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# THE Kentucky Kernel

Tuesday, March 21, 2006

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## Staff petition protests proposed pay increases

Asks trustees to veto Todd's plan

By Dariush Shafa  
 THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

A petition asking the Board of Trustees not to pass a proposed two-tiered salary pool raise for faculty and staff is circulating among some UK staff members, and it's seeing some success. The current proposal would give faculty a salary pool raise of 5.5 percent and staff members a salary pool raise of 3 percent — which sends a distinct message, said Samantha Gange, a staff member in the College of Law. "The two-tier system conveys a message that we are second class-citizens," said Gange, one of the chief organizers of the petition. "We're not

looked at and we're not considered a part of the university."

The petition — which so far has garnered more than 2,000 signatures from both faculty and staff who oppose the differential pay raise proposal — will go before the Board of Trustees in June, and Gange said she hopes it carries a firm message.

"The staff strongly oppose this," she said. "It might not change their minds, but at the very least it's going to be an eye-opener."

But the petition has been met with fear by some staff members, Gange said.

"I came across a lot of people who were very scared to sign it," she said. "They're afraid if they sign it, they'll lose their jobs."

UK President Lee Todd told the staff at a fo-

rum about the pay proposal last week that he's opposed to any actions that would deter the staff from voicing their opinions.

"I fully admit that there are tough issues in terms of staff compensation that need to be examined and, I hope, addressed over time," he said. "We are committed to doing that because I deeply value the contributions that both faculty and staff make to this institution."

According to Ann Livingstone, a representative on the Staff Senate, that doesn't allay the concerns of some staffers.

"There certainly is a climate of fear and it's something that has to be addressed," she said.

"This is a university. We're supposed to be able to speak our minds and say what we think."

See *Petition* on page 2

## Debates set stage for vote

By Sean Rose and Keith Brooks  
 THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Debates tonight and tomorrow will pit the three Student Government presidential candidates against each other — but one ticket will be missing at tonight's debate, which takes place nine days from the election.

Presidential candidate and SG Sen. Andy Bates and his running mate, Will Fuller, said they will not be attending tonight's annual Greek Political Action Committee (GPAC) debate, which is open to the public.

At the end of the debate, the Greek committee endorses one presidential ticket. In 16 of the past 17 SG elections, the winner of the endorsement has won the election, which happens this year on March 29 and 30.

Bates said late last night that he had not been notified about the debate and that it was too late to cancel his engagements.

"We were planning on attending GPAC," he said. "We've already made arrangements with other people and we can't just jump ship."

"If they would have notified us in an adequate time frame, we could have made arrangements," he said.

Bates said he had scheduled campaign meetings with UK Greenhumb, College Democrats and the Baptist Student Union tonight, and Fuller said he had to help at a training session for new resident advisers.

Blake Burchett, vice president for chapter services for the Interfraternity Council, said the Bates-Fuller campaign was notified earlier yesterday about the debate. But the candidates said they hadn't heard anything.

Bates added that he believes not attending the debate would not hurt his

See *Debates* on page 2



MICHIGAN STATE 67, UK 63

Left: UK senior forward Jennifer Humphrey pulls down one of her four rebounds amid a crowd of MSU defenders in the first half.

Humphrey finished with four points and five assists in UK's 67-63 loss in the second round of the NCAA Tournament last night.

Below: UK freshman center Sarah Elliott goes up for a layup against several MSU players in last night's tournament loss.

Elliott scored eight points and had six rebounds on the night before fouling out of the game.

PHOTOS BY KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

## SPARTANS STIFLE CATS' TOURNNEY RUN

By Chris DeLott  
 THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

ROSEMONT, Ill. — All season long, UK has found someone to hit a big shot, grab a key rebound or pick away an important steal. All season long, the Cats have found a way to win close games. All season long, UK has pulled out improbable victories.

But not last night. The fifth-seeded Cats ran out of steam, out of points and out of time in a 57-63 loss to No. 4-seed Michigan State in the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

And now, their season is over.

Aside from a desperation 3-pointer by Carly Ormerod with four seconds to play, the Cats were shut out for the final 3:30 of the game and saw their magical season come to a disappointing end.

"I kept thinking somebody was going to

knock a shot down or get a board," UK coach Mickie DeMoss said. "But we were playing a team that went to the national championship game last year."

"We just could not get any good looks," she said. "It was frustrating for us as coaches, and I'm sure for the players."

UK had seven consecutive possessions in the closing minutes that resulted in either missed shots or turnovers, including a controversial charging call against Sarah Elliott and a shot by Samantha Mahoney that was tipped by a Spartan defender. After the game, Mahoney claimed she was fouled.

MSU shot 19 foul shots for the game, while UK got to the line four times.

In a see-saw battle that saw six ties and 11 lead changes, the more-experienced Spartans locked down on the de-

fensive end in the final stretch and advanced to the Sweet 16 for the second straight season.

UK (22-9) opened the second half with a 9-1 run capped by an Ormerod 3-pointer, giving the Cats a 43-36 advantage. MSU responded with a 12-2 run of its own to take a 53-50 lead with ten and a half minutes to play. Neither team could pull away, with the margin never growing bigger than three points on either side until UK was forced to foul in the final seconds.

"We were not expecting them not to play hard (after we took a nine-point lead)," Elliott said.

