

KENTUCKY KERNEL

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Committee proposes changes in SG structure

By Blair Thomas
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Student Government's Operations and Evaluations committee meeting last night was the first step in undergoing several structural changes that have been the topic of meeting discussions since early last semester.

The senate is considering changing the number of senate members, the election procedures and the structure of committees.

"These are big changes," said Senate President Brent Burchett.

"We've been working on these things for a long time and it is important to us to get this worked out and taken care of before this year's elections."

Burchett has been working on an amendment to expand the number of seats in the senate since October.

"The legislation that passed through O&E tonight (Wednesday) isn't exactly what I wanted originally," Burchett said. "I wish the expansion was more significant, I want a lot more senators because I think it would better serve the student body. But this is a compromise and I'll settle for a

compromise."

Burchett's amendment will add a total of ten senators to SG if it passes at the next two full senate meetings.

The new plan would give two senate seats to the College of Arts and Sciences, four seats to the Graduate School and one seat to each remaining college, instead of one senator for each college.

It would also add five senators-at-large to the current 15, would keep four freshman senators, but would omit two seats currently designated to Bluegrass Community and Technical

College, formerly Lexington Community College.

This "compromise" is simpler than Burchett originally recommended.

"We've explored several different options," Burchett said in a previous interview. "We've looked at adding residence hall seats and non-Greek seats but we're looking at simpler options for the beginning."

In addition to senate expansion, students will vote online this spring if the senate passes one of two proposals for new election procedures submitted to O&E last night by College of Law

Sen. Tom Rauf, Sen. Jesse Parrish and Sen. Blake Burnett.

"This is a very complicated issue," said SG President Jonah Brown. "It is something that the senate wants to get done in time for the elections but it is also something that we don't want to rush through. We have to take our time and make sure we are addressing every potential question."

SG held online elections for the first time in the fall for Freshman Elections and despite a low turnout

See SG on page 4

Researchers patent nanotech process

By Jennifer White
news@kykernel.com

A nanotechnology process developed at UK that could lead to new treatments for some cancers and other diseases by improving the delivery of medicine recently received a U.S. patent.

Dr. Russell J. Mumper and Dr. Michael Jay, both of the UK College of Pharmacy, developed the process, known as Nanotemplate Engineering, which was awarded U.S. patent 7153525 on Dec. 26.

Mumper, an associate professor and vice chair for the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Jay, the director of the Center for Pharmaceutical Science and Technology, have been working on the process since 1999.

The new process is a way to mass produce nanoparticles, which are less than 100 nanometers (nm) in diameter, or 100,000 times thinner than a strand of human hair, according to Mumper and Stephen Benoit, CEO of NanoMed Pharmaceuticals, a company founded by Mumper and Jay. These nanoparticles deliver medicine to cells and tissues infected with diseases.

"Traditional methods of delivering drugs — free-floating through the bloodstream — have in some cases led to drug resistance and a loss of drug strength in the bloodstream before medication can reach the cell. It is hoped that these nanoparticles can improve treatment by carrying drugs directly to tissues and entering the walls of infected cells, attacking the disease from the inside."

"Nanotemplate Engineering is a significant advancement in the field of drug delivery technology," Benoit said. The process is significant because the drugs carried by the nanoparticles will be delivered more effectively, Benoit said.

In abbreviated terms, Nanotemplate Engineering is a method of "placing all ingredients into a big vessel, mixing, heating and then cooling to form a solid nanoparticle suspension," Mumper said.

Other methods of creating these particles have been "expensive and time consuming," using high-tech equipment and complex processes, Mumper said.

"I believe that we invented the simplest method to engineer these nanoparticles," Mumper said.

The need to find a "simple," less costly way of producing nanoparticles has been around as long as nanotechnology, Mumper said. Mumper and Jay were trying to create nanoparticles cheaply, efficiently and with materials that would be approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

Their solution was to use a mixture of ingredients that were already FDA approved for use in other drugs. This mixture is melted down, mixed with a surfactant — a wetting agent that allows the mixture to spread easier — and cooled. The process can be

"I believe that we invented the simplest method to engineer these nanoparticles."

Dr. Russell J. Mumper
associate professor
UK College of Pharmacy

THE SCOURGE OF THE SEA



The Scourge of the Sea performs in the Student Center Grand Ballroom last night as the first act for the Beatnik Ball, sponsored by Student Activities Board. The Lexington band opened for the Muckrakers, another group native to Kentucky, during the free concert.

PHOTOS BY BRAD LUTTRELL, STAFF



Robbie Consenza of The Scourge of the Sea sings "Chocolate Chips" while playing lead guitar last night in the Student Center Grand Ballroom. The Scourge of the Sea originated in Lexington two years ago and has since toured throughout the U.S.

A Lexington-born band brought more than just an opening act to campus last night. When The Scourge of the Sea parted from the stage after their high-energy closer, "Chocolate Chips," they left the crowd ready for Kentucky-natives the Muckrakers, the main act in last night's Beatnik Ball. The next installment of the concert series sponsored by Student Activities Board is Feb. 21, featuring The Dialectics.

UK, FedEx partner to open campus design center

By Mollie Riegger
news@kykernel.com

UK announced the grand opening of the Design, Print and Mail Center in the White Hall Classroom Building yesterday at a ribbon cutting ceremony.

FedEx partnered with UK to open the new center.

"FedEx really did a great job working diligently to open this store in just two weeks time," said Ben Crutcher, associate vice president of UK Auxiliary Services. "They've helped provide UK with a partnership which will drastically improve service to departments and eventually to students."

Crutcher said this is only the beginning for the Design, Print and Mail Center. The next project is to open a retail store on campus where there is more visibility aside from the Classroom Building basement.

"We hope by August, when students return for classes, to have an attractive store front, which will be more accessible and visible to the public,"

Crutcher said.

UK Creative Graphics and Design, headed by Jon McGee, moved to be with UK's Bulk Mail Services and FedEx Kinko's.

Also on board in the design department is the nationally recognized artist, Kenn Minter, who will now be in charge of house marketing.

Minter said he would be organizing and overseeing designs that have to do with student housing.

"I look forward to creating and potentially meeting new clients through this partnership for the best of the university," Minter said.

