



Useless info

Little-known

In the Middle Ages, chicken soup was believed to be an aphrodisiac.

The ostrich has only two toes, unlike most birds, which have three or four.

The fairy tales "Puss in Boots," "Little Red Riding Hood," "Cinderella," and many others were first written down by Charles Perrault, who also helped design part of the Louvre.

The Dieri tribe in Australia has strict laws regarding who can marry whom. For example, a man can legally marry his mother's mother's brother's daughter's daughter. He can also marry his mother's father's sister's daughter's daughter. Go figure!

Some more names for groups of animals: a bale of turtles, a clowder of cats, a charm of goldfinches, a gam of whales, a knot of toads, a streak of tigers.

Domesticated (farm raised) turkeys cannot fly. Wild turkeys can fly for short distances at up to 55 miles/hour. Wild turkeys are also fast on the ground, running at speeds of up to 25 miles/hour.

Camels have three eyelids to protect themselves from blowing sand.

The classic toy wagon was designed by Antonio Pasin, who founded his company in 1918. Pasin wanted to give his wagons a modern flair, and chose the word "radio" for what was then a new form of communication, and "flyer" for the wonder of flight — hence, "Radio Flyer."

Gasoline has no specific freezing point — it freezes at any temperature between -180 and -240 degrees Fahrenheit. When gasoline freezes, it never solidifies totally, but resembles gum.

Temperature and crime are correlated. Many more crimes are committed in the hot summer months than in the cold winter months.

In one year, hens in America lay enough eggs to encircle the globe a hundred times.

A Hippopotamus has a stomach 10 feet long and capable of holding 5 bushels of grass.

source: www.uselessknowledge.com

•Ron Norton

THE 411

Tomorrow's weather



58 41
Hi Lo

Partly cloudy, but nice. Enjoy your break.

Kentucky Kernel

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FRIDAY KENTUCKY KERNEL

March 10, 2000



CU later UC
Kenyon Martin out for season with broken leg 16

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TRAGEDY IN AFRICA

Mozambique devastated by widespread flooding



Disaster

Above, a boy who lost his parents during the recent floods stands at the Chokolane refugee camp some 150 kilometers (90 miles) north of Maputo Tuesday. Aid workers say as many as half of all children arriving in the camps don't know where their parents are following Mozambique's devastating floods.

At right, a man waits for a boat at the destroyed bridge across the Limpopo River, near the provincial capital of Xai-Xai.

ASSOCIATED PRESS



No relief: Torrential rain continues in flood-ravaged African country

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Heavy rains drenched flood-ravaged southern Mozambique today, soaking hundreds of thousands of displaced people crammed into aid camps, hampering relief operations and raising fears of further flooding.

The floods — the worst on record in Mozambique — have already killed hundreds, and the toll may reach into the thousands. Officials with the United Nations World Food Program were planning an assessment mission today, to establish the status of an estimated 20,000 people spotted moving en masse along a railway line running near the upper reaches of the Limpopo River.

The group was first spotted by a U.S. plane on Wednesday

near the town of Mabalane, 150 miles northwest of Maputo, the capital. The reason they were traveling along the railway line was not known.

There were displaced people also in the Save River delta, said U.S. Air Force Capt. Alex Carothers, who inspected that area by air Wednesday.

"Within five to seven miles off the coast, there must have been 2,000 displaced people — and those were only the ones we could see," Carothers said.

The groups would add to the estimated 260,000 people displaced by the floods.

A U.S. Hercules C-130 cargo plane took off from Maputo's airport early today to inspect a dam on the Limpopo River near the town of Massingir, close to the South African border. The dam's water levels were a cause of major concern, U.S. military officials said.

Two U.S. helicopters left South Africa early today for the central Mozambican port city

Beira to join German, Malawian and South African forces in disbursing aid to tens of thousands of displaced people, U.S. Maj. Mike Young said.

While the effect of the new rains was not immediately apparent, they forced three aid helicopters to temporarily return to Maputo early today.

"The rainy season is not yet over," said Getacheu Biriba, a World Food Program expert. "The concern remains that the soil is so saturated that any rain could pose a threat."

Francois Engelbrecht, a forecaster with the South African Weather Bureau in Pretoria, said on Wednesday that there was a definite danger of renewed flooding south of Beira as the remnants of Cyclone Gloria, now downgraded to a tropical low, slowly moved inland.

"There are going to be heavy falls of rain. It's not going to be as bad as the previous event. It will be more of a localized feature," said Engelbrecht.

EQUALITY

Group discusses womens rights

A long way to go: Discrimination on campus, elsewhere focus of group session

By Jill Gorin

NEWS EDITOR

We've come along way, but students and faculty at UK say we still have a long way to go before women and men are seen as equals.

The Baha'i Association and Advancement for Women Committee sponsored a group session Tuesday, International Women's Day, to discuss the discrimination of women from the aspects of people from different countries.

LulaMae Fragd, an assistant professor of English, said she has noticed sexual discrimination on campus.

