

ESTABLISHED 1894

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

INDEPENDENT SINCE 1971



WEATHER Partly sunny today, high near 40; partly cloudy tonight, low near 30; partly sunny tomorrow, high 40-45.

TENOR TRACK The cast of UK Theatre's "Lend Me a Tenor" readies for a regional competition. See story, page 3.



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January 31, 1995
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Black leaders think trial is path to justice

Staff wire reports

Most black students at UK will "wait and see" for the ruling of the grand jury in the Antonio Sullivan shooting case before deciding on a course of action, a black student leader said yesterday.

Gerald Coleman, director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center, said many of UK's 1,000 or so black students believe Lexington Police Sgt. Phil Vogel should be sent to a criminal court for the shooting death of Sullivan on Oct. 25.

"Obviously, we think (Vogel) should be indicted," Coleman said.

If a black man had killed Sullivan,

Coleman said, he would already be in jail.

Coleman's comments reflected statements of picketers outside the Fayette County Courthouse,

where a special Fayette County grand jury yesterday began hearing evidence gathered in the Sullivan case by the medical examiner's office, FBI and Lexington police department.

Sullivan, 18, was killed Oct. 25 after five police officers arrived at his girlfriend's apartment with arrest warrants charging him with assault and wanton endangerment

in connection with a street shooting.

The shooting sparked disturbances in downtown Lexington and in a predominantly black area just northeast of the core area.

Vogel, a 22-year veteran of the Lexington police force, was relieved of duty pending the investigation.

He said his Beretta 9mm semi-automatic pistol accidentally discharged as he was uncocking it, striking and killing Sullivan.

Protesting outside the courthouse, the Rev. Donald Shanks said only a criminal trial can remove the suspicion surrounding the Sullivan shooting.

"Justice is when he stands trial," Shanks said.

"Let the jury decide whether he's innocent or guilty."

Even that won't be good enough for Charles Bruce Patton Jr.

"He's guilty, and he needs to be found guilty," Patton said.

"And we know he won't be found guilty," Patton said.

Shanks said black people do not trust the secret proceedings.

The jury of 11 whites and one black is not expected to act for at least three days.

The Fayette County coroner's office issued a report Jan. 11 saying

the cause of death was "a single penetrating gunshot wound to the head resulting from a police officer unintentionally discharging his weapon, while decocking the weapon, during the apprehension of the decedent."

Coroner Dennis Penn said his office arrived at its finding by using evidence from the medical examiner's office, FBI and Lexington police department.

Shanks said he believes Vogel is free only because he's white.

"We know that if it had been a black person who had done the same thing, he not only would have been in jail, he would have been under the jail," Shanks said.

Security was increased substantially at the courthouse.

Kentucky State Police and Fayette County sheriff's deputies were stationed at each doorway and many more were shepherding people entering the courthouse through metal detectors or body searches.

Lexington police were noticeably absent.

Police officials said only officers who had business in the courthouse would be in attendance.



Coleman

Justice is when he stands trial. Let the jury decide whether he's innocent or guilty.

The Rev. Donald Shanks

Tuned in, turned off



Photo illustration by JOSEPH REY AU AND HELENA HAU. Kenne staff

O.J., O.J. EVERYWHERE The abundance of media coverage on O.J. Simpson's murder trial has been too much for some students.

Students say they're sick of Simpson trial coverage

By Jennifer Smith and Brenda Reilly
Staff Writers

The television is on, but no one is watching. Last night in the Student Center lobby, a lone student stared blankly at CNN Headline News coverage of the O.J. Simpson murder trial.

"Oh, is that what I was watching?" Ryan Pointer asked. "I'm so used to seeing it and hearing about it, I just tune it out."

The chemistry senior is not the only UK student tired of seeing round-the-clock coverage of the Simpson case.

"There is no reason for it to be on the entire day," said Brad Williams, a biological technology sophomore. He said he has not been watching the trial, though he caught some of the preliminary hearings.

Ryan Meredith, an undeclared sophomore, said he has the solution.

"I think they should make an O.J. Simpson channel—all O.J. all the time," she said.

Music freshman Becky Sarbaugh probably would prefer Meredith's solution. She complained that the trial is interfering with her favorite daytime soap opera, "Days of Our Lives."

"I think it's funny. Everyone acts like they care, but they don't really," Sarbaugh said.

Corey Petry, an undeclared freshman, said the trial is "annoying because they take off the good stuff."

Most students said they do not have time to follow the daily twists and turns of the case.

"It's a lot like the Super Bowl. We are interested in the outcome, not the process," said Bill Maddox, a first-year law student.