Combining these three services creates a single site for design, printing and mailing services.

"You can walk in with little more than an idea," said Sarah Nkirk, interim director of Auxiliary Services. "The Web Design Center will design a brochure, for example, which can then be handed over to FedEx Kinko's for any copying. Lastly, UK's Bulk Mail Services can make sure each brochure is sent out. It makes everything easy for the customer, which is the main point altogether."

The partnership will also benefit faculty and staff while they are away from campus, such as while on sabbatical or traveling to a conference, by allowing them to use Lexington prices at other FedEx Kinko's and charging the services to the university.

UK is now partnered as one of 1,700 FedEx Kinko's in the nation. Steve Dillingham, managing director of operations for FedEx Kinko's, said the available services will continue to expand.

"Twenty-four-hour turnaround, free pick-up and online ordering are just the beginning of services FedEx promises to the university," he said.

President Lee Todd said he is confident this partnership will help with UK's top-20 reputation.

"To be a top-20 university, we must do things around campus to compete against other rapidly improving universities," he said. "This collaboration of concepts, visuals and print media is an outstanding combination which allows us to remain competitive. We want to bring things to this campus that makes it easier to do our jobs."

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LIVE PATIO MUSIC THE WORLD FAMOUS TWO KEYS UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

To get the advantage, check the day's rating. 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21 - April 19) Today is a 5 — The person who assumes the most responsibility gets to make the most decisions. If you're not quite there yet, keep heading in that direction.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 6 — Follow through on the plans you've had simmering on the back burners of your brain. Just as you knew would happen, they're just about perfect by now.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is an 8 — Follow through on the projects you started yesterday, and before. Don't begin anything new, especially regarding buying, selling

and trading.
Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is an 8 — You're still on the job, although you appear to be relaxing in the audience. You know, although nobody else does, that you're actually pulling the strings.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 9 — Push yourself past a barrier that had you stopped before. You're stronger than you realize, when your adrenaline's pumping.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is a 9 — There's lots of work to do and it must all be done correctly. That said, cheerfully assume that you are the person who can make it happen.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is a 6 — Be patient with a person who's getting agitated. Listen, acknowledge and stay out of the way. Offer your suggestions tomorrow or the next day, not now.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is a 7 — You're discovering valuable information. You know you're

on the right track. Don't waste a minute; you won't have this opportunity forever.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is an 8 — You may feel guilty for having so much, when some others have so little. Don't give away what you have, help the others generate more.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is an 8 — Once you get this project started it'll take off on its own. Push yourself to get things right. You can relax later.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 5 — As you sort through the details swirling around in your head, be confident. You have a natural talent for finding the jewels among the rubble.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is an 8 — Make the commitment, close the deal, join the organization. A group you join now will help you achieve the success you so richly deserve.

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the DISH

EVAN RACHEL WOOD'S BIZARRE LOVE SCANDAL

The 20-year-old actress steps out with Marilyn Manson as his marriage to Dita Von Teese ends

Marilyn Manson could have had a very unhappy 38th birthday. Early January 5, news broke that his wife of one year, burlesque star Dita Von Teese, had filed for divorce on December 29. But when pals joined the shock rocker at a house party in Beverly Hills that night, there were no signs of heartache. In fact, Manson already had another woman by his side: 20-year-old starlet Evan Rachel Wood (most famous for her roles in the film *Thirteen* and the TV series *Once and Again*). "They were like an old married couple," a partygoer tells Us. "She was always right next to him and so attentive." "Evan was really into it," says the source, "like she was possessed by his genius."

A rep for Wood, however, maintains the pair — who met when Manson considered casting the actress to star in his upcoming film, *Phantasmagoria: The Visions of Lewis Carroll* — are merely pals. "Their friendship grew out of Evan's great admiration for Marilyn as an artist," says the rep. Manson's rep confirms the split, but says, "Any accusation that his friendship with Evan Rachel Wood contributed to the relationship's demise is false."

Love on the Rocks

Manson and Von Teese seemed to have a surprisingly conventional marriage since tying the knot in Ireland on December 3, 2005. "We just like to spend time at home with our four cats and two dogs," Von Teese told Us in early September. "I try to be romantic." Manson (real name: Brian Warner) told Us in May. So what caused the "irreconcilable differences" the MAC Viva Glam spokeswoman cited in her filing (which does not ask for spousal support)? One source close to the couple says Manson was jealous of his wife's burgeoning career. Another major fac-

tor, this source says, was his increasing use of drugs and alcohol, and violent temper (though never directed toward Von Teese). "There was lots of throwing things and broken windows," says the source. "Dita thought she could fix the problems, but couldn't."

The Other Woman

Meanwhile, the rocker found a trusted companion in Wood. According to the Manson source, he was with the actress in L.A. on September 28 — his wife's birthday (Von Teese was in Milan, Italy). On October 10, he hit the L.A. premiere of Wood's film *Running With Scissors*. Though they avoided each other on the red carpet, when the lights went down inside the theater, Manson swapped his seat for one closer to her. And on Halloween, Wood, dressed as a vampire, attended the opening of Manson's Celebrity Art Corporation Gallery of Fine Art in Hollywood, displaying a portrait of her Manson had painted. "I was beyond flattered," she told Rolling Stone.

Despite her husband being linked to another woman, Von Teese isn't bitter. "Dita still loves him," says a pal. "Leaving was the hardest thing she ever had to do."

—JOEY BARTOLOMEO & IAN DREW

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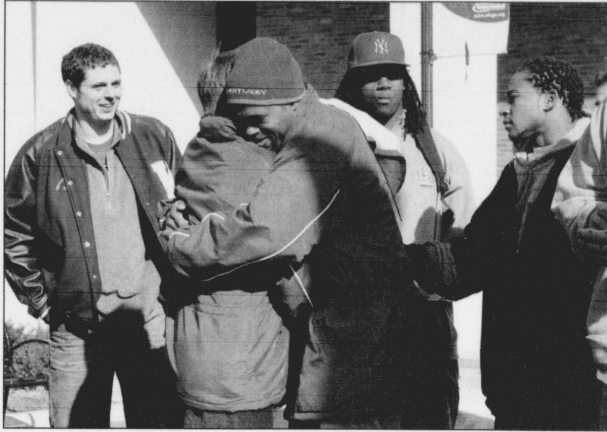
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AWARDING THE VICTORS



ELLIOTT HESS | STAFF

Sophomore free safety Marcus McClinton hugs UK president Lee Todd yesterday outside Patterson Office Tower after Todd offered him a handshake to congratulate him and the rest of the UK football team for defeating Clemson in the Music City Bowl. During the ceremony, Todd and Student Government president Jonah Brown presented the team with a plaque to commemorate the win.