"In the academic community, women are less likely to receive tenure. They're called on to do the 'grunt' work and some departments don't have female faculty members," she said.

Those from around the world can relate.

"Women are educated forever that they are weak," said Elda Dede, from Albania and organizer of the event. "We want to break the cycle of women being the delicate flower."

In Albania, Dede said women are seen as girls and called girls (as opposed to women) before they have children.

Others said they have seen the same type of discrimination.

Melody Hickman, a sociology graduate student, knows all too well the horrors of discrimination of women. She said her mother, aunt and others were abused by their husbands.

"This happens," she said. "It's a cycle of violence, but we have to look forward."

At first glance, the people at the group session may seem like men-haters, but that is exactly the image they don't want to promote.

"That song 'These Boots are Made for Walking' and 'I'm going to walk all over you' is not true and not good," Dede said.

She emphasizes the importance of unity, "like two wings of a bird."

"One wing is the man and the other is a woman," she said. "Unless they're equal and balanced, they can't fly."

Of the five or six men who attended the discussion, one said he had noticed discrimination in the classroom.

"There's a tendency for teachers to look over all the girls in the classroom with their hands up and call the one boy who is awake during class," said Rick Oleason, a Baha'i Association member.

Fragd said this was a result of the teachers simply being products of society, which has taught them to act in that manner.

Right now, several countries are signing CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women), which would end discrimination in education, strengthen sexual harassment laws and have affirmative action for women.

Of handful of countries that haven't signed it, the United States is one of them.

"We should certainly commit ourselves to this important issue," said Michael Razeem, a business librarian at UK.



Volunteers Sarah Arias, top, and Sarah Gustafson 16, bottom, listen to a speech at the Crossroads Women's Center in Los Angeles Wednesday. The event was held to launch the "Global Women's Strike," a one day global strike and protest in defense of mothers and other women doing caring work, taking a stand against poverty, violence and inequality that continue to afflict women globally.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NATION

Firefighters ambushed by disgruntled fireman

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Firefighters responding to a house fire Wednesday were ambushed by an off-duty Memphis firefighter who stepped out of the garage and began shooting, authorities said.

Two firefighters and a sheriff's deputy were killed, and a woman was found dead in the garage.

The suspected gunman, Fred Williams, was wounded and was in critical condition early Thursday after undergoing surgery, Police Director Walter E. Crews said.

A bystander also was wounded, but not seriously.

"We don't expect this. We're here to fight fires," Fire Chief H.J. Pickett said. "You want to say it's part of the job, but it's not."

Williams did not live in the house, and his relationship to the victim in the garage was unclear, Crews said.

On its web site early today, The Commercial Appeal newspaper reported that the woman was Stacey Williams, the suspect's new wife. Citing police sources, the newspaper also reported that Williams

had been arrested in October following a domestic disturbance involving the two.

A court date on the case had been set for March 16.

Firefighters Lt. Javier Lerma and Pvt. William Blakemore were killed. Sheriff's Deputy Rupert Peete was shot in his patrol car as he responded to the report of the shooting, authorities said. His car crashed through a fence and ended up next to the house.

Memphis police officers then arrived and tried to get the gunman to put down his weapon. When he refused, "one of our officers got into a gun battle and the suspect was shot," Crews said.

Before firefighters arrived, neighbors reported seeing smoke coming from the house and alerted the suspect, but he said everything was fine, according to authorities. Soon after, deputies and firefighters arrived and were ambushed.

"It's a tragic thing for the city and for the families. The firemen, police, they put their lives on the line a lot but they don't expect to be shot at the scene of a burning house," President Clinton said during interview with CNN.



Ambush in Memphis

An unidentified Memphis fireman places a helmet on the body of a slain Memphis firefighter Wednesday afternoon in Memphis, Tenn. Firefighters responding to a house fire Wednesday were ambushed by an off-duty fireman who stepped out of the garage and opened fire, authorities said. A sheriff's deputy and two firefighters were killed.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS

The Low-down

Nasdaq ends at 5,047.39; Dow surges

NEW YORK — The Nasdaq composite index soared to its first close above 5,000 yesterday as the technology stocks that dominate its ranks lifted the entire market and pulled the Dow Jones industrials out of a slump. The Nasdaq rose 150.13 to close at 5,047.39; the Dow rose 154.20 to end at 10,010.73. On the NYSE, gainers led losers 1,689-1,285. The Nasdaq reached its latest milestone just 46 sessions after it first closed above 4,000. So far this year, the Nasdaq is up 24 percent, while the Dow, which has been depressed by industrial company profit worries, is down 13 percent.

Bradley, McCain halt campaigns

WEST ORANGE, N.J. — Bill Bradley quit the Democratic presidential campaign yesterday and Republican John McCain suspended his candidacy. Both Democrat Al Gore and Republican George W. Bush emerged from the Super Tuesday primaries with their nominations assured. Bradley said he will support Gore despite their sometimes bitter rivalry because "now it is time for unity." But Bradley said he will not release his 412 delegates because they had earned a voice at the Democratic National Convention. In Sedona, Ariz., McCain pointedly offered Bush his "best wishes," but not his endorsement after a bitter campaign.

