

Monday
July 11, 2005

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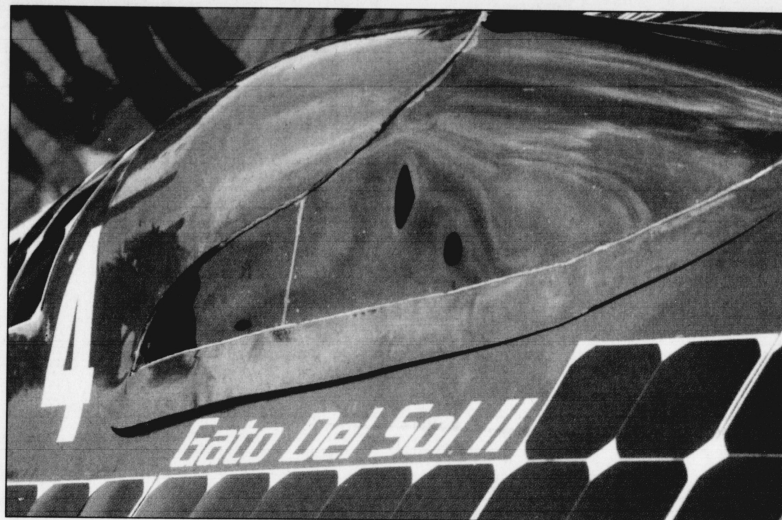
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THE KENTUCKY Kernel

Celebrating 33 years of independence

Home run derby:
A major league disgrace
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Looking for a place in the sun



UK's entry into the North American Solar Challenge, Gato Del Sol 2, was unveiled Friday in the Engineering Courtyard. The North American Solar Challenge is a 2,500-mile cross country solar car race in which competitors design and build their own vehicles.

By Bennie Mills
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

For the past year, 25 engineering students have spent many days and nights preparing for the North American Solar Challenge.

Last Thursday, these students presented their new solar powered vehicle, Gato Del Sol 2, the racing car, to the public. The car, named for the 1982 Kentucky Derby winner, will be participating in the North American Solar Challenge on July 17.

The American Solar Challenge is a competition to design, build and race solar-powered cars in a 2,500-mile cross-country event. To participate in the race, each car must be inspected and then place in a qualifying race.

"In 2003 we passed inspection, but did not qualify for the race. We realized that our car was too heavy," said Scott Stephens, professor of mechanical engineering, and faculty adviser of the racing team.

This year's model was trimmed down from 900 pounds to 635 pounds, including a driver. In addition, it has more advanced solar cells and better batteries than its predecessor.

These new enhancements contributed to the elevated cost of Gato Del Sol. It cost \$125,000 to build, compared to \$70,000, the cost of its predecessor. UK contributed about a third of the money while sponsorship and fund raising took care of the rest.

The students involved spent most of their weekends and leisure time during the 2004-05 year at the DV Terrel Building to put together "Gato."



A model of the steering wheel used in Gato Del Sol 2.

CHRIS REYNOLDS | STAFF

Zach Jacobs, one of the team leaders of the solar car project, recalled the rigorous process of building the car.

"There have been many nights we'd stay up to pull an all-nighter; there was always someone in the garage working most of the time," said Jacobs.

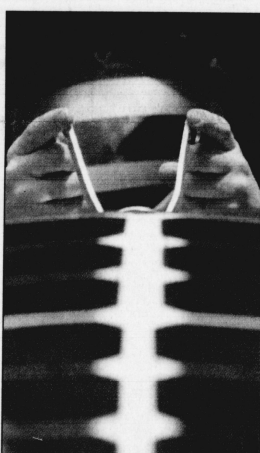
However, Jacobs feels that working on such a big project while jumping the obstacles of school has made him a more disciplined person.

After this year's race, the team plans on designing an improved solar car for the 2007 race, and is looking for additional team members.

Donnie Jones, the other team leader, hopes that help will come with publicity of the sport.

"This is certainly something that most people on campus don't know about; we are constantly trying to recruit people," said Jones.