Man who killed with sword gets maximum

By Alfonso A. Castillo
NEWSDAY

RIVERHEAD, N.Y. — Zachary Gibian's scandalous tale of being sexually abused by his stepfather and taking the rap for his murderous mother was "nothing more ... than a desperate attempt to avoid conviction," a judge told him Wednesday as he sentenced Gibian to the maximum for nearly beheading Scott Nager with a samurai sword.

Not only did State Supreme Court Justice Robert W. Doyle dismiss Gibian's testimony that his mother, Laura Nager, committed the murder after witnessing her husband molesting him, but so has Laura Nager herself. Suffolk

County Assistant District Attorney John Scott Prudent said Wednesday that the woman recently denied ever witnessing any sexual abuse in her home. Doyle sentenced Gibian to 25 years to life.

"Scott Nager was dealt a great injustice — to be murdered in his home and then to have his reputation destroyed," Nager's sister, Ann Leonardi of Southampton, said as she stood before a crowded Riverhead courtroom.

"He killed his only true parent," Leonardi said, as Gibian looked away.

After a week of deliberations, a jury last month convicted Gibian, 20, of second-degree murder in the gruesome February 2005 slaying. Prosecutors

said Gibian was feuding with Nager over disciplinary issues when he crept up behind his sleeping stepfather and swung a razor-sharp samurai sword through his neck.

Gibian confessed to police hours after the killing and led them to the murder weapon. But he testified during his six-week trial that his mother killed Nager after she walked in the previous night on his stepfather sexually abusing him.

Gibian declined to speak in court, but his attorney, William Keahon, stuck by his story and said he would appeal.

"Unfortunately, we have an innocent young man about to get 25 years to life. That's my only statement," Keahon told

Doyle before he imposed his sentence.

Doyle said the evidence that Gibian "virtually decapitated" Nager was overwhelming, and noted that the defendant's own mother disputed his version of events in a recent probation department interview.

Although Leonardi described her brother as a heroic cop, dedicated husband and loving stepfather, Gibian's biological father, Gary Gibian of Illinois, called it "a bunch of lies."

"Scott was not a good man!" Gibian exclaimed as he stormed out of the court, beads of sweat forming on his brow. "My son is innocent."

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SG

Continued from page 1

the senate is looking to make online elections permanent.

"We already have online elections established in our constitution," Burchett said. "We are now working out the rules and procedures for going through with them. Full SG elections are much bigger than Freshman Elections and we need to have established written policy."

Other election procedure policies discussed included penalties for election violations.

Along with election-related constitutional changes, College of Engineering Sen. Josh Odoi submitted a proposal to restructure the standing committees at last night's meeting.

"This plan is to strike all of the joint committees from the constitution because they aren't currently doing anything to serve the senate," Odoi said. "We need to

give the senate its own committees that work well for everything we need to get done like the issues that we are facing right now."

Currently SG has committees for Appropriations and Revenue, Operations and Evaluations, Committees on Committees and several joint committees.

"O&E, A&R and Committees on Committees will be replaced with a committee that has a different name but serves the same purpose," Odoi said. "But this proposal creates four new committees that have specifically outlined responsibilities."

The new committees include an Academic Affairs Committee, a Student Life Affairs Committee, an External Government Relations Committee and a Graduate and Professional Student Affairs Committee.

"With this plan more specific responsibilities are addressed," said Graduate School Sen. Todd Birus. "The graduate school not only could potentially have the most seats out of any individual college but it will have its own committee to address their concerns."

PATENT

Continued from page 1

thought of like melting butter and leaving it to re-solidify as it cools to room temperature," Mumper said.

This process can yield trillions of nanoparticles; in one milliliter there are 100 trillion nanoparticles, and Mumper and Jay have reproduced this process up to a 10-liter batch, which is a "huge number," Mumper said.

Mumper said he believes making these nanoparticles, a process that took "12-18 months to demonstrate in the lab," can't get much easier.

Currently, NanoMed is working on a new treatment for acute myeloid leukemia that uses the new process, Benoit said.

They hope to have the drug approved by the FDA and in use within the next five years.

ALCOHOL RESEARCH STUDIES AT UK

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Detainee's letters give peek at life at Guantanamo

By Eric Rich
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — Majid Khan, a terrorism suspect secretly detained for years by the CIA and now held in the military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, told his Pakistani wife in a letter that she should not dwell on the thought of his return because "if I come back, it will be a miracle of God."

The handwritten letter and three others to his family in suburban Baltimore are the first substantial communication from any of the 14 "high-value" detainees to become public since the captives were transferred in September from what were called CIA "black" sites to the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo.

Khan's letters, redacted in places by military censors, reveal that he has embraced religion in ways that he had not as a high school student in Owings Mills, Md., according to family members and teachers. Khan commanded his wife, Rabia Yaqoob, to study the Koran "with all the footnotes and the explanations" and thanked her for "giving me a daughter in the midst of your sadness."

"Our life is not less than a story from the movies," he wrote. "If you add a few songs to it, it would make a very good film."

The government has denied Khan, 26, and the other high-value detainees access to lawyers, asserting in court that the "alternative interrogation methods" to which Khan was subjected are among the nation's most sensitive national security secrets. As a result, little is known about the arrests, detentions or interrogations of those captives.

U.S. officials say Khan, a Pakistani national, took orders from Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the man accused of orchestrating the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, and who is also a high-value detainee at Guantanamo. Khan was allegedly asked to research the poisoning of U.S. reservoirs and the blowing up of U.S. gas stations, and was considered for an operation to assassinate the Pakistani president.