Maddox said one of his classes was canceled because of the opening statements. He said he has several friends in the College of Law who are following the trial closely. He also said he has a friend in Finland who is watching.

Maddox said he thinks some people already have decided Simpson is guilty.

"He is innocent 'til proven guilty," Maddox said. "Just because he used to beat his wife does not mean he is a murderer."

Physical therapy and athletic training sophomore Jason Travis said he is too busy to worry about the trial.

"I don't know anything about (the case)," Travis said. "I'm worn out on it, and I don't have time. What time I do have, I definitely do not want to

See SIMPSON on 2

NEWSbytes

WORLD Muslim car bomb kills at least 38 in Algiers

ALGIERS, Algiers — In the worst bombing of a three-year Muslim insurgency, an explosives-packed car blew up yesterday along a street bustling with pedestrians preparing for Ramadan. At least 38 people were killed and 256 wounded, state TV said.

The bomb went off in a downtown commercial district near the main post office and train station. Businesses were particularly crowded in anticipation of the monthlong holiday. There was no claim of responsibility. The security forces blamed "criminals" — the official term for fundamentalist guerrillas seeking to topple the army-backed government and install an Islamic state.

More than 15,000 people — including about 80 foreigners — have been killed in fighting between the militants and security forces since January 1992. Nine people died in a bombing at Algiers airport in August 1992, but nothing in the central part of the capital has approached the devastation of yesterday's attack.

NATION Fed may raise interest rates

WASHINGTON — With Alan Greenspan calling economic growth "torrid," the Federal Reserve is widely expected to boost interest rates this week for the seventh time in a year. That would drive up borrowing costs for millions of Americans.

Many analysts are predicting the central bank, which Greenspan chairs, will increase two key interest rates by one-half percentage point, triggering a similar increase in banks' prime lending rate. The prime is the benchmark rate for many business and consumer loans. The speculation centers around the Tuesday-Wednesday meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee, the 12-member group that sets interest rates for the central bank.

NAMEdropping

Will Di make New York new castle?

NEW YORK — Princess Diana is lock in the colonies, inspiring speculation she might leave her royal residence to the Big Apple.

The estranged wife of the heir to the British throne returned yesterday to Harlem Hospital, where six years ago she hugged AIDS children on her first city visit. She spent more than an hour with children in the same ward, then left without comment. *New York* magazine gave its cover over to a guessing game on where in the city she might live, shop and get her hair done. In October, Buckingham Palace dismissed a report she was seeking to buy an apartment in New York.

Compiled from wire reports.



Princess Di

Media sleaze-shovelers undoing efforts of real journalists

Journalism is neither a profession nor a trade. It's a catch-all for misfits and fuck-offs: a cheap doorway to the backside of life; a filthy, piss-ridden little hole nailed off by the building inspector, but just deep enough for a wino to crawl in off the street and masturbate like a chimp in a zoo cage.

— Hunter S. Thompson (1971)
"Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas"

Having worked — and I mean worked hard — in the news business for some 15 years, I know many who would disagree with Thompson's scathing analysis of the essence of our labors. However, in light of the kind of worthless garbage presented as news these days, I think his words ring

prophetic.

Journalism, an honest profession or trade?

No — when "journalists" are flooding the media with the latest twist in the O.J. Simpson trial, while ignoring the more important goings-on in our nation's capital (where the crew we elected to change things has reverted overnight to party-line business as usual).

Not when "journalists" are disgorging volumes on how the vic-

tims' families reacted to this or that photograph, while ignoring issues of real importance — like which public "safety" officials let O.J. off the hook several times when he violated protective orders and why do they still have jobs with taxpayer-funded paychecks, or when is the L.A.P.D. going to get it act together and enforce the law equally. (Can you imagine a video of L.A.'s finest beating O.J. silly because he didn't pull that white Bronco over to the curb?)

Not when the local daily newspaper wants me to accord any kind of credibility to its editorial endorsements for a recent election, when the same edition brings me an in-depth analysis of an L.A.

district attorney's skirt length. (How's that for promoting respect for working women?)

Once, we drew definite lines between "news" and "entertainment," reserving the former for professional journalism and relegating the latter to low-class acts like *The National Enquirer* and "A Current Affair."

In fact, the Code of Ethics of the Society of Professional Journalists insists that "journalists will seek news that serves the public interest" and adds that "the media should not pander to morbid curiosity about details of vice and crime."

I guess it's time for the so-called "working press" covering this trial to voluntarily burn their

SPJ membership cards and apply for jobs with either "America's Funniest Home Videos" or "True Stories of the Highway Patrol."