MSU senior Liz Shimek, the school's all-time leading scorer, was held to 12 points in the game. UK's focus on Shimek freed up freshman forward Aisha Jefferson to score 16 points. Shimek said the Spar-

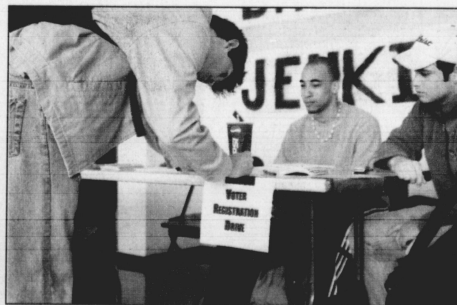
See *Cats* on page 2



Undeclared freshman Warren Gross registers to vote yesterday at White Hall Classroom Building.

Jonah Brown, a candidate for Student Government President, held the registration drive as part of his political platform. Brown hoped to get about 40 signatures by the day's end.

TRICIA SPAULDING | STAFF



## PREPARING TO PULL THE LEVER

Jonah Brown, a candidate for SG President, ran a voter registration drive on campus yesterday ahead of the November elections.

"It's about empowering the students ... if we get one person to vote, I'm satisfied," he said.

## SAB still seeks new president

By Jenisha Watts  
 THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Almost a month after applications were due, Student Activities Board has no president for next school year.

But that's no problem, said current President Meredith Hughes.

"Based on past years, we're not behind schedule," said Hughes, an integrated strategic communication and sociology senior. "We're going to find someone; we are making sure we have the best pool to pick from."

Applications for the leadership position on one of UK's biggest student organizations were originally due Feb. 22. But the application process will remain open until Friday.

"We didn't have a diverse pool of applicants for the president position," said vice president Ashley Hayden.

"We didn't think we got enough applicants from those across the campus," she said. "We thought it would be best to re-open to applicants to get more people to apply."

SAB co-sponsors Homecoming at UK with Student Government and also spearheads many of the cultural events that occur on campus, frequently bringing in guest speakers and also organizing events with the arts.

Any UK full-time student with at least a 2.0 grade point average can apply.

"We have a rigorous interview process; we look for people who have experience with event and people leaders on campus," she said.

"This is a great building ground for experience ..." said adviser Keith Ellis. "Our students are able to get experience leading peers, developing visions, communicating with staff and other students and having fun while doing it."

Students may print out the application form from SAB's Web site, www.uky.edu/SAB, and they may also pick up a copy at SAB's offices, located at room 203 of the Student Center.

E-mail: news@kykernel.com

## Todd tabs top-20 committees

By Megan Boehnke  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

President Lee Todd announced the names of 17 members of the newly formed University Committee, on Strategic Planning and Priorities yesterday.

The group, chaired by new Provost Kumble Subbaswamy, is charged with making recommendations for strategies to help UK achieve goals out-

lined in the Top-20 Business Plan and revising UK's current strategic plan.

Five subcommittees will do research and gather information to bring back to the main committee, said UK spokesman Jay Blanton.

The subcommittees will offer their suggestions to the larger committee, who will then take its recommendations to the provost and Todd. The five groups, which have

about 10 members each, are: undergraduate domain, graduate/professional domain, faculty development, research and engagement.

"The Top-20 plan lays out what the goals are to know when we've achieved top-20 status. More than anything, it's a financial plan," Blanton said. "Now what you need is actual strategies to bring those numbers to life."

E-mail news@kykernel.com

## Petition

Continued from page 1

Livingstone said the petition represents the staff's attitude toward the pay proposal. "It's bringing our concerns with pay scales into the forefront of the university's

consciousness," she said. "The more of us that make our feelings known, the better impression we'll make."

For now, Gange said she and the rest of the staff do not see the problem being addressed.

"He (Todd) is not really justifying it," Gange said. "It's an easy cop out and it's not an answer people accept."

At last week's forum, Todd

said he wasn't happy having to make this "tough" choice.

"The issue is that we have finite resources. We have to prioritize," Todd said.

Gange said she hopes it prevents this kind of trouble down the road.

"Next time, it's going to say 'You can't do this.' They're going to have to consider the staff next time," she said.

E-mail dshafa@kykernel.com

## Debates

Continued from page 1

campaign. Burchett said the debate is an opportunity for the "Greek community to see each platform's side" but added that it was important for both Greek and non-Greek students to attend.

"Actually going lets you make your decision for yourself," Burchett said. "Don't

have somebody else make it."

The second debate is hosted by Resident Student Association and is in Memorial Hall tomorrow at 7 p.m.

"I can't tell you how many times I have heard, 'I really didn't know who to vote for, so I just chose one,'" said Amber Steiner, vice president of RSA.

"I strongly believe that the RSA debate will allow all UK students especially those living on campus to come meet the candidates ... and ask the questions they have concerning issues on campus."

The original debate time

conflicted with a previously scheduled SG Senate meeting, but the debate was moved to an earlier start time and the Senate meeting was delayed to accommodate all candidates.

Each debate will give prescreened questions to the candidates supplied by students. Students who would like to submit a question for the GPAC debate can put it in a drop box in room 575 Patterson Office Tower and questions for RSA can be sent to rsadebate@yahoo.com.

E-mail news@kykernel.com

## Cats

Continued from page 1

tans' experience played a role down the stretch.

"We've been in a lot of close games and come back from deficits before," she said. "We know it's not over until it's over. We're fighters."

The Cats received a much-needed spark off the bench from Jenny Pfeiffer, who entered the game with just under 14 minutes to play in the first half and promptly nailed a 3-pointer on her first touch. She also hit a 3-ball with just under ten minutes left in the frame, cutting a game-high

six-point Michigan State lead in half.

With Elliott forced to nine first half minutes after picking up an early foul, Eleia Roddy provided solid play off the bench as well, knocking down six points in the half and notching back-to-back blocks of Shimek on one possession that brought the UK contingent at Allstate Arena to its feet.