The letters Khan wrote to his wife and family were delivered through the International Committee of the Red Cross, whose representatives are permitted to visit the detainees on the condition that the agency does not publicly disclose information gathered during the meetings.

Khan's letter to his wife, written in Urdu, was introduced in court in Pakistan and has been published on an Urdu-language Web site operated by the BBC. Yaqoob's attorney, Nisar Mujahid, said the letter, by revealing Khan's desperation, supports his contention that the government of Pakistan should use diplomatic pressure to help protect Khan's rights.

Khan's oldest brother, Mahmood Khan, said Wednesday that he was releasing the letters to draw attention to the case. Mahmood Khan said that, for several days after the letters arrived last month, he could not bring himself to read them.

"The more you read about how much he loves us, the things going through his mind, what he's been through — what am I going to say to him?" asked Mahmood Khan, speaking at the family's home.

The letters in English are rife with spelling and grammatical errors. Khan wrote that he is held in solitary confinement, that he is allowed to leave his cell "to get sunburn" for one hour each day, and that he can sometimes talk with other inmates through cell walls. Beyond those particulars, the details of his confinement are few.

"In this letter I am going to mention some of the things I have been through," he wrote on Oct. 20. The next 19 lines of text are blacked out. After the redaction comes Khan's complaint that he did not have his glasses during his first two years of detention and that the military prison lacks basketball courts and other comforts common in U.S. prisons.

"But in some way this place is still better and in some way other were better," he wrote.

Gitanjali Gutierrez, a lawyer who has been seeking access to Khan, said the redactions, although expected, raised questions.

"So many of the interrogation techniques are already known," said Gutierrez, a lawyer with the Center for Constitutional Rights, which represents many detainees at Guantanamo.

Majid Khan was detained while he was staying with a brother in Pakistan in March 2003, according to his family and court filings by his attorneys. They said men who were not in uniform burst into the brother's apartment in Karachi late one night and put hoods over the faces of those inside. Majid, his brother Mohammad and his brother's wife, the couple's one-month-old son was also taken into custody.

Although the others were released without charges over the course of three months, Majid Khan's whereabouts were not officially disclosed until September, when President Bush named him as one of the 14 high-value detainees.

Mahmood Khan said his brother, a 1999 graduate of Owings Mills High School, dreamed of being a deejay or a rap musician, even for a time a U.S. Marine, but not a terrorist.

Khan was most recognizable as that young man in the earliest of the notes. He thanked his family for the letters they had sent, bragged that he could do 100 push-ups in 80 seconds, and asked for news of deaths and marriages. "And I don't need to tell you how much I love and miss you guys," he wrote.

Khan was more serious in the second letter. He wrote that he had grown a beard and had studied Islam deeply since his capture, that he now wrote poetry and could read the Koran without translation.

He asked his father for forgiveness and wrote that he had sinned, a reference, according to Mahmood Khan, not to criminal activity but to the pursuit of material indulgences.

"Things never stay the same, and life goes on, so please don't worry about me," he wrote. "Remember it's my sins who brought me here. When my sins are forgiven then I'll get freedom, so it's between me and Allah."

Senators introduce resolution opposing Bush plan

By Noam N. Levy
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON — Setting up a showdown with the White House that could come next week, several anti-war senators, including one Republican, introduced a resolution Wednesday opposing President Bush's plan to send more troops to Iraq.

The bipartisan resolution drafted by Sens. Joseph Biden, D-Del., Chuck Hagel, R-Neb., and Carl Levin, D-Mich., would not place any legal limits on what the president can do in Iraq.

But it marks the leading edge of a rapidly expanding legislative front that will confront Bush as he tries to chart a new Iraq policy.

Wednesday, Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., and Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., also touted separate plans to halt the deployment of more troops to Iraq. And later in the day, a second GOP senator joined Hagel to support the resolution.

On the other side of the Capitol, liberal Democrats in the

House unveiled an even more sweeping plan for withdrawing all U.S. troops from Iraq over the next six months.

"The November elections showed just how fed up the American public is with the president's failed Iraq policy," Rep. Lynn Woolsey, said while unveiling her measure, co-sponsored by Reps. Maxine Waters, and Barbara Lee. They are all California Democrats. "It is now up to the Congress to catch up with the will of the American public."

Presidential spokesman Tony Snow said congressional resolutions would not deter Bush. "The president has obligations as commander-in-chief and he will go ahead and execute them," Snow said.

Senate leaders have shown little interest in pushing as far as the more aggressive anti-war lawmakers in the House, who want to mandate a phased withdrawal in law. But, stern and defiant, the three authors of the Senate resolution cast it as an important first step in building bipartisan congressional support for challenging the White

House. "I cannot believe the president of the United States will not pay attention," Biden said.

The carefully worded five-page resolution restates in 18 detailed "whereas" clauses the critiques made by war critics in Congress and elsewhere about rising U.S. casualties, strains on the military and failures of the Iraq government.

"It is not in the national interest of the United States to deepen its military involvement in Iraq, particularly by escalating the United States military force presence in Iraq," the resolution reads in the first of six conclusions.

It also calls for American forces to shift their mission to protecting Iraq's borders, training Iraqi forces and conducting counterterrorism activities.

It also concludes by calling for the United States to "transfer, under an appropriately expedited timeline, responsibility for internal security and halting sectarian violence in Iraq to the government of Iraq and Iraqi security forces."

At the news conference,

Biden said, "When the president goes way off course... the single and most effective way to get him to change course is to demonstrate that his policy has waning or no support from both parties."

Since announcing his plans last week, the president has insisted in several television interviews that he would not be stopped by congressional opposition.

But over the last 10 days, the White House has been working to persuade GOP lawmakers to stick with the president and on Wednesday morning invited a group of senators to meet with National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley, a leading architect of the president's plan.

Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, normally a loyal Bush ally, said White House officials expressed "frustration" that their message wasn't getting out. "To some extent, people have tuned the president out," he said.

