join or if they have come to gawk at the pagans, who are often the subject of outsiders’ curiosity. After business is taken care of, there will be a discussion about Imbolc (IM-bulk), a holiday celebrated in honor of the Irish goddess named Brighid (Breed). It is OK if you don’t celebrate the holiday or if you don’t agree
Amy Mundhenk, otherwise known as Zon (Amazon Woman) stands at her altar where she worships Bastet, an Egyptian fertility and joy goddess. Vishnu, the cat on Zon’s shoulders, always participates in this worship of Bastet.

with everything you hear at the meeting. No one here will tell you what you should think or what to believe. A commonly held belief among the pagans is that what’s right for one person isn’t necessarily right for another.

Nonpagans sometimes wander in because of the flyers used to advertise meetings. MIDGET JELLO WRESTLING and FREE HOT SEX get attention, but not everyone reads the fine print. Upon closer examination, one flyer says, “If you want to see MIDGET JELLO WRESTLING, get cable,” and another says, “The meeting is FREE. We like our chili HOT. We accept people of either SEX.” The pagans are amused by the reactions of people who read only the large print.

The Kent Neo Pagan Coalition was founded in 1994 and is registered with the Office of Campus Life. All are welcome at pagan meetings. Twenty-two people regularly come to meetings, while another 15 attend on occasion.

“This is a religion and a social system where you have to figure it out. No one is going to tell you what to do,” Alyssa Portwood, a senior psychology major, says. She has been attending the meetings for about one year now.

Figuring out paganism may not be easy. No two people really define it in the same way. Just as Christianity has Catholics and Protestants, pagans have Wiccans, shamans, neo-Druids and other such categories. Most people don’t fit into one specific category.

“The best part is you don’t have to be defined by anything specific,” Portwood says. Some pagans may choose to study witchcraft, herbs or tarot cards.

Amy Mundhenken, co-founder and president of the Kent Neo Pagan Coalition chose to study Wicca, although her parents raised her as a Presbyterian.

“Dad lives in a world where there is nothing but money. Life is a series of bills to be paid. My mom is convinced I’m going through a phase,” Mundhenken says. Her mother remembers an earlier phase of heavy metal and big hair and seems to
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FRESHER FLOWERS, HEALTHIER PLANTS, NICER PEOPLE
think Wicca will pass as well, Mundhenk says. Her mother still pays her church dues for her.

**Mundhenk's Wiccan "phase" has lasted for seven or eight years so far.**

Mundhenk and her boyfriend were married in a pagan ceremony in October. A pagan minister presided over a hand-fasting ceremony, held in Brady's Cafe. "It's a binding of the hands, it's a Greek tradition," Mundhenk says. "And we did the jumping over a broom thing. It symbolizes a permanent relationship." Broom jumping was a tradition practiced by black slaves and Irish indentured servants because they were not legally permitted to marry.

Pagan friends recognize Mundhenk and her boyfriend as being married, but a legal ceremony is planned for spring for the benefit of their parents.

"Wicca wasn't something that just happened," Mundhenk says. "I was on a spiritual quest. I couldn't stand all the sexism in Christianity. I started reading about Wiccan stuff because I wanted a spell to make a guy fall in love with me. I never found that [spell], but I kept reading and reading and reading." She met a girl in a college class who was a priestess and told her more about the religion.

"The practices of Wicca make more sense to me than the practices of Christianity," Mundhenk says. "The basic belief of Wicca is that there is a duality of deities. There's a god and a goddess. We are not separable from the earth. We are not separable from nature. Wicca is about directing energy in a positive way." Wicca is also liberal about social issues.

"Nudity is central to some people's beliefs," Mundhenk says. "It works for me. If you really want to raise the right kind of energy, you've got to take your clothes off." She stresses, however, that nudity is not a necessity and it shouldn't deter people who are uncomfortable with it from practicing Wicca.

People often ask if she can make people fall in love or turn people into animals. No on both counts, she says, citing a Wiccan tenet — "Harm none, do what thy will."

But there is a rumor floating around her apartment complex that she turned two children she didn't like into turtles. The two turtles actually came from a shelter, but not everyone is open-minded when it comes to pagans.