Bush turns attention to Gore

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — With John McCain out of the way for now, likely Republican presidential nominee George W. Bush turned his attention today to Democratic rival Al Gore. The Texas governor criticized the vice president and certain Democratic presidential nominee for talking about eliminating unregulated "soft money" in election campaigns while at the same time there are reports that Gore will headline party efforts to raise millions in soft money that will help his presidential campaign.

Senate approves controversial judges

WASHINGTON — Californians Richard A. Paez and Marsha Berzon yesterday won Senate confirmation to seats on the federal bench, ending years of contention. Berzon, a San Francisco lawyer, was confirmed in a 64-34 vote. Paez, a judge on the U.S. District Court in Los Angeles, was approved in a 59-39 vote. Senate conservatives have blocked action on the two, claiming they are too liberal and that they would add to overly activist tendencies of the 9th Circuit U.S.



David Arquette, recently seen tending off a crazed killer in "Scream 3," is set to play a postal worker in the comedy "See Spot Run," with shooting to begin in June. Arquette's character takes in a stray dog that turns out to be a refugee from the witness protection program and is a pooch with exceptional crime-fighting skills.



The Oscar-nominated song "Blame Canada," an obscenity-laced song about censorship from the "South Park" movie, has put ABC's censors and the producers of the Academy Awards in a quandary. ABC has told producers they need to either clean up or bleep out profanity in the tune so that it can be performed with the other nominees.

Court of Appeals.

Missing Fla. girl found in store

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — A 10-year-old girl turned up in good condition at a department store yesterday, three days after her mother reported that she had been abducted when she got off her school bus. Doctors say Jessica Rodriguez is in good condition. Police are searching for the suspect, who they described as a man about 6 feet, with brown eyes and brown hair. They say the suspect may be driving a 1999 blue Chevrolet Lumina with Florida license plates.

JonBenet Ramsey DA to leave office

DENVER — Boulder County District Attorney Alex Hunter, often criticized for his handling of the unsolved JonBenet Ramsey slaying, announced yesterday he will leave office at the end of the year. Hunter, 63, said the Ramsey investigation influenced his decision not to seek an eighth term. No suspects have been named in the three-year-old investigation.

NATO denies spy leaked Kosovo plans

ANKARA, Turkey — NATO Secretary-General Lord Robertson yesterday denied reports that a spy within NATO headquarters passed information to Serbia on planned air strikes during last year's Kosovo campaign. A BBC program, "Moral Combat: NATO at War," claims that an internal classified report prepared for senior U.S. defense officials concluded that the Serbs had information on air raids, allowing them to move troops and equipment away from intended NATO targets.

Gas prices are worse overseas

HONG KONG — Americans who worry about paying as much as \$1.80 per gallon for gasoline are lucky they don't fill up in Hong Kong, where unleaded gas costs around \$5.40 per gallon. Fuel prices have risen quickly in the past year as crude oil prices soared amid a global production cutback. French retail gasoline prices have risen by about 30 percent to the equivalent of \$4.50 per gallon. The English pay about \$5 per gallon.

Saint Louis 68, No. 1 Cincinnati 58

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Top-ranked Cincinnati lost its best player, Kenyon Martin, for the rest of the season because of a broken right leg, and then lost its postseason opener, 68-58 to Saint Louis. Martin, a candidate for player of the year, got hurt three minutes into the game when he got tangled with Justin Love of Saint Louis.

Compiled from wire reports.



New York City police officer Thomas Wiese, at right, one of three police officers charged with conspiring to conceal their role in the bathroom torture of Abner Louima arrives with an unidentified attorney, left, at Federal Court in the Brooklyn borough of New York, last Thursday. During their second day of deliberations, jurors asked to be read a transcript of the cross-examination of Eric Turetzky, then a Brooklyn patrolman who helped arrest Louima during a street disturbance in the summer of 1997.

I never thought I'd grow up to be the person who is fighting the good fight so that 'fart' could be said on the Academy Awards, but if that is my mission in life, so be it."

- Marc Shaiman, "South Park: Bigger, Longer and Uncut" composer, on the R-rated, Oscar-nominated song, "Blame Canada," to Reuters.

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THEATRE

What are the chances?



UK graduate student Debbie Delaney (left) and Alecia Whitaker star in the UK theatre department's newest production *Brief Encounters*. Written by Lexington native Arlene Hutton, *Brief Encounters* consists of six one-act plays and two monologues all about chance meetings.

NICK TOMECEK | KERNEL STAFF

New play follows the sometimes significant effects of chance encounters with strangers

By Amanda York
SCENE EDITOR

We all have moments in our lives where we have a chance meeting with someone and it impacts you in ways you won't realize until later. No matter how insignificant these encounters may seem, they could be life changing.