Sen. Norm Coleman, R-Minn., who has spoken out against the Bush plan, said Hadley mainly listened to the lawmakers, many of whom have

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MONT
NAVE
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poetry
slam
in the cats den
Thursday, Jan 18
7:07 pm
Free t-shirts
Will be involved

Thursday
January 18,
2005
Page 5

FEATURES

Meghan Cain
Asst. Features Editor
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E-mail: mcain@kykernel.com

'Bunny Ears' exhibit links life, death

By Ellie Fairbanks
efairbanks@kykernel.com

The stages of Jesus Christ's death don't often elicit visions of cotton-candy colored bunnies, and images of plush rabbits usually aren't meant to coincide with the grim reaper.

But two regional artists are changing these views. Elizabeth Mesa-Gaido and Jennifer Reis, two professors from Morehead State University, have compiled their very different works to showcase the overlap of life and death, and humor and sincerity. "Cotton Candy Bunny Ears Meets Mr. Death" opens Friday at 5 p.m. in UK's Tuska Center for Contemporary Arts and runs through Feb. 2. Anna Brzyski, the director of TCCA, thinks the artists have molded their work together to make an important statement.

"It's obvious that one of the works is more playful and the other is definitely referencing religious beliefs," Brzyski said. "It's not a coincidence that these works have been put together."

Mesa-Gaido's part of the show is "Cotton Candy Bunny Ears," which she says is meant to be a "playful work."

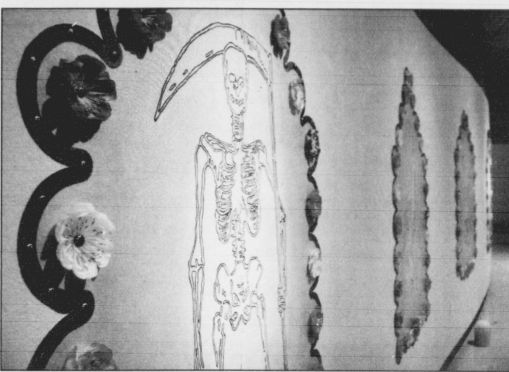
"The interpretation of the work is not meant to be specific or confined," Mesa-Gaido said in a statement.

Brzyski agrees that Mesa-Gaido's work, a series of pink and green elements suspended in mid-air from a series of wires, is meant to be entertaining.

"These pieces are extremely interesting," Brzyski said. "It's meant to evoke strong feelings and stimulate visual elements."

Reis' work, "Stations of the Cross," portrays Catholic images depicting stages of Jesus' death. Reis' art is set up so that observers walk the gallery much like Catholics ritually walk the Stations of the Cross during the season of Lent. While the 14 stages preceding Jesus' death are already established within the Catholic faith, Reis decided to arrange the stations in her own way.

"(The paintings) are meant to transform the gallery into one environment," Reis said in a statement. "'Stations of the Cross' is meant to be read as a



PHOTOS BY KASHA STEVENSON | STAFF
"Stations of the Cross" is Morehead State University Professor Jennifer Reis' contribution to the exhibit. Reis intends for the images to narrate the stages of Jesus Christ's death.

narrative told through images. However, I did not have a set concept of the narrative's sequence, preferring to allow the story to develop organically."

While walking the Stations of the Cross is a religious ritual, Brzyski said this exhibit is toying with what a ritual really is.

"It's not just about the ritualistic aspect," Brzyski said. "Both reference love and romantic love. Both reference the gender politics of material images. Both involve iconic images that reference popular culture."

Because "Cotton Candy Bunny Ears Meets Mr. Death" is "installed" at TCCA, viewers can walk among the works.

If you go

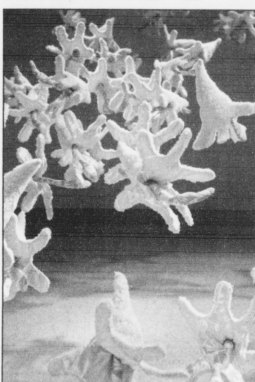
What: "Cotton Candy Bunny Ears Meets Mr. Death" exhibit opening
When: Friday, 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Where: Tuska Center for Contemporary Art
Tickets: Free and open to the public

Brzyski said. "Cotton Candy Bunny Ears" hangs from the ceilings and "Stations of the Cross" is put on the walls with no frames, transforming the gallery into one work, the artists said.

Though the artists and the director have their own ideas

about how observers will perceive the works, they hope that each person takes something personal from the exhibit.

"We wanted to create something that was suggestive to what's going on but doesn't give away the whole story," Brzyski said.



"Cotton Candy Bunny Ears Meets Mr. Death" opens Friday at the Tuska Center for Contemporary Art, and runs through Feb. 2.

Film series aims to entertain on weekends

By Ellie Fairbanks
efairbanks@kykernel.com

A single movie ticket in Lexington can cost upwards of \$8 — not a fortune, but enough to cut into a college student's wallet.

The Student Center Film Series, which will soon expand to show movies three nights each week, is providing free entertainment to students for just this reason.

"We wanted to start something on campus that is late and free so that students don't have to go out and drink and spend money," said Calvin Harmin, a geography junior and one of the film series' organizers.

Harmin, along with Andrew Crawford and Sean Cooper, has been working on the series throughout the year. The organizers collaborate to pick movies, promote the event and

work with other student organizations.

"We all just get together and discuss how to advertise and what movies to show," Harmin said. "We try to show movies that at least one of us has seen and we know are good. We want them to be a little off of the mainstream."

This weekend's movies are "Clerks" and "High Fidelity." Harmin and Crawford think these movies are important and well known enough to attract students.

"We're showing high-quality movies," said Crawford, an English senior. "These films are culturally independent from the movies you'd typically see in the theaters. This is something that you can't get anywhere at UK."

The Student Center Film Series was created in 2005 when the Student Center had extra

money to spend on entertainment, Harmin said. The Student Activities Board has its own film series, Cheap Seat Tuesdays, but the Student Center Film Series is independent of SAB.

"We're thinking about getting together with SAB to do some promotions, but right now we aren't joined with them," Harmin said.

In January, movies will be shown on Thursday and Friday nights for free in the Center Theater and Worsham Theater, respectively. In February, the series will expand to show movies on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

"Pretty soon, there will be movies shown on campus four nights a week between our series and Cheap Seat Tuesdays," Harmin said. "This is great for the school and students."

out the week will usually share a common theme, Harmin said. For example, the movies beginning on Valentine's Day will be romantic movies.