Any student can join the solar racing team regardless of their major. Students in-



Electrical engineering senior Zach Jacobs sits in the driver's seat of Gato Del Sol 2.

CHRIS REYNOLDS | STAFF

Interested in joining the solar racing team should contact Scott Stephens at the beginning of the fall semester at (859) 257-6336 ext. 80649 or stephens@engr.uky.edu.

"Students should come prepared to work and learn," said Stephens.

E-mail: news@kykernel.com

New plans begin for Women's Place

By Charilinda Turner Brashear
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK Women's Place, located at 153 Bowman Hall, is the central point on campus for obtaining information on violence against women. The center also helps women who are victims of violence navigate the large number of avenues for assistance.

Since it opened in Spring 2005, the UK Women's Place has developed new programs geared toward preventing and treating violence against women.

Along with the implementation of new programs and the development of future help mechanisms, Dorothy Edwards, who holds a doctorate in counseling psychology, was recently named director of UK Women's Place.

Edwards said she is impressed with UK's reaction to the issue of violence against females.

"Before I took the job, I wanted to make sure this was an institution that wanted to face this [violence against women] head on," she said.

Edwards and staff member Jennifer Wies both cited a 2004 study done by the UK Center for Research on Violence Against Women when discussing the seriousness of this issue.

"The data shows that 36.5 percent of females at UK will be victimized while they're here," Wies said.

Edwards said that number should be disturbing to everyone in the UK community.

UK Women's Place is implementing programs to help victims know where to go for assistance.

"We're hoping to launch a program so that students who need to go to somebody will know who's been trained," Wies said.

One such program involves having faculty members wear some sort of emblem or sticker that lets students know they are trained and willing to help.

In addition, either Wies or Edwards will give presentations on violence against women to every section of UK 101.

UK Women's Place also offers tutoring help to victims of violence, as well as help with class schedules.

Wies said one of the first things violence victims are told is to change their routines. If victims have a class with an abuser, UK Women's Place can help make class changes.

In addition, UK Women's Place has started several new programs, one of which is the student group called "Eardrum."

The name Eardrum is "a symbol of being active listeners to what's going on around campus," Wies said.

Wies said "Eardrum" should be a registered student organization by Fall 2005.

UK Women's Place is also developing another student group called SEEDS. SEEDS stands for "Students Educating and Empowering to Develop Safety." SEEDS volunteers will provide support, advocacy, education, and training on behalf of UK Women's Place.

According to the SEEDS membership application, volunteers must have "a passionate commitment to ending violence against women at all levels of society." SEEDS volunteers will receive on-going training and mentorship in violence against women and women's issues.

Another new program that will be implemented is titled "Promise Project: Starting with Safety."

Each year, UK Women's Place plans to launch a pledge campaign to promote awareness of violence against women on campus. The goal of the campaign is to encourage individuals and organizations to participate actively in creating a safe campus. Edwards said she hopes this program will lead to people at all levels on campus from students to administration taking "personal responsibility" for making the campus safer.

UK Women's Place has also joined with UK's Health and Wellness Program to start "Walking Women's Wednesday." Each Wednesday all women on campus (faculty, staff and students) may take part in a 1.5-mile walk that starts at the corner of Rose Street and Washington Avenue.

So far, nearly 40 people have been participating in the walks. An incentive program, with free water bottles, key chains and similar items, has been started to encourage participation.

"Walking Women's Wednesday" will

See PLACE on page 2

Students protest donation discrimination

By Steven Bodzin
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON—For more than a decade, gay rights advocates have grumbled about a federal policy that forbids blood donation by men who have had sex with men.

They say that the policy, originally intended to keep HIV-positive blood from entering the nation's blood supply, implies gay men are inherently sick and that it prevents healthy people from donating.

Occasional protests and talks with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, which oversees blood banks, have brought no change.

Now, some college students have taken up the cause, and they're taking a new tack. Instead of pressuring the FDA directly, they are going after the American Red Cross — the largest and highest-profile blood collector in the country.

Unlike America's Blood Centers, which represents the non-Red Cross blood banks that collect most of the nation's blood, the Red Cross publicly supports the policy. Activists say that if they can get the Red Cross to change its stance the FDA will follow.