The UK Theatre Department demonstrates how brief encounters play a part in all our lives with their production, aptly named *Brief Encounters*.

Brief Encounters, a presentation of six one-act plays and two monologues by Arlene Hutton, exemplifies many situations we face in contemporary society.

Rhoda Gale Pollack, professor of theater and director of the play, said she chose to group the plays together because of the variety they offered.

"What appealed to me is what it's based on," she said. "There's a variety of serious and comic pieces, and I like having a variety in one evening."

Pollack also said the plays, written by Kentucky native Arlene Hutton, had never been performed the way the Theatre Department has chosen to perform them.

The six plays all have the central theme of chance meeting with strangers, Pollack said. She also said the audience should be able to relate to the plays because they exemplify situations faced in our everyday lives.

Another interesting aspect added to the play by the director consists of monologues performed during the intermission.

The monologues will air during the intermission through a projector and will also be performed live after the intermission by the actors.

Gion DeFrancesco, professor of theater and scene designer, said he wanted to keep the set simple.

"I wanted to keep the set clean and fresh to match the dialogue," DeFrancesco said.

Pollack also said that when designing the set they tried to keep the simplicity of the dialogues in mind.

"The language is sparse and there is a feeling of minimalism in the play. We tried to bring that to the visual elements of the play," she said.

The characters in the plays consist of eight actors who use their acting skills to play a myriad of characters. Pollack said this combination of plays allowed the actors the ability to expand their acting skills.

"It's unusual to see six plays and two monologues in one evening. It's a wonderful opportunity for actors because each actor has the opportunity to play different characters."

The buzz

Brief Encounters

Mar. 10, 11, 22, 23, 24 and 25 at 8 p.m.

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FILM

As fun as an anal probe

By Matt Mulcahey
ASSISTANT SCENE EDITOR

What planet were the people who thought this movie would be funny from?

Although the flimsy premise might have held up for a 30 minute sitcom or a couple of *Saturday Night Live* sketches, the often used fish-out-of-water formula runs of steam very early in Mike Nichols' newest film.

The movie opens with promise: an alien race made up entirely of men seek to take over Earth from the inside. To do this, they send one of their own (Gary Shandling) to Earth to impregnate a human. Because they are so highly evolved and technologically advanced, the race of men have evolved past the need for emotion and reproductive organs.

So when Shandling must deal with emotions and having a Johnson for the first time, it provides some funny moments. It's a humorous notion that being an alien is just like being human male: distant, emotionless and uninterested in women for anything other than sex. However, it's not enough to sustain a feature-length film.

This kind of movie has been made before,

but what's disappointing is the level of talent that went in to creating this dime-a-dozen comedy.

Director Mike Nichols was a magnificent talented filmmaker at one time, but he lost his edge years ago. This sure isn't the movie that brings him back to form.

In succession, Nichols made *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf?*, *The Graduate* and *Catch-22*. In the decades since, he's made *Working Girl*, *Wolf* and *The Birdcage*. While not terrible films, they're not on the level of his earlier work. *What Planet Are You From?* is just another example of his deterioration as a front-line director.

And what is this cast doing in this movie? Shandling comes off best with his detached goofiness, and Greg Kinnear gets some laughs as his womanizing, sleazy co-worker. The rest of the cast isn't so lucky.

Annette Bening should fire whoever told her to follow up *American Beauty* with this turkey. John Goodman, Ben Kingsley and Linda Fiorentino are also wasted in pointless subplots that don't advance the narrative an inch.

Despite a promising beginning and a good cast and director, *What Planet Are You From?* is a disaster of cosmic proportions.



Gary Shandling reacts to the reviews of his newest film.



Best friends

Yuri Tokuda faces off with "Pong," a face robot that can move its eyes, eyebrows and mouth in accordance with its opponent's facial expression during the IBM Fair at Makuhari Messe in Makuhari, east of Tokyo, Thursday. If someone stands in front of the robot for a few seconds, it displays similar features of the person upon analyzing data collected by a small video camera set on the nose and infrared light sensors on the cheeks by using "Gaze Tracking Technology" being studied by the researchers of IBM's Almaden Laboratory based in Calif., USA.

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Catholics get meat pardon for St. Patrick's Day

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Catholics in a Wisconsin diocese are getting a break on the Lenten regulation of abstaining from meat on Fridays, so they can enjoy corned beef and cabbage on St. Patrick's Day. Bishop William Bullock has granted a St. Patrick's Day dispensation for the Madison Roman Catholic Diocese. Bullock suggested that Catholics who make use of the dispensation compensate by performing another form of penance, such as acts of charity, prayer or alms given close to March 17, which falls on a Friday this year. "We're pleased that Bishop Bullock has granted the dispensation for Catholics this St. Patrick's Day so they can partake in the celebration," said Ed Lump, executive vice president of the Wisconsin Restaurant Association.

Say what?