"They've been big all year for us," DeMoss said of Pfeiffer and Roddy. "Our bench has been instrumental in our success."

The loss marks the end to UK's finest season since the 1989-90 team won 23 games and the WNIT Championship. The only time the Cats have made the final 16 of the NCAAAs was

in 1982 when the tournament only invited 32 teams.

The players said they will use the disappointing defeat as motivation for next season.

"This was a great experience and we would have liked the season to keep going," Pfeiffer said. "Next year will be different."

"We did a lot of good things and made great strides," Elliott said. "We have no reason to hang our heads. Don't expect us to stay in the shadows (next year). We are going to compete."

DeMoss told her team after the game to feel good about what it had accomplished.

"They don't have anything to be ashamed of."

E-mail cdelotell@kykernel.com

# Student Development Council

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**Contact:** (859) 392-1015

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**Directions heading South on I-75/I-71 to Kentucky**  
 Head South on Interstate 75/71 toward Covington, Kentucky. Get off at Covington 12<sup>th</sup> Street Exit #191. At light, turn left onto Pike Street under interstate. Stay in right lane heading straight. Turn right on Holman Ave. School is on your left. Welcome!

## Sun, music and unity prevail at Langerado

By Walter Smith  
KERNEL MUSIC CRITIC

While some students may have spent their Spring Break soaking up sun on the beach or partying with friends, more than 15,000 festival-goers amassed to enjoy both and a plethora of musical acts at the fourth-annual Langerado Music Festival at Markham Park in Sunrise, Fla. The sun shone down on fans as they enjoyed more than 40 bands spread across five stages that featured the likes of Wilco, The Flaming Lips, Ben Harper, The Secret Machines, Drive-By Truckers, RJD2 and Clap Your Hands Say Yeah.

Easily a top moment was singer Wayne Coyne floating across a sea of hands in a huge clear plastic bubble to begin The Flaming Lips' set. The Lips are a great band to see at a large festival because they have the ability to put on a show that is amazing both to someone who has all of their albums, as well as those who have never heard of the band. They had giant balloons, streamers, fireworks, and about 25 people dressed in animal costumes dancing on the side of the stage. Who wouldn't want to watch?

The Flaming Lips' hour-and-a-half set was comprised of sing-along anthems off the band's previous albums, three songs on their soon-to-be-released album "At War With the Mystics" as well as covers of Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody" and Black Sabbath's "War Pigs."

Wayne was leading this unpredictable audio/visual

circus and was determined that everyone would have a good time. "I want this place to be a huge karaoke bar right now," he declared before performing "Bohemian Rhapsody," and the large crowd was more than willing to oblige.

But the thing is, the Lips weren't trying to be cool; they were there to drop the facade of being rock stars and have a good time. The sense of unity was strong during the show and the fans were enjoying exciting and unpredictable antics on stage. They played some of their songs at slower tempos than they appear on the albums and this made singing along easier for old fans as well as those who had never heard these songs.

The Lips closed the show with an inspiring rendition of the song "Do You Realize?" with drums pounding, bass thumping and everyone in the crowd jumping around. The culmination of an amazing performance left everyone wanting more; alas, there was no encore, but all good things must come to an end.

The performance could almost be described as a sort of religious revival. Between the songs, Wayne preached to the crowd about the war in Iraq, gay rights and his displeasure with the current state of affairs in America. The crowd, which shared similar views, applauded almost everything he said.

Drive-By Truckers turned in the weekend's other great performance. Their style is a type of rock music with firm Southern roots. The Florida heat was near-

ing an unbearable mark that afternoon, so playing music one could listen to while relaxing on a back porch seemed appropriate. Each member of the band took a shot from a Jack Daniels bottle at the start of the set, appropriately setting the tone for the afternoon.

Bluesy renditions of songs about the hard choices one has to make over a lifetime may not have been the preferred music for the Langerado jam fans, but they got the message. If the Lips were about undying optimism, the Truckers were preaching about painful realism. They tell stories of a south you don't really hear to often in songs on mainstream radio. Touching on topics of alcoholism, the devil, and death, it must have been hard to relate to these sentiments while sitting in a park under the shade of a Florida palm tree.

The crowd did appreciate the power of the music coming through the huge speakers. Technically speaking, these four guys (and one lady) know how to play well with each other. Putting three guitars over booming drums and soulful bass has a universal appeal if only for its sheer difficulty.

The Truckers were playing to a group of people who would not normally go and see this type of band. They played with an attitude that if you enjoyed the music, then great, and if not, well, you can just walk somewhere else.

E-mail  
features@kykernel.com

# GPAC

(Greek Political Action Committee)

## Presidential and Vice Presidential Debate

Sponsored by IFC, PC, and IGPA.

Submit questions for the debate to  
Greek Affairs Office (POT 575).

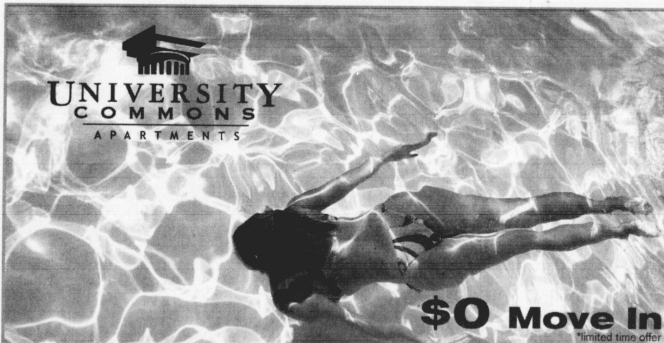
Any questions are welcome.

Proctored by Dr. Stephen Voss from  
UK's Political Science Department.

