

Finance: Students
needing cheap
sports fix have
options
Page 4

Job market brightens for UK seniors

By Samieh Shalash
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK seniors who will be leaving behind class schedules in search of full-time work schedules are in luck this year.

Employers expect to increase their college hiring by 15 percent in 2004-05, according to a recent survey by National Colleges and Employers.

Companies plan to pay more, too. Seventy percent of

those surveyed said they expect to increase starting salary offers, with an average increase of 3.7 percent. Many listed business, engineering and computer-related majors as degrees targeted for hiring.

Sue Strup, director of UK's James Stuckert Career Center, said campus recruitment, which involves employers coming to UK and interviewing seniors for full-time employment, is up by 28 percent this year.

"We've already had a lot of career fairs, but we've been asked by employers to consider hosting a larger one for the entire university in the spring," Strup said.

"We've already had a lot of employers like Toyota, Philip Morris and Procter & Gamble ask us, 'Where do I go to sign up?'"

Strup said the number of employers utilizing UK's career center reflects the rising job market. About 225 employers are actively seeking

students for more than 315 internships and full-time positions, which Strup said marks a 20 percent increase in job postings since she began in April 2004.

Michael Gravatte, branch manager for Yazaki North America Inc., was recently walking on Rose Street when he noticed the career center and decided to stop in.

"My receptionist rang me and said, 'There's an employer who was walking by and wants to come recruit at

UK,'" Strup said.

"In the days when the job market was terrible, that never would have happened," Strup attributed the increase in employment opportunities to several factors.

"It could definitely be that the baby boomers are retiring," she said. "And companies that were not profitable after 9/11 are starting to see profit, so markets are opening."

BY THE NUMBERS

expected percent increase
13 in college hiring for 2004-2005

28 percent increase in recruitment on UK's campus this year

63 more job postings for UK students since April

See Jobs on page 2

GOOD TIMES, OLD-SCHOOL STYLE

By Hilly Schiffer
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The home of long journeys that are winding down sits on the corner of Alumni Drive and Nicholasville Road, only blocks away from where many journeys are just beginning on campus.

The Lexington Senior Citizen Center houses many seniors throughout the week.

The center provides services and activities to the older Lexington community and offers a social setting with activities including bid euche, bridge, holiday events, ceramics class, exercise class, billiards, line



Above: Francis Lanford participates in one of her favorite activities, dancing, with Dick Stewart, one of her best friends, at the senior citizen center's annual Halloween Party.
Left: Julia Satterwhite, 90, plays cards a couple times a week at the Lexington Senior Citizen Center just beyond UK's campus.



Benchmarks offer answers for graduation

By Michele Fernandez-Cruz
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK's benchmark institutions vary widely in their approaches to ensuring that their undergraduates finish their schooling in four years.

At UK, if a student follows the new graduation contract and cannot register for a required class, UK will pay tuition and fees associated with taking that course in another semester.

University of Iowa

The university presents its four-year graduation plan during freshman orientation, though incoming students have until the end of their second semester to join.

"It's very successful for those students who chose to stay in it," said Jane Warner, associate director of admissions. "There is a higher percent of graduation within the group that signed up for the plan."

More than 70 percent of freshmen slightly more than 3,000 students—in the class entering in fall 2002 signed up for the program, said the university's Web site.

Many of the stipulations in Iowa's graduation contract, including the fact that the plan does not apply to second majors or minors.

Texas A&M University

Texas A&M offers a \$1,000 tuition rebate to students who graduate on time. This financial incentive encourages students to prepare for universi-

ty studies and make early career decisions, said Venesa Flores, tuition rebate specialist.

By minimizing the number of courses taken by students, financial savings for students, parents and the state are expected.

Though the program is relatively new, it has seen a high turnout, Flores said.

"We have granted \$1 million a year, with more students eligible each subsequent year," she said.

Students are required to apply for the rebates prior to receiving their baccalaureate degrees. If they have any outstanding student loans or tuition fees, the rebate will pay off those debts first.

But Texas residents are the only students eligible for the \$1,000 rebate.

Purdue University

Due to the variation in individual colleges, Purdue does not offer a graduation contract to students, instead allowing students to take responsibility for graduating at their own pace.

"We try to manage our numbers so the course work is available for students to get through their programs and graduate on time," said Al Hefner, assistant director of admissions.

Hefner said students are faced with too many decisions that could impact when they graduate.

"Students study abroad, change majors, have internships or cannot move on in a

course sequence because they failed to meet the minimum grade in a course," he said.

"That puts them behind. We don't give any guarantees; it's up to the student to take the appropriate number of hours."

Hefner said he had never heard of a graduation contract program such as UK's but added that he thought it sounded like a good idea.

University of Minnesota

In 1996, the University of Minnesota implemented a four-year graduation plan with the hope of getting students thinking about graduation as freshmen.