Lexington storeowner confuses robber

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — The Korean proprietor of a convenience store foiled a robbery by pretending he did not understand English. After activating a silent alarm, Meng Choi confounded the would-be robber until police arrived at the H & M Market. "Don't try anything, just give me the \$100," Choi recalled the robber demanding. "I say, 'Why? I no understand what you want,'" Choi said. "Just give me the \$100," Choi said the robber responded. "What you want \$100 for? I have no thing that cost \$100," Choi said. The storeowner was still playing dumb when police officers arrived and arrested Eric Sallee in the Monday night robbery attempt.

Hide-and-go-seek

SNAKE escapes from school again

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (AP) — A 3-foot-long python earned the nickname "Houdini" after escaping from an elementary school aquarium for the second time in as many weeks, despite padlocks securing a screen cover. James River Elementary School teacher Steve Mills added the padlocks after the snake escaped the first time when someone left the top unlatched. A teacher found the snake under a recycling bin in an adjoining classroom a week later. The snake managed to escape from the third-grade classroom again over the weekend.

Anne Sommers
THE COLLEGIATE TIMES (VIRGINIA TECH)

St. Patrick's Day: more than drinking green beer

Spiritual reflection, communion with God, homage to the saints and green beer — oddly, all these things represent St. Patrick's Day to different people.

Somewhere amongst the green-dyed lakes of New York and the green beer served throughout the world March 17, the true origins of the holiday, which pays tribute to St. Patrick, are often lost in the gaudy festivities of the Western world.

I wanted to write a humorous column for St. Patrick's Day that would answer the question, "What is Saint Patrick's Day, anyway?" In an effort to find an answer, I decided to do a little research to see what I could come up with. What I dug up on the history of the day, in light of today's celebrations, was indeed quite funny.

Despite the modern leprechaun slant, the real pot of gold at the end of the rainbow is that St. Patrick's Day is a religious holiday. Not intending sacrifice, but green beer doesn't exactly strike me as a beverage that a church party would serve. So what is the deal? How did we get from praising saints to pinching non-wearers of green each year?

Saint Patrick was born in 385 A.D. in Scotland. His birth name was Maewyn Succat. Kidnapped at 16 by a band of Irish raiders, Maewyn was sold in Ireland as a slave. Of Patrick didn't have it easy. During his enslavement, Maewyn began to believe in God as a source of comfort and as the only possible savior from his present circumstance. Approximately six years later, Maewyn received a vision, which directed him to a boat on which he escaped to France. He then took refuge in a monastery. Assuming the Christian name Patrick, he went from being a deacon, to becoming a priest, and finally to becoming a bishop — hardly a leprechaun.

Pope Celestine believed St. Patrick's calling was in the country of his captivity, and sent him to preach the gospel in Ireland. His journeys and kindness were well known. The cities and towns that bear his name can easily map the path of Saint Patrick's travels throughout Ireland.

Obviously many religious figures contributed to their faith, but few have a holiday in their honor; thus we have the legends.

One Irish legend about St. Patrick speaks of the amazing day he drove all the snakes from Ireland. Delivering a sermon and perched on a hill in Ireland's rolling countryside, he denounced the snake and with God's power, cast them all into the sea. Many view this amazing event as an end to paganism in Ireland, as snakes have traditionally been revered as symbols of sin and deception.

Many also think of St. Patrick for his mass con-

versions. It is believed that in a single effort, St. Patrick converted thousands of warriors. Through their conversions, it is said, he had the ability to end conflicts and wars dead in their tracks.

St. Patrick used the shamrock as his primary tool for sharing his faith. The three leaves helped him explain how the Father, Son and Holy Spirit exist as three separate elements of the same object. People began wearing shamrocks as a visible sign of their religious faith. Today, it is viewed universally as a source of good luck.

Whether or not you hold faith in the stories, St. Patrick, through more than 30 years of diligent service to the church and the world, became a legend without the help of any miracles. He died March 17, A.D. 461 and was buried with St. Bridget and St. Columba in Downpatrick, County Down. The present location of his remains is in question, however, due to the numerous grave robberies that occurred throughout the Middle Ages.

St. Patrick has also left his mark. His jawbone, of all things, was preserved in silver and kept enshrined in a church in Ireland. It is believed to give health and fortune to ailing children.

Celebrations of St. Patrick's Day began as solemn days of prayer and mass, celebrating the life of the patron saint of Ireland. As the Irish migrated, the holiday was spread across the globe. The first St. Patrick's Day celebration in the United States was in Boston in 1737.

In a matter of years, the deeply religious reflection of March 17 lost out to the skewed, oft-misformed American populace, which seems to make any holiday an excuse to drink and commercialize everything.

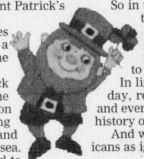
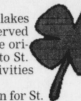
The United States bestows the holiday with little to no religious or historical significance. CNN's holiday history writer summarized St. Patrick's Day as "essentially a time to put on a 'Kiss Me I'm Irish' button and parade drunken through the streets, singing a mangled version of 'Danny Boy' in celebration of one's real or imagined Irish ancestry."