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**CAMPUS CALENDAR**

VISIT THE WEB SITE FOR EVENT DETAILS OR TO POST YOUR OWN UK EVENT.

The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement. Registered Student Orgs. and UK Orgs. can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information is to appear. Call 257-8867 for more information.

Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cheap Seat Tuesdays presents The Ringer, 8:00 PM, Worsham Theater</li> <li>• SCRAPBOOKING WORKSHOP, 7:00 PM, WILDCAT LOUNGE (CATS DEN)</li> <li>• College Democrats Weekly Meeting, 7:30 PM, Rm. 211 Student Center</li> <li>• Art Education Senior Show, Rasdall Gallery, Student Center</li> <li>• Relay for Life Kick-off event, 8:00 AM, POT Plaza</li> <li>• BINGO!, 7:00 PM, STUDENT CENTER CAFETERIA</li> <li>• Reformed University Fellowship (RUF), 7:30 PM, student center rm. 357</li> <li>• Poetry Slam, 7:00 PM, Cats Den</li> <li>• Alpha Phi Omega Active Meeting, 7:30 PM, Student Center, Room 359</li> <li>• Horticulture Club Meeting, 5:30 PM, Greenhouse classroom</li> <li>• Soc. of Telecom. Scholars Meeting, 5:00 PM, Maggie Room, Grehan Building</li> <li>• Fencing Club Practice, 8:00 PM, Buell Armory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deskey Speakers, 7:00 PM, 211 Student Center Addition</li> <li>• STITCH &amp; BITCH WORKSHOP, 7:00 PM, WILDCAT LOUNGE (CATS DEN)</li> <li>• Comedy Caravan, 8:00 PM, Student Center Cats Den</li> <li>• James W. Stuckert Career Center Drop-In Hours, 3:00 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center 408 Rose Street</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fencing Club Practice, 8:00 PM, Buell Armory</li> <li>• Kill Bill Vol. 1, 10:00 PM, Center Theater in the Student Center</li> <li>• Reformed University Fellowship (RUF), 7:30 PM, student center rm. 357</li> <li>• Theoretical Thursdays: Revelation, 8:00 PM, Memorial Hall</li> <li>• Working at a Top 100 Company... Hear from Those Who Do, 3:30 PM, 408 Rose St</li> <li>• Relay for Life team representative meeting, 8:00 PM, WTYL Gallery</li> <li>• Non Traditional Student Organization meeting, 7:25 PM, Pazzo's</li> <li>• RSA General Assembly Meetings, 5:30 PM, 359 Student Center</li> <li>• Internship Information Sessions, 9:00 AM, 408 Rose St</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deadline to Apply Via CyberCAT to interview with Sherwin-Williams at the Career Center, 408 Rose St</li> <li>• ICF Free Dinner and Fellowship, 7:00 PM, CSF Building (across from Cooperstown Apt.)</li> <li>• ALL ARTISTS' Submissions Due for SMSC Student Show, Submit entries to SMSC, c/o Gaines Center, 232 East Maxwell, Lex, KY 40506</li> <li>• Kill Bill Vol. 2, 10:00 PM, Worsham Theater in the Student Center</li> <li>• Emerging Leader Institute Applications Due, 106 Student Center</li> <li>• James W. Stuckert Career Center Drop-In Hours, 3:00 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center 408 Rose Street</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• True Romance, 10:00 PM, Worsham Theater in the Student Center</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UKUFO, 10:00 PM, Seaton Field</li> </ul>



**MUSIC**  
REVIEW

# Cinemechanica breaks the mold with "Martial Arts"

By Nathan Thatcher  
KERNEL MUSIC CRITIC

Finally! It's the quintessential album for schizophrenics on crack, made by schizophrenics on crack! "The Martial Arts" by Georgia-based band Cinemechanica is as frenetic, mind-numbing and manic an album as you'll ever find in the hardcore music market.

Bryant Williamson (guitar, vocals), Andy Pruett (guitar, vocals), Joel Hatstat (bass) and Mike Albanese (drums) comprise Cinemechanica, a post-hardcore band committed to innovation and sonic distinction, which it has achieved with its own brand of uncompromising energy that feels more artful and disciplined than most noisy hardcore music.

Cinemechanica treats a sound similar to the short-lived hardcore band Drive Like Jehu, and has a sound most listeners will liken to The Mars Volta, but with less girlish vocals and a complete absence of any synthetic enhancement. Like all hardcore outfits, the band strives to pick all over the fret board, scream all over the scale and drum like they have six arms and four legs.

The first four tracks leave the listener (and the players, I'm sure) exhausted, offering unrelenting assaults of impossibly fast and intricate drumming and strumming that creates tones ranging from silly to malevolent. After these tracks, you'll already be impressed by the range and intelligence of the players,

particularly Albanese's flawless execution of widely-varying and complex arrangements. The vocals are seldom singable, and for the most part madly harsh and de-structive, and for some reason, Pruett's vocals remind me of a slightly less raspy, hellish version of Lemmy (Motorhead).

The band seems quite proud of their guitar hooks, and rightfully so. "Ruins of Karnae," "Brain Tarp," "Bruckheimer" and, hell, all of the tracks, are display cases for showing off a vast array of perfectly-timed, inventive hooks. The two guitars noodle around in brief blistering circles, then, stopping



COURTESY CINEMECHANICA.COM  
Mike Albanese (drums), Joel Hatstat (bass), Bryant Williamson (guitar, vocals) and Andy Pruett (guitar, vocals) comprise the Georgia-based post-hardcore quartet Cinemechanica.

on a dime, they screech and roar with longer, louder notes. Each song is like getting hit in the face with a hammer, then with a pillow then with a pickaxe, then with a rubber chicken.