"We try to relate what we show to what's going on," Harmin said. "This helps students because if you don't make it to the movie one night, you can see a similar movie another night."

Harmin thinks that the Student Center Film Series is an opportunity for students to see movies with the true "movie theater" experience.

"Watching DVDs just isn't the same as going to the theater," Harmin said. "There aren't many places to see good movies in theaters, and we're trying to provide that for students. It's really just a neat experience to see these films in theater again, but this time for free."

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Sounds like — Blur, Supergrass
Cari Clara w/ The Melismatics and The Comfies
9 P.M., SOUTHGATE HOUSE, NEWPORT. TICKETS COST \$5.
Sounds like — The New Pornographers, Spoon
O.A.R.
7:30 P.M., U.S. BANK ARENA, CINCINNATI. TICKETS COST \$28.50.
FRIDAY, Jan. 19
Traditional Country Benefit to Keep the Heat On
9 P.M., THE DAME. TICKETS COST \$5.

Get \$1 OFF ADMISSION IF YOU DONATE A CD.
De Novo Dahl w/ The Newbees and David Wolfenberger
8:30 P.M., SOUTHGATE HOUSE, NEWPORT. TICKETS COST \$5.
Sounds like — Pulp, Supergrass
SATURDAY, Jan. 20
Corey Smith w/ The Chris Campbell Band
7 P.M., THE DAME. TICKETS COST \$10.
Sounds like — Matt Wertz, John Mayer
Hotpips CD Release Show w/ The Features and Turnbull Acs
7 P.M., RUFF ARENA. TICKETS COST \$28.50-\$38.50.

9:30 P.M., SOUTHGATE HOUSE, NEWPORT. TICKETS COST \$6.
Sounds like — The Hives, Kings of Leon
The Red Hot Chili Peppers
7:30 P.M., U.S. BANK ARENA, CINCINNATI. TICKETS COST \$59.50.
MONDAY, Jan. 22
Hackensaw Boys w/ Kenton County Regulators
9 P.M., SOUTHGATE HOUSE, NEWPORT. TICKETS COST \$10.
Sounds like — Old Crow Medicine Show, The Flaming Lips
The Cheetha Girls
7 P.M., RUFF ARENA. TICKETS COST \$28.50-\$38.50.

Sounds like — 3LW, S Club 7
TUESDAY, Jan. 23
The Fanged Robot w/ Bed-time
9 P.M., THE DAME. TICKETS COST \$3.
Sounds like — The Black Keys, The Kinks
WEDNESDAY, Jan. 24
Paleo w/ Neva Geoffrey and Noisy crane
9 P.M., THE DAME. TICKETS COST \$3.
Sounds like — The Microphones, Hope Sandoval

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The Opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas. Unlike news stories, the Kernel's unsigned editorials represent the views of a majority of the editorial board. Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the Opinions page reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of The Kernel.

Lawmakers should let UK manage its own affairs

UK employees with domestic partners — same-sex couples and unmarried opposite-sex couples — are one step closer to having the option of insuring their partners, thanks to a unanimous recommendation from a UK committee over the weekend.

According to a Kernel article, the plan, which, if approved, could be implemented as early as July 1, would affect 204 opposite-sex couples and 68 same-sex couples. It would cost the university an estimated

\$633,000 annually, \$253,000 of which would come from UK's undesignated general funds, which are partially funded by tuition. The committee's recommendation represents an important step

in what would amount to UK offering equal benefits to university employees, regardless of sexual orientation or marital status.

Committee chairwoman Susan Carvalho correctly pointed out that university "policy on non-discrimination cites both marital status and sexual orientation as categories where discrimination should not occur."

The committee, which was commissioned by UK President Lee Todd after the release of the Work-Life Survey last September, was charged with determining the feasibility of providing domestic partner benefits.

"Once we looked at the numbers we were pleased that instituting domestic partner benefits was feasible in budgetary terms," Carvalho told the Kernel.

The University of Louisville began offering domestic partner benefits on Jan. 1 of this year, and smaller liberal arts colleges such as Berea and Centre also offer the benefits.

So in order to remain competitive not only with other large state universi-

KERNEL EDITORIAL

ties, but also with smaller colleges, it would be wise for UK to offer domestic partner benefits. Students should be able to count on their school to effectively recruit quality faculty to Lexington, and retain them for the long term as well.

The recommendation will now go to the Board of Trustees' Human Resources Committee. But even if the Board eventually approves of the benefits, UK might

face an uphill struggle to implement the plans.

Rep. Stan Lee, R-Lexington, pre-filed a bill for the 2007 legislative session that would bar public universities and colleges from providing domestic partner benefits.

The state legislature mandated that UK become a top-20 institution. So legislators should do as little as possible to stand in the way of the university recruiting and retaining quality faculty.

Lee told the Kernel that UK should focus on adding benefits for part-time employees rather than creating new beneficiaries for current programs. He also claims that the plan "absolutely undermines marriage."

"If you continue to take away every advantage to being married, the logical result is fewer people will be married," Lee said in a Kernel article.

Lee's heavy-handed, narrow mindset will only be a roadblock for UK in attracting top faculty in order to become a top-20 institution.

It should not be the job of the state legislature to micro-manage the affairs of every public university in the state. That's why Boards of Trustees exist, and whatever decision the Board makes should be the final decision for the university.

To provide equity among its employees and to recruit and retain quality professors, UK should offer domestic partner benefits for all employees as soon as feasible possible.

Dining did right thing by listening to students

UK students will soon see their ethnic cuisine prepared in front of them when renovations to Blazer Cafe are completed in August.

When Dining Services surveyed students two years ago, the students responded overwhelmingly. They wanted higher quality, fresh food.

Director of Dining Services, Jeff DeMoss, said that UK's food has always been fresh, but by bringing the production process out of the kitchen students will get to see just how fresh the food is.

We applaud Dining Services for not only enlisting the opinions of students, but then taking steps to implement their

KERNEL EDITORIAL

suggestions.

"We're moving the kitchen to the front of the house," DeMoss said. "The goal is to improve the ambiance along with the perception of quality."