The university has not had any problems with the contract, said Laurel Carroll, administrative professional.

"It's more common sense," she said. "Students need to be proactive."

The graduation plan is one attempt to up graduation rates which university administrators said are too low.

"The number of students graduating in four years is not acceptable to us," said Craig Swan, vice provost for undergraduate education. "It has shown some improvement, but it needs to show more improvement."

Swan said the university's current goal is for 50 percent of incoming freshmen to graduate in four years, regardless of whether they are on the plan or not.

"Graduation is a critical hallmark of student success," Swan said. "Advisors should understand that their conversation with students should be about the strategies which will ensure that the students graduate on time."

University of Washington

Hidi Mayer, academic adviser, said the University of Washington does not offer any incentive like a graduation contract for students to graduate in four years.

Email
news@kykernel.com

UK contract plan lacks funding

By Maurea Eze
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK has not set aside any funding for its graduation contract program because administrators say they will not need it.

The agreement is designed to eliminate additional stay of students at UK due to the unavailability of classes needed to complete a major.

According to the contract, if a student follows all proper steps and still cannot register for a class required by the curriculum map, the university will pay tuition and fees.

See Cost on page 3

UK 92, TENNESSEE TECH 63 UK's second-half run downs Golden Eagles

By Ben Roberts
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

As a failed Tennessee Tech 3-point attempt clanged off the Rupp Arena rim late in the first half, Chuck Hayes looked poised for the rebound.

The UK senior forward's only problem was that he was on the bench.

In unfamiliar territory with two early fouls, Hayes watched teammate Randolph Morris collect the rebound and reluctantly returned to his seat.

The two first-half fouls were the only blemish in Hayes' otherwise perfect start. The senior scored 10 points and grabbed six rebounds in the first seven minutes and made all three of his field goal attempts and all four of his free throws.

With Hayes fighting foul trouble the rest of the game, junior guard Keleenna Azubuike scored a season-high 21 points to lead the Cats to a 92-63 win over the visiting Golden Eagles last night.

Hayes, who had only two personal fouls in UK's first three games, committed four fouls last night, restricting him to 18 minutes of play.

"I kept telling coach I was all right—that I could stay in and play with fouls," Hayes said. "But he had to take me out just to be cautious."

The senior still managed to log his third double-double of the season with 17 points and 11 rebounds.

UK head coach Tubby Smith, who has been pushing Hayes as an All-American candidate, continued the cause after last night's game.

"A double-double in 18 minutes is an All-American type performance," Smith

said. "He's been setting the tone for us. He comes ready to play."

As UK's seven-point half-time lead shrunk to six early in the second half and Hayes struggled in the period's opening minutes, UK's other starters picked up the slack.

Azubuike scored nine points and made two 3-pointers, as the Cats went on a four-minute 16-2 run that saw every starter but Hayes score and gave UK a 60-40 lead.

"We played the game the right way in the second half," Smith said. "That's what we've been waiting for: I thought it was the best half so far."

Hayes returned to the floor with 10:18 remaining in the game and scored seven points in six minutes before Smith unloaded his bench.

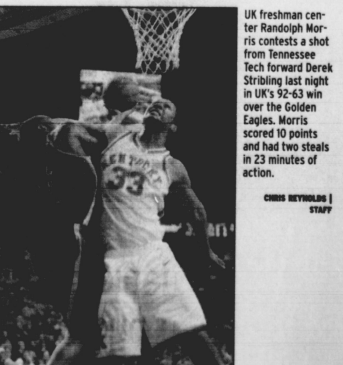
Tennessee Tech head coach Mike Sutton, who recruited Hayes and coached him for one season as a UK assistant, said the senior justified the very best in college basketball.

"Chuck Hayes is really a beast," Sutton said. "He's one of the best players in the country. He's a perfect example of what's great in college athletics."

Note: Sophomore center Shagari Alleyne was the only UK player who didn't see action in last night's game. Smith explained that Alleyne didn't play as a result of a "coach's decision," and he said Alleyne "needed to take care of business." Alleyne is averaging 6.7 points and 3.0 rebounds per game this season, and he was the first player off the UK bench in Friday's victory over Georgia State.