Has anyone else noticed? Almost overnight, a new breed of freakshow hawkers have all but undone the ongoing efforts of generations of serious journalists, who sought to elevate the profession from the bias of the not-so-distant past to the balance and objectivity set forth (by the SPJ and others) as an ideal worthy of constitutionally-protected freedom.

Well, I'm sure the founding fathers meant to protect every citizen's right to know exactly how things are visible in the courtroom (though the story didn't tell me what brand of panty hose she favors, or if she's a true "Woman of the '90s" who doesn't shave her legs).

It's the old Roman proverb of bread and circuses — or, we fiddle with ourselves while our world burns.

And the professionals who once took pride in warning us of the foos now only pander to our perversions.

When Connie Chung jumped ship (maybe inspired by her husband Matry Povich) and "interviewed" Tonya Harding under the guise of "journalism," I wrote her

See MEDIA on 2

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Simpson
Students turned off by O.J. trial glut

From PAGE 1
 spend watching that."
 "There are bigger things in the nation to worry about than the O.J. trial," said Dave Pape, a political science and history freshman. Andrea Roob, an advertising sophomore, said she thinks the trial is important. She said she relies on the daily news to keep her updated on the trial.
 However, most students said the news coverage has gotten out of control.
 "Even though he is famous, he's just a normal person," said Melissa Gibson, a library science graduate student.
 "What he did or did not do should not be treated any differently than a local murder ... enough is enough."
 "(The trial) is definitely too publicized, and it's taking too long," said Cory Harton, an undeclared freshman. "How many murder trials last this long?"

Defense team resumes case

By Linda Deutsch
 Associated Press
 LOS ANGELES — Rebuked by the judge for breaking the law with surprise witnesses, O.J. Simpson's defense resumed its case yesterday with accounts of missing blood, contaminated socks and a defendant chipping golf balls into his children's sandbox at the hour he's accused of committing murder.
 Attorney Johnnie Cochran Jr. declared his celebrity defendant was "entitled to an acquittal."
 Moments before Cochran picked up his presentation, interrupted on Wednesday, Superior Court Judge Lance Ito reprimanded him for hiding witnesses and admonished jurors to ignore much of what he said last week as violations of law.
 In a highly unusual move, Ito also said he would allow the prosecution to reopen its opening statement for 10 minutes today to address the defense transgressions.
 The prosecution also is being

permitted to show four minutes of outtakes from Simpson's recent exercise videotape.
 The jurors listened intently as Ito instructed them to disregard Cochran's descriptions of six witnesses, including a woman who said she saw four men fleeing the area of the murders.
 Cochran yesterday turned his focus from eyewitnesses to what he termed the sloppy work of inept investigators who polluted evidence so badly it made DNA testing meaningless.
 "The evidence will be shown to be contaminated, compromised and corrupted," Cochran said. "The gathering of evidence was a complete disaster."
 Cochran also offered for the first time a firm alibi for Simpson, saying he was "chipping in the front yard" or swinging a three wood or four wood at about 10:10 p.m., shortly after making a phone call to his girlfriend from his Bronco.
 Prosecutors have said they believe Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman were mur-

dered at about 10:15 p.m.
 Cochran didn't explain why Simpson would go outside to make a phone call or how he was able to swing a golf club at a time when, as Cochran said last week, Simpson was suffering arthritis pain so severe he could not shuffle a pack of playing cards.
 "He did not, would not, could not, in the time frame, commit these particular killings," Cochran said.
 Hammering away at the handling of evidence, Cochran said the lead investigator carried a vial of Simpson's blood in his pocket for hours, taking it from police headquarters to Simpson's estate about 20 miles away rather than refrigerating it at the crime lab.
 Now, Cochran asserted, not all of the blood withdrawn from Simpson's arm the day after his ex-wife's slaying can be accounted for.
 He also accused authorities of bloodying a pair of socks months after technicians reported seeing no blood on those items found at the foot of Simpson's bed.

Media
Journalists bit low with latest sleaze

From PAGE 1
 off as an aberration.
 However, when O.J. took off in his white Bronco on his legendary

ride (which must somehow rival Paul Revere's, judging by the amount of attention it garnered), only ABC showed any restraint (and a blind faith in public taste) and returned to regular programming — which instantly cost them something like 20 percent of the ratings.
 I guess that taught them a lesson because now I hear ABC's Peter Jennings defending the net-

work's newly enhanced trial coverage, claiming lofty goals like "a deeper understanding of the legal process."
 What absolute bullshit!
 Thompson — who probably hasn't been sober one day since he left Louisville in the late 1950s — was absolutely right, even if he was eating what he called "high-powered blotter acid" during that week in 1971.