The new Blazer Cafe will include a salad and sandwich bar, an international food and pizza station and a new grill area. Students will have an array of healthy choices.

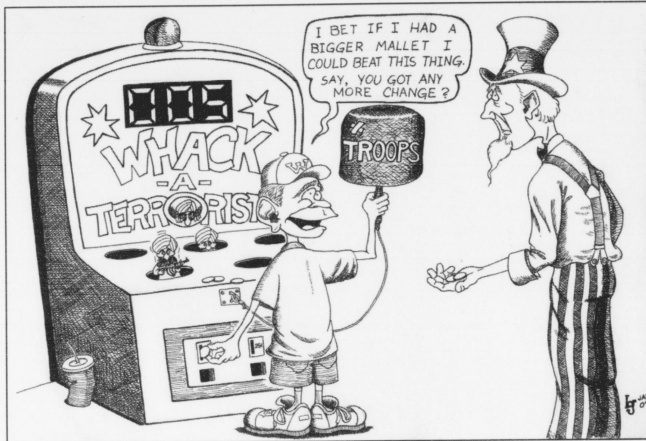
Students can also look forward to Subway in K-Lair next year and renovations to Commons market in the next two

years. The \$1.5 million Commons Market renovations could include a coffee bar and updated food stations.

Board of Trustees Staff Representative Russ Williams told the Kernel last week that he believes the new dining facilities sends a good message to students. We agree.

If students who live on campus are forced to pay between \$1,000 and \$2,000 each semester for meals, they should at least have a say in the food they eat.

Other services and programs on campus should take Dining Service's lead and continue to seek student input.



BRIAN GOODLEY, Kernel cartoonist

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bookstores' treat college students unfairly

I read Megan Vazmina's Jan. 12 column ("Rest easy, bookstores are not out to get you — no really!") about the high price of books sold at the campus bookstores. I thought it was a valiant but shameless attempt by the author to defend her employer, and simply that.

We all know that books are expensive in this country, irrespective of whether we buy it from a local bookstore or from the Internet. The reason students complain of being "raped by the bookstores" is not just the price they charge for the books; it is the unfair and exploitative manner in which these stores treat the students.

Why else would they charge someone \$60 for a book at the beginning of the semester, pay not even half that when the student sells the book back without any damage at the end of the semester and sell the same book to a new student next semester for \$58?

Making a profit by selling books is business; ripping off customers while selling books is monkey business. I hope more students start using services like ukbookexchange.com to get a better deal and save money.

Nirmal Ravi

biomedical engineering graduate student

Students should use avenues to make books cheaper

Megan Vazmina column is correct about many things — but I would emphasize two things:

There are clear solutions — publishers should first stop ripping students off by putting out unnecessary new editions and forcing students to buy bells and whistles like workbooks and CDs instead of allowing them to buy them "a la carte."

While we wait for them to do that, many students across the country are working to pass state laws requiring publishers to disclose all of the costs associated with their textbooks so professors can make informed decisions.

On campus, students can work with faculty to put out book lists earlier and work with administrators to bargain with publishers.

Students can find more information at www.maketextbookaffordable.org

Abbe Scarr

Project Director, Student Empowerment Training Project

Weekend free time is good; but weekday chaos OK too

A welcome back assignment. What I did over my winter break: I learned free time is a bitch.

Some people thrive on sitting on the couch, blanketed in Oreos crumbs, watching specials on Mt. Everest and old 80s teen movies with a baby-faced John Cusack.

I thought I was one of those people. And judging by my reflection in the bathroom mirror, I made an incredibly convincing argument for at least a week.

But then something changed. I realized I was wasting the first continued load of free time I had seen

in months. I got tired of being a lazy pig. And then something worse happened. I started looking forward to my return to Lexington. Not just for my friends — I love those

people.

I started looking forward to having classes and work fill up my days and nights.

Then I realized what kind of person I really am. Practically the sworn enemy of my former couch-dependent identity. Somebody that former person would get up and smack in the mouth if reruns of M*A*S*H weren't on.

I'm a person who thrives on chaos. And not even the organized kind. Somebody who somehow needs manic nights of coffee and deadlines, complete dedication to the weekend calendar and an unhealthy sleep schedule. The kind of life led by most any college student, I suppose.

Except somehow I enjoy it. Maybe I'm a masochist; I hear everyone is a little bit.

But a little pain never hurt anyone, and in fact, it's probably valuable. I certainly wouldn't realize how lucky I am to find time with my friends on the weekend after work days of self-isolation without a busy life.

And a hectic schedule forces me to use the

free time I have the way I should, the way I plan to, but rarely do over breaks with the comfort of my parents' cooking.

Necessity is the mother of invention, right? It's the same for free time and personal sanity. The more I need it, the better I use it.

Of course there are other factors to consider like the health risks and steady mental breakdown that come with a lifestyle of exhaustion.

But that's something that comes with the territory, like McDonald's and heart attacks. However, there is another possibility to consider. Even though I use free time more effectively during school, the lack of it means I could get even less done than I did squandering away the break.

Is it an illusion that I'm actually living up to the goals I set myself for free time? Am I really just cracking up with glazed eyes and a posed smile on my face?

Screw it. I can deal with illusions. I like myself better that way. And I look better in the

mirror.

Actually, it's likely I'm putting too many divisions in my mindset. I'm probably just a greasy couch dweller trapped in anxious student's body.

I adapt to my surroundings, like a curly-headed chameleon so to speak, blending in with the work load, needing a boot in my ass of 15 hours and a near-full-time job to push me along into action and take what little me-time I stumble upon.

Yeah, school and a job serve dual purposes, and even force me to see and value the things I love doing.

I guess, sometimes, it's worth the headaches, the showers there were no time for and the inquiries of friends asking where I disappear to during the week.

With that said, how close is Friday?

Sean Rose is a journalism junior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Note to Readers

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Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Wes Bleivins. Please limit letters to 350 words or fewer. Be sure to include your full name, class and major with all submissions.

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

Cartoonists Needed

The Kernel is looking for new cartoonists to draw for the Opinions page on a regular basis. Cartoonists of all interests will be considered, but The Kernel especially seeks those who have an interest in local issues.