"The best thing about the Neo Pagan group is you want to exchange ideas. You get insight into what other people think about religion," Portwood says. But not many outsiders have any insight to paganism.

"A lot of people don't clearly have an idea of what is a pagan," says the Rev. Chuck Graham, a Methodist minister with United Christian Ministries. "Traditionally, for example, when I am talking or lecturing in churches, the question comes up, 'Well, what about the pagans or Satanism?' And they generally lump those groups together."

This lumping together is something the Neo Pagan Coalition has learned to deal with.

"Everyone asks if we worship the devil," Portwood says. "The answer is no. Why would you want to? What good could you get out of it? Nobody as far as I know worships Satan."

It also needs to be taken into account that not all pagans believe in the Devil because not all pagans believe in God. Some pagans are monotheistic, but others are polytheistic or atheistic. In Wicca, it is believed that there is a god and goddess who work together, each in control for half of the year. One could not exist without the other, just as dark could not exist without light. Other pagans may look to the Greek and Roman gods or Norse gods like Thor, the god of thunder.

"There is a real complexity or diversity within that segment of people who call themselves pagans, neopagans and so forth," Graham says. "Those people who I know fairly well want to differentiate themselves from those who would describe themselves as Satanists."

"They also want to be careful that they are not broad brushed with the cult image, and that grows out of a lot of stereotyping by Hollywood. Whenever anything pagan is brought up, the pagan representative within the movie industry is always portrayed as 'primitive.' I think that has a lot to do with people's notions of what it's all about," he says.

Defining paganism for themselves is one reason the Neo Pagan Coalition meets every Tuesday evening. Because religion is something very personal, they almost never agree.

"Most people end up solitary practitioners," Portwood says. "You don't worship together."

For some members this means creating altars in their homes.

"I have an altar to Bastet at my apartment," Mundhenk says. "Bastet is the goddess of fertility and joy. She is also the goddess protector of temple cats." In Egypt, cats were considered sacred.
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Paganism can be seen as a nature-based religion and has its roots in early agricultural societies.

"It predates organized religious behavior. It predated what was going on in Judaism," Graham says. "It goes back to the very beginning of time and the earliest recognition on the part of humankind that there were powers, there were things outside their realm of control that they needed to somehow influence or worship."

Natural phenomena became important in pagan society.

"Some things pagans tend to mark are astrological events, like eclipses and equinoxes," Portwood said. "Ostara (o-STAR-uh) marks the spring equinox and Lunasa (LOO-nah-sah) is the fall equinox. Yule is the celebration of the winter solstice and Litha (leetha) is the summer solstice. Other holidays exist for different segments of the year and for individual gods and goddesses.

Although paganism is not organized, there are some beliefs that are held by most members.

"The primary thing is there aren’t any rules," Portwood says. "Anything you do comes back to you. It’s all a circle."

This is similar to karma and is the reason most Wiccans and witches won’t cast harmful spells. Portwood says that although Christians don’t say they believe in reincarnation, as most pagans do, the theory of good acts getting people into heaven and bad acts getting people into hell is similar because how a person acts now affects what will happen to that person later.

Sometimes Christian and pagan beliefs overlap enough for a person to believe in both. Portwood is not only a member of the Neo Pagan Coalition, but also a Baptist.
“I don’t think my parents would be happy to hear about this,” she says of her pagan beliefs. But her early religious convictions remain strong.

“Shaking off the clothes of my early religion would be difficult. When I think of God, I think of the Judeo-Christian God,” Portwood says. But as she read and learned about paganism, it fit with her views.

“I always had open views about religion. I’ve always believed in the notion of assistance from the gods. I don’t believe there’s only one god,” she says. “I’m a polytheist at heart.

“I don’t find anything particularly wrong with the Christian religion, I just find oversights and needs that aren’t fulfilled. Most people in the group don’t have anything against Christians. I think Jesus was a cool guy who would be outraged by what’s being done in his name.”

Graham says people who are truly Christian will show it through their own actions rather than putting down other religions and trying to force people to convert.

“Part of the problem of what’s going on in Christendom now is we are such a dominant force within society,” Graham says, “that we make brazen, blatant assumptions about what should be and what ought to be, and then we attempt, by all kinds of means, to enforce that upon people. That results in some very ugly behavior.