While many gay rights advocates have treated the blood ban as a low priority, college groups have begun to take on the issue. They argue that, although safe blood supplies are essential, this particular policy is outdated,

ineffective and homophobic.

All blood is tested before use, they note, and enforcement of the policy depends on the unchecked answers that potential donors give on a routine questionnaire. Most important, the activists say, the danger of HIV contamination comes from people who practice unsafe sex — regardless of the donor's sexual orientation.

The new round of protests occurred this spring at several large eastern universities, including the University of Maine, Orono, where the student government banned the Red Cross from conducting blood drives on campus. It opened the campus only to a blood collection company that supported changing the FDA rule.

The disputed policy dates to 1980, when the FDA codified a rule banning blood donations from any man who had had sex with another man since 1977. The policy started as a guideline in 1983, before blood could be tested for HIV. It has remained in place, officials say, because of concern over high rates of HIV infection among men who have had sex with men.

The FDA says allowing men in that category to donate would bring so much HIV-positive blood into the system that even rare errors could allow infected blood to slip through safeguards. Fourteen million units of blood are donated and processed in the United States every year.

A senior executive at the Red Cross said it had no control over the ban on blood donations by sexually active gay men.

"It's an FDA policy," said chief medical officer Jerry Squires at the organization's headquarters in Washington, D.C. "I'm trying to say as clearly as I can that we're not the experts."

At an FDA hearing in 2000, the last time the agency reviewed its policy, the Red Cross testified in favor of keeping what the industry calls a "lifetime deferral" for men who have had sex with men. The FDA's expert panel voted 7 to 6 to maintain the ban.

Derek Mitchell, who organized the Red Cross boycott at the University of Maine, said the organization was largely responsible for the FDA decision.

"They control so much blood, if they wanted (the rule) struck down, it could be struck down," he said.

America's Blood Centers, which represents the smaller blood banks that handle just over half of the country's donations, would like to see the rule relaxed.

Rather than a lifetime ban, the organization would prefer to block men for a much shorter time after gay sex. The organization's former president, Dr. Louis Katz, said the most sensitive HIV tests were barely in use when the FDA last considered the rule. But today, he said, HIV can be reliably detected within a few weeks of infection.

Fans prepare for new Potter

By Ryan Ebelhar
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

On July 16th millions of fans will descend on bookstores around the world to pick up the 6th book in the wildly successful Harry Potter series.

With 10.8 million copies being printed for the first run, it is the largest first print of a book to date, according to the Boston Globe.

All across the world bookstores will be hosting parties on the evening of July 15th and begin selling the book at midnight.

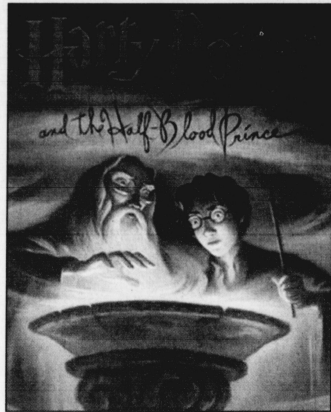
Joseph Beth Booksellers at Lexington Green has already pre-sold 1500 copies of the new book, and is expecting at least 2500 people to attend the book release party.

The Half-Blood Prince is expected to stay on top of the best sellers list for at least a month after the release. In the United States alone the series has sold over 100 million copies.

As with her other book releases, author J.K. Rowling has been secretive about the contents of the book, revealing only the titles of three of the chapters: Chapter 2: Spinners' End, Chapter 6: Draco's Detour, and Chapter 14: Felix Felicis.

Other than that Rowling has been very cryptic about what appears in the book, only alluding to things that may or may not happen or flat out denying rumors.

Rowling has confirmed that the "Half-Blood Prince" is neither Harry nor the character known as Lord Voldemort, and that the opening chapter of the book has been brewing in her head for 13 years. As posted on Rowling's official website, at least one more character



Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, will be released at 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 16.

will die in the future, although it is not known who will die or in which of the book it will happen.