"Take Me To The Hospital" is the longest and easily the most subdued track on the album, getting noisy for a little while before calming back down with some almost lovely sections of moody, downbeat guitar picking. But it charges right back up for a furious finish that plays perfectly into

the wall of noise that opens the next track "Get Outta Here Hitler," which offers a similar mix of murder with just a pinch of mellow.

Cinemechanica's time changes come without warning and switch without error, and each song brings several different movements that are each entirely separate from the first and the next. Each song brings about three or four varied sections of sound, and after a few listens to these impressive pastiches of discordant, difficult arrangements, a regular music consumer can't help but feel a little gipped by the rest of their music library, which by comparison seems lazy and

straightforward.

Most of the songs are between two and five minutes (any longer and I'm sure these chaps would keel over dead) and there are more notes and beats in two of their songs than you'd find in an entire Beatles anthology.

While we're on the subject, their song "I'm Tired of Paul McCartney" serves two important functions. First, it rocks harder than anything else on the album (which is saying quite a lot). Second, the title alone makes a fairly profound statement of boredom with the admitted homogeneity of so much of today's music. The very sound of "The Martial Arts" smacks of this same sentiment, one that is restless and thirsty for change.

E-mail features@kykernel.com

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### TV JUMBLE

by David L. Hoyt

Use the clues to help unscramble the four answers. See what you know to form four words.

**CFOIEF** Clue: Michael S.'s area

**RPVIMAE** Clue: P.C.'s nemesis

**CMSOIST** Clue: Shows

**TOAORNC** Clue: The Network

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Answers to 4/25E: JUMBLE: DRIVER MIGHTY DRACULA BLOODSUCKER  
Answer: This actor, referred to as "The Great One," was killed in a plane crash on an NYC flight, was born in Brooklyn, in 1917.  
You are a small David, Hoyt at D.L.Hoyt@comcast.net. ©2006 MUSHPIE. All rights reserved. www.mushpie.com

### Poetry Slam

Tuesday, March 21  
7:00 pm  
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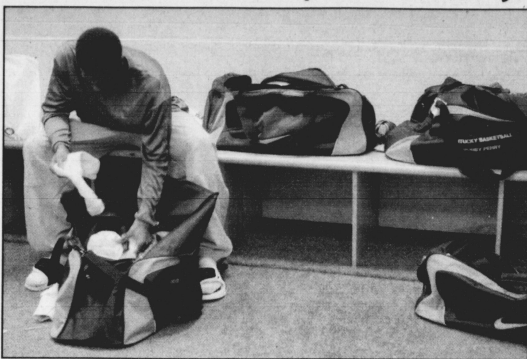
No Movie Showing (Spring Break)  
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## MEN'S BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK

### Rondo back – but Tubby calls for change



UK sophomore guard Rajon Rondo packs his bag for the last time this season after losing Sunday to UConn. **HILLY SCHIFFER | STAFF**

#### UK head coach promises evaluations for everyone

By Josh Sullivan  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

With Sunday's second-round NCAA tournament loss to UConn, four UK seniors took off their uniforms for the final time.

But UK head coach Tubby Smith hinted that those four players might not be the only fixtures from this year's team who will be absent next year, saying coaches and players alike would receive off-season evaluations.

"It's well documented that looking at our record we didn't play to our potential," Smith said. "One way or the other, things are going to change. Changes will be made to get the right attitude."

"We will not go through another season like this, I promise you that," he said.

Smith refused to elaborate on what specific coaches or players might need that attitude adjustment, but said he would look for tangible

progress in the off-season.

"Those that want to be part of something special are going to have to make a special effort to improve," he said. "Players have to understand that there's a standard set here at Kentucky, and there's no bending to it."

Smith declined to comment on the NBA prospects for any of UK's players. Rondo was almost as mum.

The sophomore said he's "probably" going to return, later saying he was "not even thinking about it right now."

"I'm just going to focus on school," he said.

Fellow sophomore Ramel Bradley said he's optimistic that all his teammates will return next season.

"I hope we're going to stay together and come back and be something special," he said. "We got a lot to look forward to next year."

**Matching and exceeding tip-off expectations**  
Calhoun said the game lived up to its hype. "Kentucky has been

through an incredibly difficult season," he said. "The ups and downs this team has had ... those losses gave them the fiber when we got them down eight, nine, to make big plays."

"I personally believe this, and I'll go away thinking this: I've seen Kentucky on tape nine times, and that's the best I've seen them," Calhoun said.

#### Perry comes up big

Junior forward Bobby Perry saved his best production of the entire season for its stretch run in the tournament.

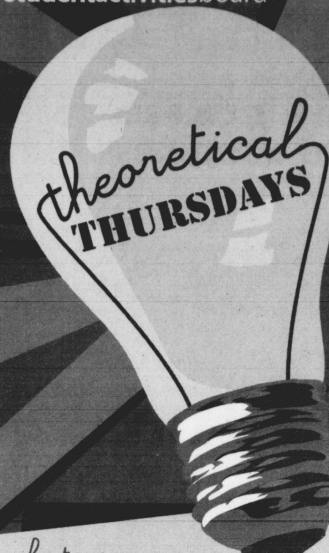
Friday night against UAB, Perry poured in a career-high 25 points — 19 of those in the second half of UK's 69-64 win. He finished as the only Cat in double-figures, going 10-for-10 from the foul line.

Added with Sunday's 20 point-effort, Perry scored more than his point total for his previous seven games combined.

"He should move to Philadelphia right now," Calhoun said.