Contact Wes Bleivins at opinions@kykernel.com

SPORTS

Chris Miles
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Hoops seeks season-defining win against LSU

Matthew George
mgeorge@kykernel.com

The last four games must have left some wear and tear on the UK Hoops team's fingernails.

The Cats opened Southeastern Conference play by edging out South Carolina at home before traveling to No. 7 Ohio State in a hard-fought game that saw UK fall short 53-51.

Last week against Alabama, junior guard Samantha Mahoney hit a jump-shot with only 1.8 seconds left to capture the Cats' first conference road win over Alabama 63-62. But on Sunday, UK returned home to a 67-65 overtime loss against Ole Miss.

It would seem that the 2-2 streak over the last two weeks would leave the Cats reeling, but, as head coach Mickie DeMoss said at her weekly press conference yesterday, it hasn't gotten to the team.

"We just try to take it one game at a time," DeMoss said. "You just have to keep rejuvenating yourself mentally and physically, learn from those games and put it behind you and get ready to play your next game. To be successful in this conference you have to have mental toughness, and it is times like these that develop that."

DeMoss said that the current 2-2 streak has helped the team to deal with the emotional highs and lows and get refocused.

UK is still looking for a signature win that will validate the team's pre-season No. 16 ranking.

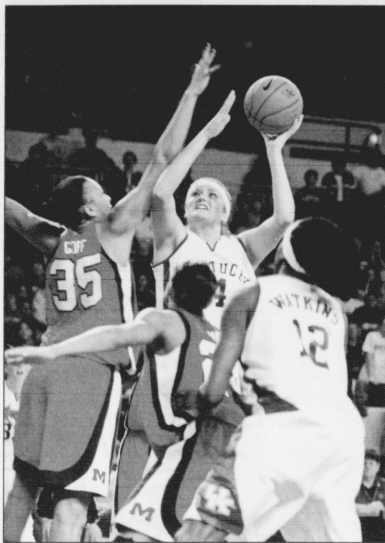
Losses to No. 19 Louisville and No. 7 Ohio State leave the Cats 0-2 against teams ranked in the top 25 this season.

"We have played some very good teams very close," DeMoss said. "But it is just getting over that hump and being able to close those games against those good teams. We still have a lot of games to play so we will have more opportunities to do that. But our players are still hungry and are still focused."

Tonight the Cats have another shot against the top 25, as they travel to Baton Rouge, La., to play the 8th-ranked LSU Tigers.

Last season the Tigers routed the Cats 79-52 in the semifinals of the SEC tournament.

"I remember their defense was so tough," DeMoss said about last year's game. "We really struggled to get good looks at the



Junior center Sarah Elliott goes up for a shot in the Cats 67-65 overtime loss to Ole Miss on Sunday. UK has gone 2-2 in the last two weeks and hopes for a season-defining win against No. 8 LSU tonight.

KASHA STEVENSON STAFF

basket." It won't be any easier this season. The Tigers boast the nation's top ranked defense and are holding opponents to an average of just 45.8 points per game.

"We have to just get the ball in the hands of our best scorers and let them go to work," DeMoss said.

She also said that the Cats must find a way to contain LSU's Sylvia Fowles, who DeMoss described as the "best inside player in the country." Fowles is averaging 17.6 and 11 rebounds a game for the Tigers.

Junior center Sarah Elliott, who matched up against her last season, described Fowles in one word.

"Physical," Elliott said. "She's very aggressive and physical. We are going to do our best to contain her, and if our post can contain we are doing our job."

Elliott noted the importance of tonight's game and said that it had crossed her mind that if the Cats can't pick up a signature win, they may not make the NCAA Tournament this year.

"We're probably frustrated right now," Elliott said. "We know we can do a lot better than what we're showing, and why it is coming into effect in some games and not others, we are trying to fix that."

"To beat LSU would definitely be a feel-good win," she said.

Cats not where they should be as a team

The UK women's basketball team thought they had arrived, but they hadn't. And now they have to prove they still can.

After last season's breakthrough performance — what with the win over No. 1 Tennessee, a buy in the Southeastern Conference Tournament, and a No. 5 seed and second round appearance in the Big Dance —

AND with almost everybody returning, the Cats thought they were already where they needed to be. And it bit them, with early season losses to unranked Indiana and unranked Delaware.

"We were still kind of coming off the buzz of last year," junior center Sarah Elliott said. "We were thinking 'OK, we're all back.' Then ... it hit us like 'OK, now we have to do something more.'"

And in the past few weeks, they have. In a challenging four game stretch — three conference games and a trip to No. 7 Ohio State — the Cats went 2-2. Each game was decided by four points or less.

But because of the slow start to the season, the Cats — now 13-5 and not sniffing a

national ranking — have 11 regular season games to prove they're worthy of a berth in the NCAA Tournament. To do that, they've got to — like last season — win a few games they shouldn't, as well as beat everyone they should.

"We've played some very good teams very close," said head coach Mickie DeMoss. "It's just getting over the hump and closing out games against those teams. I'm sure we'll have more close games, and closing out those games is something we have to focus on."

One of those games the Cats shouldn't win will be played tonight in Baton Rouge, La. UK hasn't won at LSU since 1995, and the Tigers are one of the nation's elite programs.

If the Cats are going to win tonight — and, realistically, they probably aren't — the game must be low scoring. In fact, that will be the story for the rest of the season. UK isn't going to top 70 points often in conference play. The SEC is too solid, and the Cats are far too limited offensively.

"We've got what we've got," DeMoss said.

With Eleia Roddy's injury, and the propensity Elliott and fellow post player Jennifer Humphrey have to get into foul trouble, the Cats know they're not going to simply outscore people. That's why their play at the defensive end will be vital down

the stretch in conference play.

"Our defense has always got to be there for us to have a chance to win," DeMoss said. "When it's a low-scoring game, we typically have a chance to win."

UK knows it should be playing better than it is.

"We're probably frustrated right now," Elliott said. "We know we can do a lot better than what we're showing."

And they know they haven't yet arrived.



UK Hoops head coach Mickie DeMoss argues over a decision by the referee during Sunday's overtime loss to Ole Miss.

KASHA STEVENSON STAFF

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