In 2003 when *Order of the Phoenix* came out, bookstores stocked themselves full of Harry Potter memorabilia. Wands, capes, stickers, and any other product upon which a logo could be slapped were sold alongside the book, but met dismal sales.

This time stores will focus exclusively on the book. Due to the hype surrounding the book, security is a top priority for the publisher and bookstores. In England, according to MSNBC.com,

two men were charged with stealing a copy of the book and attempting to sell it to London tabloid *The Sun* for almost \$81,000.

The *New York Times* reported that any store caught selling the book before 12:01 AM on the 16th faces severe penalties from publisher Scholastic and may lose the rights to sell the 7th book when it comes out in 2007.

The Barnes and Noble location in Lexington was reached by phone but could not comment on the status because it is "a matter of security."

E-mail: rebelhar@kykernel.com

Sci-Fi: not just for geeks

By Diane Werts
NEWSDAY

Rodney Dangerfield was wrong. It's sci-fi TV that don't get no respect.

Case in point: A vice president in the TV industry recently asked me what TV shows I watch for enjoyment. I mentioned my favorite is "Battlestar Galactica" on Sci Fi Channel. She laughed. I asked if she'd seen it. No, she said, and laughed again.

Did she know, I asked, that it's a gritty adult drama of family members and colleagues in deep-rooted conflict not unlike that of "The Sopranos"? That they're part of a civilization struggling not only to survive but to define itself amid messy terrorist warfare? That it explores the values of competing societies that demonize each other's spiritual beliefs? That it's full of gutsy acting by the likes of Edward James Olmos and sophisticated allegory mirroring today's global politics?

She laughed again. And she's not the only one. Mary McDonnell laughed, too, when the two-time Oscar nominee was offered one of the lead roles

in Sci Fi's latest series smash. From *Dances With Wolves* to "Battlestar Galactica"?

"I couldn't equate myself with that particular genre," says McDonnell, a graceful 50ish woman you might expect to see on something erudite like "The West Wing," if not the space-based drama that begins its second season Friday (10 p.m. eastern on Sci Fi).

Even McDonnell "felt, like here I am, this sort of earth mother, and my perception of people in science fiction was sort of pristine. I was very naive and ignorant about the genre. And on the other hand, I'm very interested in the metaphysical in life."

So McDonnell read the script and took the role of a government bureaucrat suddenly elevated to the presidency after an apocalyptic attack wipes out nearly her entire civilization.

As the survivors continue to be hunted by an attacking race of human-looking robots that they themselves created, McDonnell's character comes to believe she is a "chosen" leader whose rise was fore-

told by religious prophets. That makes her a lightning rod for no-nonsense military leaders (led by Olmos), power-seeking rivals and even soldiers torn between pragmatic duty and spiritual beliefs.

"There are unlimited possibilities, really, because it embraces the other dimension, and the light and the dark of the spiritual dimension," McDonnell says. "We're able to look at religious, war and environmental needs — all of these imbalances we're facing in our own world today."

Bryce Zabel, who served as chairman of the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences from 2001 to 2003, admits when he first watched Sci Fi's new take on "Galactica" — based on a 1978 ABC series designed in the wake of the original "Star Wars" to emphasize whizzing spaceships — "I didn't expect to like it. But I was amazed. The characters and the human drama of that show surpassed anything I was watching. I mean, the stakes — I don't think I've watched a series where I felt so torn about mankind's chances to survive."

UK Women's Place is made possible by a grant from the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women.

Since the full-time staff of the UK Women's Place consists of only two people, both of whom travel around campus giving presentations and advocating for victims, the Women's Place has no established hours. Volunteers are needed to work phones and keep the center operating.

Though it is not complete yet, Edwards said UK Women's Place hopes to have a comprehensive website by Fall 2005.

Edwards hopes women who are hesitant to talk with someone about a problem will at least be able to get help from the site.

E-mail: news@kykernel.com

UK Women's Place
Web site: www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/WomensPlace

Place

Continued from page 1

continue through Oct. 12. Only rain will stop the weekly walks.

In addition to these new events, the program "In Our Own Voices" will continue this fall.