“Religion, when it gets in the hands of those in power, all too often gets used to club and beat people into submission,” he says. “As Christians, if we believe what we believe and say what we say, why do we need to be so quick to pounce?”
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I grew up in a small town outside Bowling Green, where not a single foreign car graced our streets. When I came to Kent State, I didn't know anyone, nor did I have a clue what I was doing in college. I eventually made a group of close friends on my residence hall floor and in my classes, and that's where I met Marc. (His name and all the others in this story have been changed to protect the victims from future harassment.) Marc and I got along pretty well in the beginning, I helped him with his English papers and other homework.

After a few weeks of Marc hanging out with me and my friends, he started to stop by my room more often. He also began to call me a lot. At first, the phone calls were limited to maybe twice a day, but then they escalated to six or eight times a day. The constant phone calls irritated me, but I have a huge problem saying "no" to people, so I just ignored them.

The phone harassment continued for about another week until I decided to put a block on my phone and requested an unlisted number in the campus phone book. My friends thought I was psycho for putting up with Marc. I was a little scared by his behavior, but because he posed no tangible threat, I figured nothing could be done.

Marc then started to wake up early for my English class in Franklin Hall and walked behind me all the way there. He began to tell his friends that we were in some sort of lovers' quarrel. He would also leave me presents outside my door. The gifts I received became more and more unusual. The scariest one of all was a half-eaten box of chocolates with a note saying that my admirer did not want me to get fat.

I didn't know how to respond to his presents. I didn't even tell my friends what he was doing. Basically, I kept Marc's actions a secret, which was a big mistake. I denied the situation's seriousness by convincing myself that he just wanted attention.

Finally, on a Monday night, Marc trapped me in the laundry room and tried to force me to apologize for leading him on. I didn't apologize, and one of my neighbors screamed at him to leave me alone and slammed the door in his face. Fortunately, he walked away.

Shortly after, Marc woke up the entire floor at 4 a.m. because he was crying outside my room. I finally decided enough was enough, and I called the police to ask for advice. Because I didn't want him to be arrested, I remained anonymous.

The campus police officers who answered my phone call told me to confront Marc and tell him to back off. They also said I could present the case to Judicial Affairs. I talked to my parents and asked them to help me decide what to do. They agreed with the police and suggested I talk to Marc once and for all.

Confronting Marc was the most difficult thing I ever did. I noticed that he immediately became hostile and agitated, but he did back off. The things he subjected me to during the first seven weeks of my college life were unreal and unforgettable.

I am now a sophomore and still find myself worrying about Marc at times. I still see him on campus and wonder what he's up to. I am extremely happy I have friends all around campus to support me. I think my main regret is that I stayed silent so long. The problems of harassment usually don't end by themselves unless the victims speak up.

"The gifts I received became more and more unusual.

"The scariest one of all was a half-eaten box of chocolates with a note saying that my admirer did not want me to get fat."

Many different categories of harassment take place on college campuses, including menacing, menacing by stalking, criminal mischief, criminal damage, disorderly conduct, criminal trespassing and telephone harassment. Most cases of harassment deal with relationships in which one party refuses to accept that the relationship is over, says Alice Ickes, a crime prevention officer with the Kent State police department.

Phillip Haggerty, a licensed social worker in Canton, has studied relationships and agrees with Ickes. "The key to a successful, long-term relationship is the ability to fight well," Haggerty says.

"Conflict is inevitable. How you handle it is what counts."

Ickes says the perpetrator's religion, race, sexual orientation or age does not matter, but certain personality types are more prone to inappropriate behavior. She says a potential stalker displays certain characteristics that students should remember.

"Stalkers may have mental problems, delusions or borderline personality disorders," Ickes says. "They show signs of possessiveness, obsession, greed, jealousy and vindictiveness. The most common trait shared by stalkers is low self-esteem." Stalkers often have relationship anxiety.

They are unable to accept the fact that their significant others want to spend time with other friends or are ready to move on to new relationships.

Another instance of stalking at Kent State involved a student named Kim, who says she was pursued for two weeks by her ex-boyfriend's girlfriend. Kim and Sean had been broken up for two years when Kim started to receive threatening messages from Sean's new girlfriend, Sarah. Sarah started dressing like Kim, got the same haircut and even began harassing Kim's new boyfriend.