E-mail  
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For more info: Student Activities Board,  
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## IN OUR OPINION

### New debate increases SG election awareness

UK's Resident Student Association will host a Student Government presidential debate tomorrow from 7 to 9 p.m. in Memorial Hall. This will mark the first time RSA has hosted such an event on campus.

Students have an opportunity to submit questions for the candidates prior to the debate. RSA's Executive Board will select several questions to ask during the debate.

We would like to commend RSA for hosting this presidential debate. Judging from recent years' anemic turnout rate in SG elections, students — especially non-Greeks — have taken far too little interest in SG campaigns, and this debate is the opportunity to inform more students about the candidates.

RSA's sponsorship of the debate emerges from its desire to make UK's student resident community more involved in SG. RSA Vice President Amber Steiner told The Kernel that she sees this as an opportunity to inform students about the presidential candidates and increase the number of students voting in next week's election.

"I strongly believe that the RSA debate will allow all UK students, especially those living on campus to come meet the candidates," she said.

In the past, the Greek Political Action Committee's debate — which takes place tonight at 7:30 in the Small Ballroom, on the third floor of the Student Center — has been the main public event for SG candidates. Though the occurrence of a debate at all has been good for the student body, one hosted by Greek organizations has, of course, not done much to bring non-Greeks, too many of whom are apathetic about

SG into the election process. Steiner hopes that having RSA host an event will encourage a more open environment for UK students to attend.

"I think this debate will be more intimate," she said, "allowing the students who attend to really get to know the candidates this year." She also said that allowing students to submit questions will make them feel more connected and involved with the process.

Allowing students to submit questions is another good idea. This should help ensure that the debate focused on issues that are of concern to the students in attendance — and the student population as a whole. And perhaps by putting candidates in an independent setting, they will be more inclined to give candid answers to students' questions.

Steiner expects topics of discussion to include tuition increases, the meal plan and campus diversity.

The only unfortunate snafu in regard to the debate was that it was originally scheduled at the same time as this week's regular SG meeting, meaning that candidates and incoming students would have had to choose between the debate and the meeting. Luckily, the debate was rescheduled so as not to overlap with the meeting, but RSA should avoid such scheduling conflicts from the start in the future.

We hope that students will attend RSA's debate, which might lead to future debates being hosted by other independent student organizations. Any event that brings more students into SG elections is a positive step for SG and the whole student body.

### Kentucky's biggest concern isn't who's buckling up

There's been quite a tiff between Gov. Ernie Fletcher and House Speaker Jody Richards over the passage of a new seat belt law.

Fletcher accused Richards of not caring about the safety of Kentuckians, and Richards has countered that the law is only unable to pass because there's not enough Republicans to vote for it, according to The Courier-Journal.

House Bill 86 would allow motorists to be pulled over and cited for not wearing a seat belt. Under current law, a motorist can only be cited for a seatbelt violation if he or she is initially pulled over for another violation of state law.

While it's a shame that too many people don't wear seat belts, it's hard to imagine anyone not knowing the risks of his or her actions. However tempting it may be to punish individuals who endanger themselves, lawmakers should realize it's a citizen's call — not the

government's — to make. People choosing not to wear seat belts are making a choice well within their own right. Such a choice does not endanger anyone else's liberty.

It isn't in the best interest of the state, then, to make such an act subject to increased police scrutiny. There are more efficient and effective ways to use law enforcement than a "Click it or ticket" campaign.

Furthermore, the supposed concern for safety does not justify police intrusion into actions that can only harm the individual making the choice — one motorist's choice not to wear a seatbelt does not put any others in danger, and people should be afforded the dignity to make such choices for themselves.

State politicians must stop playing a game to see who can make citizens the most secure, and instead focus on the commonwealth's more pressing problems.



CHRIS STEWART, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

### Oscar or no, 'Brokeback' was a clear hit

There's no wishing I could — I've got Annie Proulx.

Not that we had any sort of deep, meaningful, Ennis-Del-Mar-and-Jack-Twist kind of relationship, but I digress. In a snide, bitter commentary that evoked ire rather than empathy for the best-picture loss of "Brokeback Mountain" at the Oscars, the author of the short story that inspired the film invited readers who thought it was a "Sour Grapes Rant" to "play it as it lays."

All right — sounds like an open invitation for derision to me.

Proulx's commentary, which ran in the March 11 issue of popular British (and admittedly liberal) paper The Guardian, blasted academy voters and the ceremony itself.

Academy members who vote for the year's best film are "out of touch not only with the shifting larger culture and the yeasty ferment that is America these days, but also out of touch with their own segregated city," Proulx wrote.

Guch. That's a little harsh. Proulx not completely underserved, but in the voters' defense, their best picture choice, "Crash," did a pretty good job of

illustrating the racial divides in Los Angeles — which can be applied to the rest of the nation as well. Nonetheless, Proulx appears to be oblivious to the film's social merit and cited dirty politics for its surprise best-picture win.

"Rumor has it that (distribution company) Lionsgate inundated the academy voters with DVD copies of Trash — excuse me — Crash a few weeks before the ballot deadline," she wrote.

And here I'd chalked that up to a brilliant marketing ploy. Shows just how much I know, I suppose.

But the mud-slinging didn't end there. Continuing her anti-"Crash" rant, Proulx wrote that "it was a safe pick of 'controversial film' for the heffalumps," likening academy voters to the elephantinesque "Winnie the Pooh" characters.

Maybe she's right — maybe middle America wasn't ready to wholeheartedly embrace a story about two gay Wyoming ranch hands, and the academy voters reflected that hesitation. But the film was critically lauded; it was named best picture at the March 4 Independent Spirit Awards and garnered eight prestigious Oscar nominations. And, more importantly, Brokeback helped spark a dialogue across the country — something of which Proulx should be proud.