So in the fun of pinching, drinking and parading this St. Patrick's Day, realize there exist religious roots to this seemingly pointless holiday. While we hit the bars for drinks, the Irish go to church for mass and prayer to celebrate the life of their patron saint.

In light of knowing the true origins of the holiday, realize only in America can you take each and every holiday, commercialize it, lose the entire history of it and celebrate it nonetheless.

And we wonder why other countries view Americans as ignorant and dumb.

Guest Columnist Anne Sommers writes for The Collegiate Times (Virginia Tech). Her views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.



Amanda Thompson
ASST. DIALOGUE EDITOR

Last-minute tips for happy vacation times

As this week draws to a close and my comrades hit the streets in search of a little rest and relaxation, I urge all to put a little faith in a few trusty companions.

These small items often go uncounted on the usual packing list. However, they can be of insurmountable value when needed.

The basic needs have already been covered, namely food, water and shelter. Yet one should not overlook the other small necessities that make excursions such as spring break run smoothly.

First and foremost I would like to introduce an item I deem quite important: the almighty cup. Yes, the cup; an ageless wonder of the world. Its uses are obvious, but there is more to this than meets the eye. This ever-faithful container holds all of life's precious liquids, be it water, beer or — the nectar of the gods — coffee. I am currently nursing a serious Diet Coke addiction. Most people who know me very rarely see this girl without a beverage of some type in hand.

I realize that this little tidbit of advice comes at a price. With the use of an open beverage, the likelihood of spillage is increased. Thus I recommend a container with a lid as well as the capacity of two liters. Not only will a little ice in a cooler save you a little time and money, but think of the trash factor. Cups and two liters are the magic combination to cut down on the build-up of that grand can mound in the back of the car.

The next treasure from the trove is the watch. Being on time is always a good trait to pick up.

Ladies and gentlemen, I cannot stress this point enough. Taking time to fix one's hair or makeup is okay, but anything more than five to ten minutes is just too much. Crisutes, movies and even impatient drivers will not wait for excessive primping.

Needless to say, wear the watch. If

nothing else, keep this small accessory in a purse or a pocket. What is the worst that can happen? You get complemented for being on time.

Another valuable tool to carry along is the favorite long shirt. The reasons and uses behind this item are endless. For those chilly nights on the beach or the constantly changing Kentucky weather, a long shirt can provide all the comforts of home away from home. Services include the warmth of long sleeves, the shield from possible weather complications and even the softness of a small pillow. Yes, the long shirt is more than just a trendy wrap around the waist.

Finally, I highly emphasize the usefulness of spare cash. Of course, this cash should be spared for really important purposes and cases of emergency. A hiding place is also helpful. Pickpockets are not afraid of anyone or anything, including the law enforcement in most areas.

I once knew a friend who hid his lunch money in his underwear. His wallet was stolen once, and only that little 20, nestled so carefully in the crevices of his shorts, let him live through a possible crisis. Not only that, I guarantee no one ever hit him up for money when they saw the way he carried it. Not everyone can hide spare cash in their underwear, but there are spaces available to those who really look.

These items are not just simple knick-knacks to be casually overlooked. Rather, they are helpful hints at making any vacation run a little smoother.

They are not limited to just vacations, of course. After all, there are always bumps in the road to success. Carrying these small necessities through life are just a few ways to make those bumps a little smaller.

Assistant Dialogue Editor Amanda Thompson is an art studio and psychology junior. Her views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.

CONTACT US E-mail



Send us your letters and comments by e-mail. Hey, we love the Net and we know you do too. So send your thoughts to dialogue@kykernel.com

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Length & style

Letters should be approximately 250 words; guest opinions should be no longer than 600 words.

All material should be type-written and double-spaced.

Include this info

Include your name and major classification (for publication). For verification include your address and telephone number, which will be kept confidential.

The Kernel reserves the right to edit all material received.

READERS' FORUM

Expressions "Great" Slogan behind times

To the Editor:

Have you noticed that the "new and improved" UK homepage proclaims the University of Kentucky to be "America's Next Great University"? It strikes me as odd that the University's webmaster, president, chancellor, faculty, staff, and students would not already feel it is "America's Great University." While taking complete my bachelor and master's degrees (both from UK), while teaching in the classroom (as a TA at UK), and while walking across one of the most beautiful campuses in the nation (UK), never once did I feel it to be a second rate university or unworthy of the title "America's Great University." Someone wise once said, "What you think about... Now is the time to think, not that UK is next in line, but rather that UK is "America's Great University."

MATTHEW A. BOWDY
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Critics should teach, not insult

To the Editor:

I am writing in regards to the most recent review of the play "Pride's Crossing," and my general disaffection for the approach to theater criticism by your staff. I believe that the Theater Department and the Kernel could better interact if both the artists and the critics engaged in a discussion about choices.