Journalism (or at least what passes as such these days) is neither a profession nor a trade. Sanitation workers are professionals. These media sleaze-shovelers are something else all together — and, come to think of it, their prime-time posturing really does resemble a wino, masturbating like a chimp in a zoo cage.
 Staff Columnist Phil Todd is a music graduate student.

SOUNDbytes

Have you been watching the O.J. Simpson trial?



"It's on, and you try to avoid it, but it is everything you see."
 Jennifer Fike
 Math freshman



"I have been too busy with work and school. If I had time, I would keep up with it."
 Mark Peffer
 Management senior



"I don't know anything about it. I haven't been watching it."
 Angela Anandappa
 Microbiology and music sophomore



"I try to stay away from it. It is receiving too much publicity. It's hard to tell what is real and what is not real."
 Leo Banks
 Accounting sophomore

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DiVERSions

UK Theatre's 'Tenor' in regional competition



Photos by YIBEN THAM Kernel staff

LEND ME A TROPHY Laurie Genet, a theatre senior, and Jobnathan Watson, a visual performance and music education sophomore, star in UK Theatre's 'Lend Me a Tenor,' which will be performed at a regional competition.

By Jessica Bean
Contributing Writer

A one-day revival of the comedy production "Lend Me A Tenor," winner of the statewide Kennedy Center/American College Theater Festival, was performed by the UK theatre department last night. The performance was a send-off for the regional competition, which is in North Carolina.

The cast and crew hoped to defray its competition costs with proceeds from last night's show.

"Lend Me A Tenor" is described as a farcical comedy.

"The play works on two levels," said Karl Lindstrom, assistant stage manager and sound designer. "The first is a comical farce with door-slamming, mistaken identity and people running around in underwear. The second level is more about the strength of the human soul overcoming insecurity."

"Lend Me A Tenor" will be performed at the contest under the direction of Michael Freidman, an assistant theatre professor. The company, consisting of 45 actors and crew members, will

compete as part of Region IV in the American College Theater Festival in Greensboro, N.C., tomorrow through Saturday.

The company's production is the only one selected from Kentucky. "Lend Me A Tenor" is one of six shows competing from the 11 states in the Southeast.

If UK's troupe wins the regional competition, it will compete in the national competition at the Kennedy Center for the Arts in Washington, D.C.

"Lend Me A Tenor" is the most commercial or mainstream production in the competition," Freidman said.

Freidman chose "Lend Me A Tenor" as one of the annual comedies performed by the theatre department. Throughout the year, the department usually performs two comedies, two musicals and three dramas. Ten of the cast members are nominees for the Irene Ryan Award, which allots scholarships to outstanding actors in college productions. The award winners will be announced later this semester.

The cast is composed of an unusual and diverse group of people. Two cast members are fresh-



TOM MCCORMICK stars as Saunders in the production.

men, and two others are non-traditional students.

"It's a unique show, with a unique director and a unique cast," Lindstrom said. "Nothing is average. Everything is phenomenal."

Rookie Todd Snider mixes genres into merry melodies

By Lance Williams
Associate Editor

The debut for 28-year-old Todd Snider is full of witty lyrics and good sounds.

The multi-talented Atlanta-based singer strikes a chord with *Songs for the Daily Planet*, which showcases Snider's songwriting ability.

Snider also takes his turn with the acoustic guitar and the harmonica, proving his talent as both singer and musician. His work is quite difficult to pigeonhole into a specific genre of music.

He drifts between rock and country, with a little blues injected into the album (although the attempt is a pitiful one).

The Oregon native lists Lynyrd Skynyrd and Jerry Jeff Walker among his influences, adding a Southern sound to his repertoire.

The best cut of the album was one that wasn't even listed among the album's songs. It was placed after the final song, "Joe's Blues,"

as a bonus cut.

Although "Blues" wasn't a minus for the album, the song was well worth the wait for the bonus track.

The extra song told the story of a band that is having trouble getting a start in music, so the members move to Seattle, the grunge capital of America.

They decided to find a gimmick to get record producers to notice them. The gimmick: not singing.

They soon become a hit on the local scene with their limited type of performance. Without music or words, the group begins the search for a record producer.

"Now fit to fit in on the Seattle scene/You gotta do something they ain't never seen.

"So thinkin' up a gimmick one

day/We decided to be the only

band that wouldn't play/A note, under any circumstances.

Silence, music's original alternative."

They become music's darlings until a new group takes the plan a little further — the new group hadn't really ever formed as a group.

"Easy Money" and "Alright Guy" are two more examples of his impressive humorous lyrics. His country-blues sound comes through on the album.

"My Generation (Part 2)" is a follow-up to the Who hit, "My Generation." It is an upbeat and 1990s version talking about some of the things that make up the nebulous Generation X.