But she's not, or at least doesn't seem to be. Proulx was equally dissatisfied with the film's three victories out of its eight nominations. The wins for original score,

adapted screenplay and direction for Ang Lee put it "on equal footing with King Kong," according to Proulx.

The author of the 'Brokeback Mountain' short story is foolish to whine about the film's best-picture loss

That's an obtuse level of pretentious whining. The woman wrote a brilliant short story that was published in The New Yorker. It went on to become an equally brilliant screenplay that probably earned her millions of dollars when she sold the rights. The film based on that short story went on to earn more than \$148.5 million worldwide and netted eight Oscar nominations and three wins. All this helped Proulx become something of a household name, attached to "the gay cowboy movie." But it doesn't matter to said author — personal achievement, critical acclaim and financial success is apparently meaningless, because Brokeback lost the award for best picture to another striking, thought-provoking film.

Oh, the terrible "injustice" of it all.

Crystal Little is a journalism senior. E-mail: clittle@kykernel.com.

### As UK climbs to top 20, unequal pay raises are needed

I keep thinking to myself how great it will be when I hand my resume to an employer at a job interview after I graduate and he looks it over and then stares at me and asks, "You went to the University of Kentucky?" and I nod and he just holds out his hand and says "You're hired."



Chris Miles  
KERNEL COLUMNIST

That's what UK's drive to top 20 status means to me. Recognition.

Yet more and more these days, the thought of UK being one of the best institutions in the nation seems to be nothing other than a pipe dream.

Now, don't get me wrong. I have the utmost optimism that UK will meet its goal of being a top-20 institution. I mean, when the state legislature decrees — demands, commands, orders or whatever

word you like — that UK needs to be a top-20 school, then you know people aren't kidding around about this goal. But it's UK itself that I'm most afraid of.

It seems like there are more skeptics inside UK than outside. More and more it seems like members within the UK community ask "if President Lee Todd was drunk when he made the speech that UK will be a top-20 school by 2020. It makes me wonder if UK actually believes in itself."

The other week, there was a rally outside the Patterson Office Tower against the fact that faculty members will only receive a 3 percent salary pool increase.

First off, let me ask if that rally was actually serious. The last time I was given a raise, I was ecstatic about it. But these 200 people were screaming as if President Todd had actually cut their salary, not bumped it up. They say everyone who works at UK should get the same amount of salary increase

and that we should all be equal as we help UK make it to top-20 status.

What the heck are they talking about?

Let me explain something plain and simple: UK needs to be more competitive. It needs to be able to attract better teachers and researchers to join its ranks, and in order to do that, UK needs to offer a larger incentive for new faculty to come to UK rather than another school. I say give the faculty a higher raise than the staff so UK can be more competitive with other schools in order to achieve the status we want. It's pretty simple.

But instead of our community rallying behind the fact that we are working to be more competitive with the likes of top schools such as Georgia and UCLA, our community holds a rally condemning our step in the right direction. I'm pretty sure those people have no idea what they're talking about.

Let's face it, UK's biggest challenge keeping it from its goal is that all other top-20 schools are

richer than we are. The state legislature — which demanded that UK become a top-20 school by 2020 — won't even give UK the money and tools it needs to reach that goal. We can't rely on the state to help fund our drive forward, but that's what we're doing. Other top-20 schools have worked around that fact. The University of Virginia, for example, only has 5 percent of its budget come from the state. The rest comes from other sources like grants and alumni. In effect, UVA has become a private school.

UVA would be a place where I could see a rally against unequal pay increase happen. They are in a position where they don't need to make their job pool more competitive. But that's not how it is here at UK.

The UK community needs to realize that we have really improved in the last few years. No longer is UK just slugging along, content that it is a mediocre school as it had been for most of its history. At least we have a drive that is taking us somewhere. But while UK is im-

proving, other institutions — the institutions we are trying to catch up with — aren't exactly standing still. In an effort to actually be equal with those schools, we have to make decisions that help us move forward.

A salary increase difference between said author and faculty is one of those decisions that will help us move forward. Employees shouldn't be holding rallies against the fact that they're getting a raise. The UK community should actually have faith in itself, to know that better things are to come and that the sacrifices we make now will help us in the future.

More importantly, the employees here at UK should stop thinking about themselves and actually worry about the students they serve, the same students who pay for their salary increase, the students who will actually benefit from a top-20 status when they hand over their resume to a prospective employer.

Chris Miles is a journalism and political science junior. E-mail: cmiles@kykernel.com.

#### Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Brenton Kenkel or Assistant Opinions Editor Wes Blevins. 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](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com)

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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.

#### Online Poll Results

What do you think about the timing of Spring Break?

It should be earlier  
6% (9 votes)

It should be later  
50% (73 votes)

The current placement is best  
43% (63 votes)



# Lyden inspires Ignacio to diving title

By Jonathan Smith  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Perhaps Taryn Ignacio was destined to be a national champion. Perhaps Michael Lyden was destined to coach a national champion. But if it weren't for a little nostalgia and neglect, they would have never won it together.

"I wanted to come back home..." Ignacio said about the freshman year she spent at Florida State. "It wasn't the same. I missed Mike's coaching. Mike's coaching works better for me."

So Ignacio came back to her old Kentucky Diving Club coach, and became UK's first ever national champion last weekend.

After a solid start in the preliminary round that left Ignacio in 4th place with a score of 291.30, she posted an NCAA record mark of 335.20 in the finals, 15.30 points ahead of Hawaii's Rui Wang.