Most of Mr. Scott's criticism reaches for conclusions as to whether or not the reader "should" or "shouldn't" see the latest production. Surely this is not the concern of a devoted artist; whether or not people attend a production is more a question for classes engaged in a discussion about choices. Whether or not people attend a production is more a question for classes engaged in a discussion about choices. Whether or not people attend a production is more a question for classes engaged in a discussion about choices.

A discussion about choices, by nature, avoids personal attacks. By engaging the artist about specific choices, and offering alternatives, the critic speaks as a colleague with the artist. It is so in regard to how well the choices of the artist fit the play, in the eyes of the critic. The critical discussion of choices re-centers discussion of "talent" on its parents: dedication and training. "Talent" is an illusion for children and fools.

Mr. Scott would better serve the community by criticizing the artists as a colleague. Theater students might better serve themselves by reflecting on the nature of criticism before lowering themselves to attacks of the critic. Are you frustrated because he told people "the show isn't worth seeing"? Why? A critic can teach, offer alternative choices — a critic can do more than save me \$7 dollars.

SEAN M. ZEHNDER
ENGLISH SENIOR

Women: Speak out, be heard

To the Editor:

I would like to thank Christon Halkiotes for her editorial on feminism. I think her paragraph about women not wanting to seem "bitchy," thereby enduring degrading, inappropriate comments and conversations is all to true (and sad). I have sat staring at the wall, lips tightly sealed, listening to "gentlemen" talking graphically about what they would like to do to certain people. I can let these questions slide once, but when someone says they don't want to answer, show respect and drop it.

Looking back on conversations, I could kick myself for buying the "don't rock the boat" crap that has been ingrained in my head. I think many women, including myself, have a "sugar and spice" complex. If we are assertive, it's bitchiness, or if we refuse to answer personal sexual questions, it's prudishness. Should we just sit there and be nice? I urge women (and men) to speak out when they find conversations inappropriate, even if immature people will equate self-respect with overreacting. I am glad I have male friends who will say enough is enough before I do, proving there are a lot of respectful men out there. Stand up for yourself for whatever reason you feel you need to. Don't worry if you're shy or afraid to sound "bitchy" — as I once read on a bumper-sticker, "speak your mind, even if your voice shakes."

EMILY LANE
JOURNALISM FRESHMAN

Tubby getting the job done

To the Editor:

In contrast to what Hal Salsbery believes, Tubby Smith's attitude and approach to coaching are hardly "unemotional" or "humdrum." While neither Salsbery nor I have ever witnessed firsthand one of Smith's locker-room speeches, conversations with former players have assured me that he is anything but unemotional. Furthermore, simply because Smith doesn't continually berate his team for 40 minutes or outwardly express frustration or euphoria with every dribble, one cannot assert that Smith lacks passion or excitement.

In addition, what leads Salsbery to believe that success is predicated upon constant outward emotion? As I recall, some of college basketball's most successful coaches ever to walk the sidelines (Dean Smith, Lou Carnesecca, Jerry Tarkanian and John Thompson) were often less than frenzied in their court-side demeanor.

Finally, I question whether Salsbery's comments are truly justified. For example, in one of UK's most memorable games, Coach Smith's composure and confidence in the final minutes enabled Kentucky to overcome a 17-point, second-half deficit against Duke, the nation's top-ranked team during most of the 1997-98 season. Furthermore, despite losing four starters from last season, Smith has this young team poised to capture yet another SEC championship, an impressive feat considering this year's number of outstanding conference teams. Three years. One National Championship. Two SEC Tournament titles. Eighty-four wins. I think those numbers certainly speak for themselves.

SHAWN RAY
MARKETING AND MANAGEMENT SENIOR

SEC TOURNAMENT

Cats look to win in Dixie

By John Dobson
SPORTSDAILY EDITOR

Climb aboard.

The millennial edition of UK's basketball odyssey resumes tonight in Atlanta's Georgia Dome where, depending on the outcome of last night's game, Coach Tubby Smith's team will face either Georgia or Arkansas.

Smith says that the Cats are familiar with both squads and they will recycle story lines from their recent encounters with the Razorbacks and Bulldogs.

"Since we have played both teams, we have a pretty good idea about their personnel and how they play," Smith said. "Neither team will change much between now and Friday, and we will go with what we did previously against each team."

In the best interests of winning the Cats' shooting numbers had better tilt more towards those achieved in the most-recent Florida game than the moribund figures from either of those prior meetings.

Surely Smith is looking for a more spirited offensive showing than that of the Cats in their 60-55 win over the Razorbacks on Feb. 26. UK shot a season-low 35.2 percent — 16 percent from outside the arc — but, as has been the case throughout the season, the Cats' defense made the paltry tally stand up. Arkansas shot 40 percent, and was out-rebounded 45-28.