Although Snider is gaining



MUSICreview

★★★★

"Songs for the Daily Planet" Todd Snider (Margaritaville/MCA)

RATINGS
★★★★ Excellent
★★★★ Good
★★★ Fair
★ Poor



Photo courtesy Margaritaville Records

TODD SNIDER can make both humorous and serious lyrics into good songs. He proves it on his debut album, 'Songs for the Daily Planet.'

notoriety for his humorous songs, he also can produce works of a more serious nature.

"This Land Is Our Land" deals with the harmful effects of the land rush during the early days of America and compares it to modern corporations and their drive for more land and more production of goods.

"You Think You Know Somebody" deals with the painful side of child abuse.

It details a childhood friend of the singer who grows up to kill his young son through his abusive ways. The song later reveals that the friend was beaten when he was a child.

Overall, the rookie effort

should be a success. In coordination with the album, Snider hit the road last week on a tour that began in California.

A weak spot is Snider's voice itself. Straining and gravelly, it may grate on some listeners' nerves.

Fans of Bob Dylan should listen elsewhere.

BOXoffice

Here are the Top 15 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters from Friday through Sunday.

- "Legends of the Fall," \$6.3 million.
- "Highlander: The Final Dimension," \$5.6 million.
- "Dumb and Dumber," \$4.3 million.
- "Nobody's Fool," \$4.1 million.
- "Higher Learning," \$3.4 million.
- "Murder in the First," \$3.2 million.
- "Houseguest," \$2.2 million.
- "Little Women," \$2.1 million.
- "Disclosure," \$2 million.
- "Tales from the Crypt Presents Demon Knight," \$1.8 million.
- "Before Sunrise," \$1.4 million.
- "Pulp Fiction," \$1.34 million.
- "Rudyard Kipling's The Jungle Book," \$1.3 million.
- "Neil," \$1.25 million.
- "Far From Home: The Adventures of Yellow Dog," \$1.14 million.

Sherman's Alley by Gibbs 'N' Voigt

Gays here they'll be serving pork chops and applesauce at lunch.

Just like in episode 54. Remind me to pick up a copy of Ann B. Davis' autobiography, too.



To get in, I need your countersign after I say this code phrase: "You're Joe Namath!"

"Jesse James was a mean, dirty killer."



You're in. We're about to screen some cowboy movies the Bradys used to watch on TV.

The ones with no dialogue? Just cowboy-and-Indian sound effects?



Brady Heaven

Yep. Just hang a left by the "Davy Jones Automaton" and turn right by the "Marla's Driving Test Simulator."

My cup runneth over.



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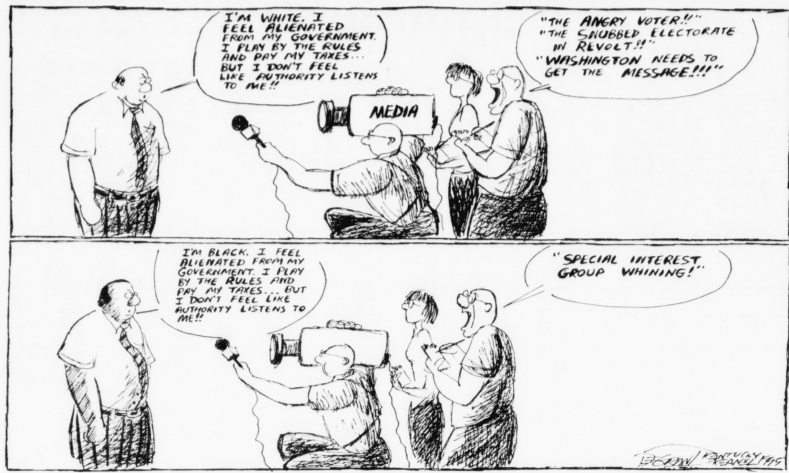
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ViewPOINT



Rednecks labeled rabid homosexuals by movie industry

O smell a conspiracy afoot. The first whiff came when I saw the movie "Pulp Fiction" a few weeks back. I realized the powers that be in Hollywood have a long-running agenda that entails the stock portrayal of Southerners, more specifically rednecks, as homosexual, sodomizing rapists.

But I smell a rat, and where there's smoke there's a barbecue. (No jokes about squealing pigs, please.)

Tinsel Town's kinglys have a vested interest in undermining the socioeconomic development and overall improvement of living standards among the rednecks of America.

Hand in hand with the wealthy and powerful, they are waging an organized war of character assassination against these unempowered folks.

To combat this evil plotting, we need to begin an aggressive campaign of social engineering, beginning with the imposition of hiring quotas upon the motion picture industry. No production studio should be allowed to exist without at least one Bubba or Beuline among its highest echelon of executives.