"In Our Own Voices" is a multi-media presentation featuring the voices of UK women and men and their experiences with sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, and other forms of violence against women.

The UK Counseling & Testing Center, the Dean's Office and UK Women's Place will present this theatrical production to new students and the general community.

Mary Bolin-Reece, director of the UK Counseling & Testing Center, said "In Our Own Voices" is just one ex-

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Home Run Derby: Selig's latest debacle

Marketing ploy to American phenomenon to publicity stunt.



Chris Johnson
SPORTS EDITOR

When the Derby first arrived, in 1965, it was an interesting way for television and baseball to make more advertising revenue and add some teeth to All-Star weekend, turning the actual game into a weekend extravaganza, not unlike any other major sport's All-Star festivities. That year, at the Minneapolis Metrodome, the American League defeated the National League 17-16 on the strength of a balanced attack where four of their five sluggers hit four home runs apiece.

The individual winner that first season was Dave Parker of the Cincinnati Reds, who hit six bombs for the NL. The Derby played league versus league for ten years until 1996. It then went to its current format, where individual displays of power are celebrated and the A.L. v. N.L. debate is nothing more than an interesting side note. San Francisco Giant Barry Bonds beat Oakland's Mark McGwire 3-2 in the final round to claim the victory, then they both went into the dugout and had an arm-wrestling contest, complete with Howard Dean screams. The contest itself didn't start to get silly, and in the WWE world we live in, astronomically popular, until 1999 when massively huge Mark McGwire hit 13 home runs in the first round at Fenway

Park. Many of McGwire's taters landed across the street from the stadium, into a mob of hundreds that was standing with gloves at the ready.

It was one of the more amazing displays of human coordination and raw power that has ever been witnessed on a baseball diamond, and still gives fans across the nation goose bumps.

That could have been the first year of the Derby's heyday, year after year since, a huge name in the sport experienced what the ancient Greeks called *aristeia*, when a warrior simply cannot be killed and has seemingly slowed everything down around him in order to perform feats that could not have normally occurred.

In 1999, it was McGwire, hitting 13 homers (several on consecutive swings); in 2000, at Atlanta's Turner Field, it was Sammy Sosa, who hit 11 out in the second round. The next season it was Yankee Jason Giambi, topping McGwire's 1999 total with 14 jacks at Seattle's Safeco Field. In 2002, Giambi and Sosa might as well have been hitting from the fifth row of seats at Milwaukee's Miller Park, as Giambi's first round 11 spurred him to a second consecutive championship when Sosa tired in the final after hitting a dozen first-rounders of his own.

Giambi hit 12 and 11 in the first and second rounds of 2003's contest, which would have been nice if St. Louis's Albert Pujols hadn't clobbered 14 in his second round to defeat Giambi.

Comerica Park. For one, can't wait to see the Cubs' Derrek Lee, second in the majors in home runs and a Triple Crown threat, swinging for the fences. Or the Reds' Adam Dunn, who has 23 home runs, to see if he hits 10 in the first round while making his 10 outs on swings and misses. Or Alex Rodriguez, probably the best hitter in baseball, taking his cuts. Or seeing if Pujols can expand on his 14 from two years ago.

But wait. None of those players are going to be participating. Huh? Commissioner Bud "Don't call me Stephen Hawking" Selig has decided to further screw up the All-Star Game. Seemingly bound and determined to fix everything that isn't broken with his sport while allowing steroids to make poster boys out of his most marketable players, Selig and his crew have decided to tinker yet again with the format of the Derby.

This year, to help market the upcoming (and, right now, apparently headed for miserable failure) World Baseball Classic, there will be one player from eight countries attempting to send balls across the border into Canada.