It is doubtful that the Cats are interested in an encore performance of the Feb. 19 struggle with Georgia either. UK trailed 44-35 early in the second half. J.P. Blevins turned in a career-high 14 points to bring the Cats back (UK won 70-64), but the game was largely a study in cold shooting for UK until late in the game.

Even if the shooting woes return, the Cats believe they are capable of winning. It seems all those times UK won without a steady offense taught them how to make do without one.

"We've had plenty of droughts where we didn't put the ball in the hole and we've still had close games," said freshman Keith Bogans. "That proves we can handle anything."

The Cats have handled most everything thrown their way in the past year. The death of a young recruit, a tough schedule, a loss of experience and an influx of youth couldn't keep them from a share of the SEC championship.

"We've been through our tough times this season with transfers and the loss of a future Kentucky star (John Stewart). It's not over," Saul Smith said. "I have a sense of pride that we've accomplished some of our goals for the season. We wanted to win the SEC regular season title and go undefeated at home. We've done that," said junior guard Saul Smith.

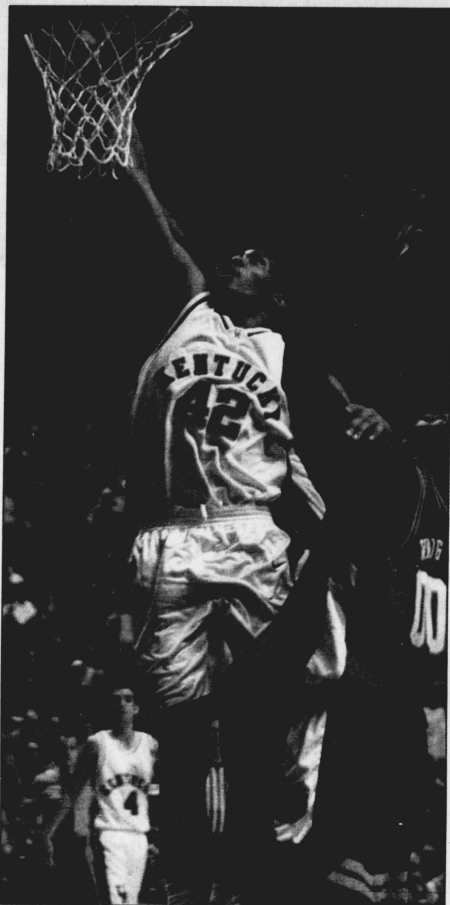
The Cats have a history of peaking just as the tournament season begins. Coach Smith says he is not surprised by his team's resurgence.

"We always expect them to be better in March than in November," Coach Smith said. "We are where we expected to be."

UK opened like a lamb and plans to close like a lion. It's just springtime in the Bluegrass.

UK vs. Arkansas/Georgia

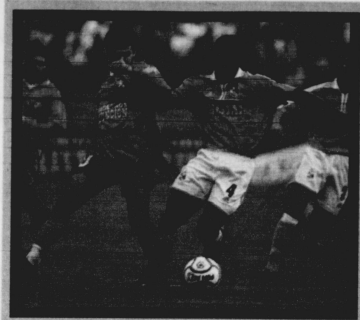
Tonight, 8:00 Georgia Home	2nd round 02:00	3rd round 06:10	4th round 09:00
TR: JP Sports RADIO: 590 AM			



CHRIS ROSENTHAL | KERNEL STAFF

All-SEC

First team All-SEC selection Jamaal Magloire and the Cats will start Southeastern Conference Tournament action versus either Arkansas or Georgia tonight at approximately 9:45.



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Futbol

Paraguayan soccer player Edgar Denis from Atletico Colegiales club, left, fights for the ball with Peruvian soccer player Manuel Marengo from Sporting Cristal club during a Libertadores Cup match in Sporting Cristal Stadium, in Lima, Peru on Tuesday.

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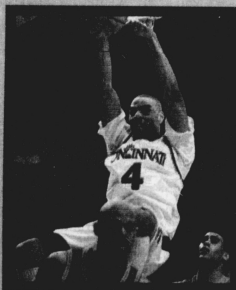
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Martin goes down

Cincinnati's star center suffered a broken right fibula in the quarterfinals of the Conference-USA Tournament against St. Louis. The Bearcats lost Martin for the remainder of the season and lost the game 60-50, dimming their chances for a national title.

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Those guys

Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski instructs his team during practice for the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament Wednesday in Charlotte. Freshman guard Andy Dorman listens, right.



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Latrell represents

New York Knicks guard Latrell Sprewell tallied 33 points in a 118-113 loss to the Washington Wizards Wednesday night. He also had five rebounds and three turnovers in the disappointing loss.

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**Kentucky
Gymnastics
Senior Night**

UK GYM KATS
vs
#11 West Virginia

**7:30 p.m.
Memorial
Coliseum**

★ **Say Good-Bye
to Seniors:
Krissy
Hoeflerlin
& Mila
Chitwood**

★ **Enter to
Win:
UK & Nike Apparel!**

★ **Win FREE
Pizza & Coke**