Multicultural curricula within our public schools and institutions of higher learning must be expanded to include the study of the redneck way of life. Rednecks deserve to be understood within the context of their own social mores, and only in this way can we turn back the tide of ignorance that has been drawn high by the moon of Hollywood's conspiracy.

Perhaps the federal government should go so far as to set aside National Science Foundation grants for anthropologists to study this culture before it is driven out of existence by the higher conspiracy against redneck society. Maybe Congress could even create National Redneck Appreciation Week.

But wait. Maybe this is really a campaign to make all homosexuals appear to be the lowest form of humanity.

It was bad enough that the movie "Philadelphia" made gays look like a bunch of lawyers (one of the most hated elements within our society).

Perhaps Hollywood is making a conscious effort to portray gays as sex criminals. (See Sharon Stone's lesbian seductress/murderer character in "Basic Instinct.")

Next they'll be making movies about homosexual television evangelists.

Or maybe ...

Staff Columnist Kevin Cullen is a library science graduate student.

A time for peace

For several months now, a new word has been added to common characterizations of Lexington — healing.

Since 9:45 a.m. on Oct. 25, the city as a whole has embarked on a journey to heal the wounds of racism.

The overwhelming turnout, from both black and white members of the community, for a march commemorating slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. signifies the number of people in the area ready to embrace change.

A series of Mayor Pam Miller's "Speak Out" sessions focusing on race relations has begun, and calls for action can be heard from every corner of the city.

Those involved in the rioting and unrest following the shooting death of Antonio Sullivan obviously thought their actions were necessary. But the positive events of the past several months may be jeopardized if further violence follows the decision of a grand jury that is hearing evidence in the Sullivan case this week.

Picketers outside the Fayette County Courthouse yesterday said they no longer trust the justice process. They said they are sure Police Sgt. Phil Vogel killed 18-year-old Sullivan intentionally, no matter what a grand jury composed of 11 whites and one black determines.

Gerald Coleman, director of UK's Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center, said yesterday he and many other black students also are certain Vogel should be indicted.

There is no question that many in this community will be displeased if the grand jury dismisses the case against Vogel.

The question is what to do with that anger. Violence only will continue to divide Lexington along racial lines. And it certainly does nothing to further the cause for justice. In fact, very little justice can occur under and aera of threats and coercion.

The anger should be channeled in a redoubled effort to bring together the people of Lexington for a common purpose: to live together in peace and harmony.

It's a simple enough thing to say. We will see as events unfold whether it is as easy to do.

IN OUR OPINION

KeNTucky
Kernel

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READERS' forum

Christians not as boring as Abbott portrays them

To the editor:

Staff Columnist John Abbott's column on Friday was both revealing and insightful.

Apparently, he is at home with neither the "hipper than hip" nor the Christians. The former lifestyle is beyond hope — how dismal it must be to live from orgasm to orgasm! There is, however, a germ of promise in Christianity.

Abbott is right — Christians are boring.

The only apparent difference between Christians and others is they are bound by additional moral restraints. But as far as material values, vocational plans and personal aspirations are concerned, they are pretty much like everyone else.

When will Christians wake up

and get radical?

When will they realize that their faith is worth dying for and lay down their lives as the early disciples of Jesus did?

The lives of the apostles were filled with depression, despair and death (as well as intense joy) — but they were never boring.

Thank you, Mr. Abbott, for pointing out how insipid we Christians really are.

Christians take note: Nothing less than a life completely sold out to Jesus, regardless of loss of comfort, wealth, status or security, will show honest skeptics like Abbott the power and truth of the gospel you profess.

Chris Thron
Physics graduate student

DeGrand should be open minded

To the editor:

Could you please explain to me what Editorial Cartoonist Alex

DeGrand is doing?

Even though his cartoons are filled with the stereotyping that liberalism is supposed to abhor, they usually pertain to either some important ideological conflict or an issue that is currently in the public debate.

In Thursday's Kentucky Kernel, though, he completely lost me.

Could he just not find anything new to blame on Republicans. Wouldn't his godlike president still have to OK such a transaction?

Mr. DeGrand, you need to wake up from your idealistic dreamworld where everything is black and white.

I'm a Republican, and I can admit that my party has its faults, and I can admit that the Democrats have some good ideas. But every conservative is not an abortion clinic gunman and every wealthy businessman who is getting kickbacks from the government isn't GOP.

Please try to remember that the next time you pick up your pencil.