"She didn't miss one of her dives," Lyden said. "She did every one of them at 80 to 90 percent of her ability. Some of them were as good as she can do."

After Ignacio's first dive of the second day, she took the lead and never relinquished it. In her third dive, she performed a dive that she faltered on in the preliminaries. This time she nailed it, inching closer to the championship.

And even though she nailed her fi-

nal dive, Wang still had a chance to win. On Wang's final dive, her score was not high enough, locking up Ignacio's win.

"I wasn't relaxed because Wang had won the prelims," Lyden said. "And she still, if she would have totally buried her last dive would have won the meet. It was neat for a Wildcat to win."

Although they share the win as Wildcats, the triumph runs deeper. The diving dynamo has been together since Ignacio was 12 years old, when Lyden was her coach at his Kentucky Diving Club.

He always thought Ignacio was special, and "knew she could dive with anyone."

More significant to their relationship, however, has been the recent health problems for Lyden. In October, he was diagnosed with brain and lung cancer. Lyden has spent many hours undergoing chemotherapy, forcing him to miss a lot of time with the team.

"This year he hasn't been to every practice or gone to every away meet," Ignacio said. "So it was very special to have him there."

And even though Ignacio will never



Taryn Ignacio set an NCAA record score with her final dive this weekend, winning the national championship after transferring to work with diving coach Mike Lyden.

know what would have happened to her at Florida State, she is extremely confident about her decision to leave and come to UK.

"It was the best decision I have ever made."

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## SPORTING WEEK IN REVIEW

### Baseball scorches opposition, picks up two sweeps

The UK baseball team crushed the three teams that visited Lexington over Spring Break, going 7-1 and outscoring its opposition by a total of 87-21.

The Cats (17-4, 2-1 Southeastern Conference) took all three games from North Dakota State, won both games against Cleveland State, and came one pitch away from sweeping their weekend opponent, No. 8 Louisiana State. That means UK is off to its second-best start ever in the program's 102-year history.

Yesterday, the Cats earned several honors, including a No. 26 ranking in the Collegiate Baseball poll — the first time they've had a ranking since April 2000. Also, junior first baseman Ryan Strieby was named SEC Player of the Week after hitting 300 with a home run and six RBIs against LSU over the weekend.

UK wraps up its 16-game homestand tomorrow at 4 p.m. against Xavier. The Cats have gone 12-3 over that time.

### Women swimmers and divers end season strong

Thought Taryn Ignacio garnered her first-ever national championship in platform diving last weekend in Athens, Ga., the rest of the women's swimming and diving team didn't do too shabby either.

Behind Ignacio, the Cats finished 13th at the NCAA Championships — the school's best finish in program history. Sophomore Jenny Bradford helped lead the way as well, finishing seventh in the 100-meter freestyle, earning one of her five All-America honors.

The men's swimming and diving team competes in the NCAA Championships in Atlanta this weekend.

### Tennis teams both start Spring Break on the right foot

Both the men's and women's UK tennis teams enjoyed two victories each during the weekend before Spring Break.

The No. 27 women's team beat No. 41 LSU 6-1 on March 10 and then turned around and beat Arkansas by the same score March 12. The Cats are now 10-6 overall and 3-1 in the Southeastern Conference. They'll resume action by staying on the road this weekend and returning home to face Georgia next Friday afternoon.

The No. 28 men, meanwhile, rallied to record a 4-3 win over No. 17 LSU on March 10 and then beat No. 20 Arkansas by another 4-3 final two days later. They're now 4-0 in SEC play for the first time since 1992. After not having any matches last week, the team will ride its seven-match winning streak into a contest against Mississippi State at home Friday at the Hilary J. Boone Center, starting at 5 p.m.

### Softball ends week on high note with series win

Behind the arm of freshman Jessica Trueblood and some timely hitting, the UK softball team helped itself forget woes from early last week.

The Cats (14-13, 2-7 Southeastern Conference) struggled early in Spring Break, dropping three games to No. 20 Auburn by a total of five runs and losing all three games in a series at No. 11 Georgia. But Trueblood's complete-game shutout Saturday gave the Cats a win against South Carolina, and UK won the rubber match Sunday to complete its first conference series win since April 2003.

UK returns home this weekend to face LSU in a doubleheader starting at 1 p.m. at the softball complex.

### Gymnastics gears up for conference championships with top-3 finishes

After sending its seniors out with a first-place finish in a tri-meet to start Spring Break, the No. 18 UK gymnastics team then finished second in a five-team affair at Oregon State in anticipation of the SEC Championships this weekend.

In the March 10 win over Ball State and Air Force, gymnasts Kristen O'Shields, Natalie Rubinstein and Heather Hite all posted career-highs. The event was also Senior Night for Staci O'Keefe and Bethany Strauch.

Last weekend, the Cats moved to 14-6 on the year as the team posted its third-highest team program score ever. O'Shields' career-high on the floor exercise helped earn her UK Gymnast of the Week honors.

And the Cats will square off against top-notch competition in this weekend's SEC Championships in Birmingham, Ala. Last year, UK placed seventh in the meet; its best finish ever came in 1996 when it finished fourth.

### Track and field place high at NCAA indoor Championships

The men's 4x400 relay finished in 10th place. They entered the race owning the fourth-fastest time in the nation. Juniors Georganne Way and Gavin Ball, along with sophomore Lavera Morris, competed in preliminary round of their respective events but didn't advance to finals.

Last weekend, at the Baldy Castillo Invitational in Tempe, Ariz., senior Michelle Gales won the long jump, and multiple other Cats placed in the top-3 in their respective events.

UK returns to action next weekend at the Yellow Jacket Invitational hosted by Georgia Tech in Atlanta.

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