"All of a sudden my life turned into [the movie] 'Single White Female,' Kim said.
says. "I hadn't even met Sarah, but she insisted on pursuing me."

Apparently, Sarah was angry with Kim because Sean still had pictures of her all over his apartment. Sarah would call Kim's apartment and leave messages accusing her of being bi-sexual. Finally, Kim talked to Sean, and Sean broke off his relationship with Sarah. Soon after, Sarah moved out of state, and Kim hasn't heard from her since.

The Ohio Criminal Law Handbook defines stalking as a pattern of intentional conduct that causes harm or mental distress. If the victim believes he or she is being stalked, he or she can take legal action that may result in criminal charges and/or Judicial Affairs action. Although harassment by ex-partners is the most common, one quarter of the victims were stalked by casual acquaintances, most of whom were male.

Criminal harassment is largely experienced by women and perpetrated by men, but men can be victims as well. According to the Arlington, Va.-based National Victim Center, 8 percent of male victims have been stalked by strangers, 5 percent by co-workers and 5 percent by family members other than spouses. In most male harassment cases, the harassment ceases when the perpetrators move on to another victim.

Brian was 23 and a junior business major when he experienced a "near harassment" situation. Although this scenario does not fit criminal elements, the perpetrator's behavior resulted in Brian's breaking off the relationship before it became potentially dangerous.

Brian says he was flattered when Devon sent him letters in the mail with paper-heart confetti. He soon asked her out on a date.

"From that first drink at Mooney's Goose, I knew I was in trouble," Brian says. "Devon started out really sweet, and it looked like she actually cared about what I said. But then she started asking me questions about where I grew up, what sizes I wore and who I used to date. It just creeped me out that she wanted to know so much."

Brian says he broke off the relationship but Devon kept sending him mail and calling him on the phone. "I liked the attention, but there was no way I wanted to go out with her again," he says. "But because we have mutual friends, it was difficult to avoid her."

After three weeks of trying to ignore Devon's pursuit, Brian gave in and invited her to dinner. He hoped that she'd sense that he wasn't interested in her and would leave him alone. But Brian says she continued to call about three times a week. She sent him e-mail and left messages at his apartment. This unwanted attention went on for about eight weeks.

Brian admits that he ultimately went out with Devon a total of five times, but he just wanted her to stop "lusting" over him and thought she'd lose interest if he gave in. "I don't know what was wrong with me. Maybe I was desperate," Brian says. "I like attention, but I decided to really tell her how I felt. I called her shallow and told her I could never love her. That was the end of Devon."

According to the 1996-1997 report of National Campus Crime statistics, telephone harassment at Kent State rose to 120 complaints from 112 complaints filed the previous year. Incidents of criminal damage and/or endangering also rose during 1997 to a total of 233 cases, as opposed to 171 cases in 1996.

A majority of harassment cases go undetected and unreported because the victim feels that he or she did something to lead the perpetrator on, or the accused had been an intimate friend whom the accuser does not want to hurt. But harassment is a serious crime, and Ickes urges students to get help if they feel they are in danger.

"When deciding if police should be involved, at least consider calling them for information," Ickes says. "There are plenty of support networks available to students, including the residence hall staff and University Psychological Services. Resident directors and resident assistants are there to help students in such situations."
Rachel Deikun and Elizabeth Pennock, both senior education majors, leave the Kent Student Center after an evening of studying.
Menu

Sunday Brunch
Join us for brunch. We welcome large groups such as church groups, family reunions and wedding and baby showers. Private rooms are available.

Daily Lunch Buffet
Monday - Chef's Choice Chicken
Tuesday - Seasonal
Wednesday - Omelette
Thursday - Seasonal
Friday - Seafood
A la carte menu also available.

Dinner
Join us after work for our table d'hôte menu including tableside appetizers, entrees and desserts. Early bird dining available from 4 P.M. - 6 P.M.

Enjoy our elegant garden setting and tableside cuisine.
Student Center, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio 330/672-2583

Reservations Requested: Sunday Brunch, 10 A.M.-2 P.M.
Lunch, Mon.-Fri.11 A.M.-2 P.M. • Dinner, Tues.-Sat. from 4 P.M.-9 P.M.