Scott Webb
Chemical engineering sophomore

Mistakes riddle Kernel's puzzles

To the editor:

I can overlook the misquotes, the misspellings of my name, and other errors that riddle this newspaper. I can glance over the frequent slams on various organizations on this campus. I can choose not to read the editorial cartoons.

I cannot, however, stand errors involving the crossword puzzle!

While seeing how quickly I could solve the puzzle on Monday, I noted that some of the clues were quite familiar. I'm used to that, though — Iran was Persia at one time, oleo is a butter substitute, and the like. But this puzzle was too familiar, and looking through some old newspapers that I have in a recycling stack, I discovered that this puzzle had already appeared in the Jan. 11 edition of the Kentucky Kernel.

Please make sure that this oversight does not repeat itself.

John Kuchenbrod
Mathematics graduate student

President Quayle: representative of the American dream

As I write this, I should be miserable. A nasty cold has gotten a grip on me and stuck me with a runny nose, a sore throat and useless muscles. (OK, more and more useless muscles.)

I'm already behind in French, "NYPD Blue" was pre-empted for President Clinton's State of the Union address, and I have a nasty hangnail. But instead of feeling like I've been hit by a random falling USAir jetliner, I feel great. I know what you're thinking: "Oh, don't pretend to be brave for us. Go feel like crap and whine about it. You've earned it. Those hangnails really suck."

No, no, you don't understand. Certain Momentous Things are under way. There's a rush over my life, a sense of promise and expectation. I imagine that this is

what it must have been like, this glorious feeling that I Just Doesn't Get Any Better Than This. When the Titanic was launched or when the Hubble Space Telescope went up.

J. Danforth Quayle is running for president. I found out Sunday night that, although he hasn't yet filed, he officially has announced his intention. It might surprise many of you to know that I am a charter member of a Dan Quayle fan club on the Internet. It's true. I suppose it does seem odd, since Dan might be said to represent everything that's wrong with the neo-conservative religious right in this country.

You might think I'd hold it against him that he's not the brightest guy in the world, for instance. The latest rumor is that the Central Intelligence Agency

somehow ended up with Dan's IQ score, recently released it, and that he was on the low end of average.

That doesn't sound all that bad, right?

Well, I suppose it depends on how you look at it. Think about how dumb the average person is. Dan is dumber.

(Somebody out there is thinking, "He isn't dumb. You just haven't given him a chance." Listen, if there was a speed-reading contest between Dan and that guy on the Electric Company ... well, I'm not saying Dan would lose, but it'd be a close thing. If you need further con-

vincing, e-mail me at wilder@mikaky.edu, and we'll talk.)

But I don't hold it against him. Quite the contrary. I think Dan does represent the American Dream, albeit it a new, warped, Republican version.

It's not every guy that can get a C average as an undergraduate, pull a few strings to qualify for law school entrance program — one that was meant to help the less privileged — graduate into politics, become vice president of the United States and, finally, have a non-zero chance of achieving our nation's most powerful office.

It's not every guy that can have his daddy get him into the National Guard and then cheerfully, and with no sense of irony, call Bill Clinton a draft dodger. (Although, in complete fairness to

Dan, it is true that Indiana suffered absolutely no offensive action by the Viet Cong.)

So I admire him. Dan is living proof of Gumpism.

And if you thought it couldn't get better, it has. Bob Dole also has announced a virtually certain run at the presidency.

I've got goosebumps. This conjures so many magnificent images. For example, imagine a darkened chamber. Small multicolored lights flicker dimly from surrounding machinery. We hear heavy, filtered breathing and the hum of a Right-saber. Pan down to ... Dole Vader.

Dole has trapped our hero, Dan Quaylewalker, on a catwalk. Quaylewalker looks desperate, and Dole speaks entreatingly. (He doesn't stop sneering, of course, leading us to believe that the sneer

might just be a mask, behind which may lurk a kinder, gentler ... nah.)

"Dan," Dole Vader says, raising a gloved hand, "I am your political father!"

Quaylewalker's eyes widen in fear as he recognizes the truth, even as his boyish mouth opens to deny it: "No. No, that's not true! That's impost — impost — that's really hard to believe!"

"OK," says Dole, shrugging, as he cuts Quaylewalker's hand off. We cut to Quaylewalker, having his hand worked on by a medical droid that poor people can't afford. "Pat Robertson," moans Dan. "Pat Buchanan ... why didn't you tell me?"

Pan down to Dan's hand, successfully replaced by a ... potato. Staff Columnist Jeff Wilder is an English junior.



Jeff Wilder
Kernel Columnist

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CLASSIFIEDS

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ACROSS 1 Trout's home... 54 Flycatchers... DOWN 1 Type of pine tree... 2 Mindful...