Listen to this fantasy team: Braves outfielder and native of Curacao, as well as baseball's home run leader, Andruw Jones, Boston Red Sox designated hitter David Ortiz of the Dominican Republic, Phillies outfielder and Venezuelan-born Bobby Abreu, Pittsburgh outfielder Jason Bay of Canada, The Dodgers Korean first baseman Hee-Seop Choi, Panama's own Milwaukee Brewer outfielder Carlos Lee, Detroit catcher Ivan Rodriguez of Puerto Rico; and Texas first baseman Mark Teixeira for the U.S.

every television in my house on. Jones, Ortiz, Abreu and Teixeira are understandable. They all have hit over 20 home runs this season, a feat that places them among the league leaders. Jason Bay? 16 home runs. Hee-Seop Choi? 13. Ivan Rodriguez? Six.

Once more: Huh? Major League Baseball's second, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, ninth, and tenth most productive home run hitters will be watching this year's contest.

After Selig's tie-game debacle three years ago, and his knee-jerk reaction to make the league winner of the All-Star Game the team with homefield advantage in the World Series, one would think he would have hired better advisers, or at least stopped listening to the ones who came up with that nugget of wisdom.

This format for the Derby sounds like it was thrown together at the last minute, when some paper-pusher somewhere looked at the statistics and realized there were a few different countries represented in the home run totals. From there, they decided to stretch it into an eight-man field, and ended up inviting a guy who has six home runs.

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The real 'Million Dollar Baby'

By Bill Plaschke
LOS ANGELES TIMES

She scares me.

She's cuddled up against the wall of a quaint Fairfax bakery, eating chicken salad, staring up with eyes like chocolate croissants, and it's completely embarrassing but absolutely true.

Lucia Rijker screams. "I do what?" she says softly.

Oh, but she knows. She has to know.

This is the woman who knocked Hilary Swank into an Academy Award, who slugged Clint Eastwood into immortality, who punched stunned moviegoers into shouting invectives scattered across theaters like old popcorn.

In *Million Dollar Baby* she was the two-cent thug.

In the movie of the year, the bad guy was this girl.

"Watching the film for the first time, I was sitting in the back and cheering for myself, then I stopped," she says. "Because all around me,

everyone was pointing at the screen shouting, 'You bleep!'"

Maybe it was her endless dark stare. Maybe it was the sweat glistening off her cornrows, dripping into her scowl.

Whatever we saw, it was more real than anyone imagined. Rijker is actually a fighter, one of the three best in the world, unbeaten in 17 bouts until fighting renowned Christy Martin on July 30 in Las Vegas for a true million bucks.

The wisecracking promoters are calling it the "Million Dollar Lady" fight.

But, no joke, it will be the richest hour in the history of women's athletics.

And I'm not kidding when I tell Lucia Rijker that she will enter the ring as the most feared woman in the land.

She says she hates this story but, deep down, she loves it, and I must tell it.

A couple of months ago, in a local L.A. hotbox, Rijker walks inside to train.

She's 37, she's 5 feet 6, 140

pounds, her hair is knotted to her scalp. She could be just another funky fighter.

But she's a champion in some circles, and it's her turn to spar, so she drops her music into the CD player.

It's Brooke Valentine singing, "Girlyfight."

"We bout to throw dem boys/We bout to swang dem things/There's about to be a what? Girlyfight!"

Two male boxers ask her to turn the music down. She does.

Then they ask her to turn it lower. She doesn't.

They approach her, she refuses to budge, and here comes Billie the Blue Bear.

"This is my hour!" she screams at them. "This is not right! If I were a male champion, you would never do this!"

Then, as if to prove her right, they grab her.

The two men hold one arm each while a third man steps in front and punches her in the head.

"Then," she recalls softly, "I lost it."

She breaks free and jumps on the attacker and knocks him to the canvas and whales away with "dem boys" and "dem things" and whatever.

And today she trains at another gym.

"In the world of animality, only the strong survive," she says. "It's the same with women as it is with men. That's what I'm about."

I tell her I don't think "animality" is a word.

"Yes it is," she says, eyes narrowing.

I promise to check a dictionary and expose her as a female Don King.

"Go ahead," she says.

So I do, and she's right. It's a word, a noun, used perfectly, and now I'm really scared.

Without the cameras, without the makeup, without Clint, can Lucia Rijker really fight?

"Put it this way," says boxing historian Bert Sugar. "She's better than any of the male heavyweights."

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