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Couldn't get tickets to the game? Isn't that a shame... Wednesday, January 25 UK vs Tennessee... Saturday, March 4 UK vs LSU

SPORTS

Pitino says Cats' recruitment of Mercer within NCAA rules

By Jason Dattilo
Assistant Sports Editor

During his weekly teleconference yesterday, UK coach Rick Pitino continued to deny that the Wildcats did anything illegal in the recruitment of high school All-American Ron Mercer of Oak Hill Academy.

On Jan. 20, a group of UK players and equipment manager Bill Keightley attended an Oak Hill game in Louisville. Following the game, the players visited with Mercer in the Oak Hill locker room.

Controversy surfaced when member of Florida's athletics department reported the visit to the NCAA. Apparently, UF officials also reported a similar incident involving Mercer and Tennessee to the NCAA.

Tennessee and UK are both finalists on Mercer's list of potential colleges.

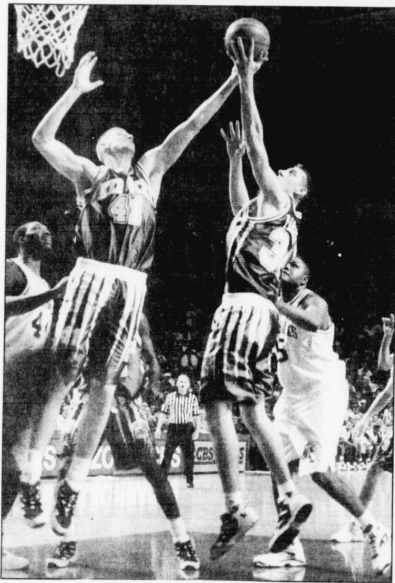
According to NCAA rules, players are allowed only incidental contact with recruits, and that contact cannot swing the advantage in favor of any particular institution.

"The rules are quite clear today," Pitino said. "Something with as much at stake as Ron Mercer, we certainly not only checked with our compliance office, we called the NCAA, and we did all the correct things."

Pitino said being in a conference requires members to respect one another and have a good working knowledge of NCAA rules, and Florida's actions showed a lack of "correct protocol and ethics."

"There are rivals of ours who have visited Ron Mercer and been to his games, and we didn't question them on it because we know they understand the rules," Pitino said. "Basically before you stick your nose in other people's business, you may want to call them. We would have explained it to (Florida), but instead they chose to randomly call the NCAA and turn us in on the matter, which is not right."

But Pitino said he holds no hard feelings toward Florida head coach Lon Kruger, whom he felt had no knowledge of the matter.



BRIAN BENNETT/Kentucky Kernel staff

SAME TEAM UK's Mark Pope and Scott Padgett battle for a loose ball during Sunday's 94-92 loss to Arkansas, the Cats' first in conference play.

NCAA Director of Enforcement David Berst would not comment on the incident, but he said "if a recruiting violation has occurred, certainly the athlete's eligibility at that particular school would be in jeopardy."

Pitino also had praise for the Arkansas team that nipped his Wildcats squad 94-92 Sunday and discounted the notion that the Razorbacks are not a hungry basketball team.

Instead of finding fault with Arkansas, more credit should be

given to teams like Alabama, which walloped the Razorbacks 88-70 last week, Pitino said. He said the Crimson Tide merely "played like a national champion on that given night."

"I think Arkansas is doing a wonderful job this year in defending their title," Pitino said. "I'm not buying the fact that they're down and not emotionally charged up. It's just that the other teams are playing so much better and so much harder against them."

HEALING RACISM



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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8 - ROOM 359

TUESDAY, MARCH 21 - ROOM 359

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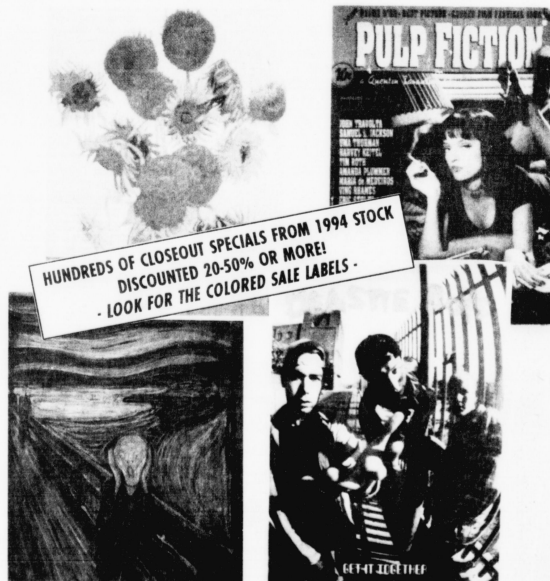
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