E-mail
broberts@kykernel.com

Kentucky (92)													Tennessee Tech (63)												
NAME	mi	fr	3-pt	ft	rb	tp	NAME	mi	fr	3-pt	ft	rb	tp												
Azubuike	22	7	12	3-6	4	2	Jacobson	13	3-5	1-3	2-2	6	9												
Hayes	15	6-5	0-0	7-10	11	21	Strubling	27	1-7	0-2	3-4	3	5												
Morris	23	3-8	0-0	4-5	2	10	Jenkins	31	5-12	3-7	5-5	6	18												
Ross	22	3-8	0-0	2-3	3	9	Clark	22	5-7	1-2	1-2	4	12												
Sparks	24	4-8	3-6	0-0	1	11	Bayer	31	2-9	0-2	0-1	0	5												
Stockton	1	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0	Fisher	18	2-4	0-2	1-2	0	5												
Perry	14	1-6	1-3	1-2	7	4	Taylor	11	2-3	1-1	0-1	1	5												
Moss	9	0-1	0-1	3-4	1	3	McKenzie	19	1-3	0-0	3-5	5	5												
Bradley	16	4-6	0-1	3-4	3	7	Wiss	8	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0												
Cartier	15	2-3	0-0	0-0	2	6	Koger	6	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0												
Crawford	19	2-4	0-1	0-0	3	4	Jones	14	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0												
Oburuf	10	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	Team	200	21-51	6-19	15-22	32	63												
LeMaster	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0																			



UK freshman center Randolph Morris contests a shot from Tennessee Tech forward Derek Strubling last night in UK's 92-63 win over the Golden Eagles. Morris scored 10 points and had two steals in 23 minutes of action.

CHRIS REYNOLDS | STAFF

Jobs

Continued from page 1

"Manufacturing plants are getting more customers, and we're having to produce more things and hire more people."

Gravatte, a UK alumnus, said Toyota — a company that receives supplies from Yazaki — is following the growing job market trend.

"For the past year or so, there was somewhat of a hiring freeze," he said. "We do see growth in the near future."

Gravatte plans to invite a Toyota representative to recruit on UK's campus in the spring.

P&G has been recruiting at UK since 1980 and typically fills positions ranging from accounting to information technology each year, said Jill Frankman, leader of P&G's financial and accounting recruiting team at UK. She said P&G's hiring needs have increased this year because of its substantial growth in recent periods.

"A positive wave of business growth requires new minds and fresh innovations to keep that pace continuing."

even accelerating," she said. "Those improved results set the bar to achieve again in the next period and creates opportunities for new employees to contribute and succeed."

Katie McMahon, a communication senior, said she anticipates possibly turning her spring internship with Marriott into a full-time job upon graduation.

"They've already given me an indication they'd keep me," she said.

Career and Internship Expo

March 2, 2005
Student Center Ballroom

James W. Stuckert Career Center

409 Rose St.
257-1967

That's not McMahon's only option, either. A Rubbermaid regional director in Lexington has already contacted her for interviews with recruiters.

"They recruit at schools across the nation," McMahon said. "I interviewed with eight other girls in the third round; they were all found on college campuses."

McMahon said she feels lucky to have multiple options after graduation.

"I was extremely worried about it," she said.

"It's nice to know that I have a couple of things lined up without having to stress too much — because hardly anybody finds a good job right out of college."

E-mail: sshalash@kykernel.com

NEWS BRIEF

Parking services runs holiday shuttle

UK Parking and Transportation Services, in conjunction with Student Government, is sponsoring a free shuttle route. UK students now have a ride to and from the Fayette Mall on Nicholasville Road.

The bus route will run Sunday through Dec. 12.

The CATS busses will make their first pickups and drop-offs at the mall beginning at 12:30 p.m. at the entrance to Lazarus-Macy's.

Other pick-ups are at 1:15 p.m., 2 p.m., 2:45 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 4:15 p.m. and 5 p.m.

The last pickup and drop off will be at 5:45 p.m. both Sundays.

Students can board the busses at any of the usual seven campus-area bus stops.

Go to www.uky.edu/Parking/bus/holiday.htm or e-mail ukbuses@sv.uky.edu for more information.

COMPILED BY STAFF REPORT

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY CRIME REPORT

UK Police reports from Nov. 16 to Nov. 29:

- Nov. 16: Theft reported at Johnson Center at 12:16 a.m.
- Nov. 16: Criminal mischief reported at Pence Hall at 8:22 a.m.
- Nov. 16: Bomb threat reported at UK Chandler Medical Center at 8:49 a.m.
- Nov. 17: Smell of narcotics reported at Kirwan Tower at 12:58 a.m.
- Nov. 17: Theft of mail reported at Donovan Hall at 9:07 a.m.
- Nov. 17: Fraudulent use of a credit card reported at 100 Quality St. at 3:28 p.m.
- Nov. 18: Drug use reported and arrest made at Blanding Tower at 1:32 a.m.
- Nov. 18: Disorder in progress and arrest made at Haggin Hall Courtyard at 2:03 a.m.
- Nov. 18: Theft of a cell phone reported at UK Chandler Medical Center at 1:42 p.m.
- Nov. 18: Harassment in progress reported Blazer Hall at 3:03 p.m.
- Nov. 18: Theft at Kirwan III reported at 3:04 p.m.
- Nov. 18: Criminal mischief reported at 700 Sports Center Drive at 5:31 p.m.
- Nov. 18: Theft reported at UK Chandler Medical Center at 7:36 p.m.
- Nov. 19: Theft reported at Fine Arts Building at 7:19 a.m.
- Nov. 19: Theft reported at Blanding Tower at 3:25 p.m.
- Nov. 20: Disorder in progress reported Paddock Bar, 319 S. Limestone at 1:31 a.m.
- Nov. 20: Disorder in progress reported at McDonalds on Limestone Street at 1:35 a.m.
- Nov. 20: Disorder reported in ambulance bay at UK Chandler Medical Center at 1:38 a.m.
- Nov. 20: Criminal mischief reported at Sigma Alpha Epsilon at 3:14 p.m.
- Nov. 20: Car left running all day in Parking Structure No. 4 reported at 3:36 p.m.
- Nov. 20: Suspicious circumstances and arrest made at Tolly Ho at 10:53 p.m.
- Nov. 21: Criminal mischief reported at Farmhouse Fraternity at 12:13 a.m.
- Nov. 22: Theft of \$297 from a safe reported at Blazer Hall at 11:23 a.m.
- Nov. 22: Disorder in progress reported at Kentucky Clinic at 1:10 p.m.
- Nov. 22: Theft reported at Lexington Community College at 4:14 p.m.
- Nov. 23: Theft reported at Whitehall Classroom Building at 8:41 a.m.
- Nov. 23: Theft reported at Johnson Center at 6:57 p.m.
- Nov. 24: Theft of mail reported at Whitehall Classroom Building at 10:09 a.m.
- Nov. 24: Theft reported at Student Center at 11:53 a.m.
- Nov. 24: Theft reported at UK Chandler Medical Center at 2:01 p.m.
- Nov. 25: Disorder in progress reported at Speedway on Euclid at 2:52 a.m.
- Nov. 25: Burglary reported at Lexington Community College at 7:22 a.m.
- Nov. 27: Burglary reported at Student Center at 11:24 a.m.
- Nov. 27: Indecent exposure reported at Days Inn, 1240 Versailles Road, at 4:15 p.m.
- Nov. 27: Criminal mischief reported at College View parking lot at 8:12 p.m.
- Nov. 28: Theft reported at Wildcat Lodge at 12:45 p.m.
- Nov. 28: Theft and criminal mischief reported at W.T. Young Library at 10:50 p.m.
- Nov. 29: Possession of drug paraphernalia reported at 300 Alumni Drive at 10 a.m.

Compiled from UK Police logs by staff writer Dariush Shafa.
E-mail: dshafa@kykernel.com

Newsroom

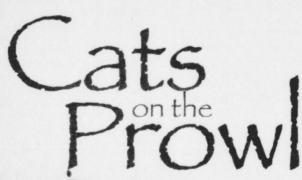
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FREE! to UK students



MONEYMATTERS | Savvy saving and spending

UK sports: more than just basketball



Kenny Moyer
FINANCIAL COLUMNIST

After I carefully paint my face blue and throw on my blue afro-wig, I look at myself in the mirror and start to softly chant the "C-A-T-S" cheer. I don't want to lose my voice just yet, but at this point, I am as ready as I will ever be to go out and cheer on my Kentucky Wildcats.

UK athletic events are some of the most fun experiences any one of us could have. Whether it is traveling to an away game, or staying home to cheer one on, supporting our athletic teams is a great way to give back to this campus.

UK has over 450 academic-athletes, each of who bust their tail to perform their absolute best in competition and hit the books in order to achieve one of the strongest athletic GPAs in the South Eastern Conference.

All for the betterment of our college and campus, and all for the enjoyment of our entertainment.

We owe it to these athletes and our university to make an effort to watch these men and women in action.

A problem that may arise in your head is: "Tickets are too expensive, and I don't feel like traveling."

Sorry to break it to you, but college is one of the few times we will get the chance to travel to various other col-

lege campuses and not have to worry about much.

That is why I am here to help you realize that traveling doesn't have to be a wallet-breaking experience, and supporting any one of our athletic or club teams won't only be a fun time — you will show your fellow students you care.

Our campus offers some of the finest sporting events and teams in the country. We all know about the men's basketball and football teams, but there are many other sports teams that are often left unheard.

Several of these are non-revenue sports, which means they do not charge an admission fee. Aquatics, baseball, golf, gymnastics, rifle, soccer, softball, tennis, track and volleyball are all free for students to watch.

This winter, the rifle team will be one of my personal favorites to watch in competition. Last year, our rifle team finished in the top-ten final NCAA rankings. Scheduled Dec. 4, the team will host Air Force in a "shoot-out" you won't want to miss. Look for me wearing a bulls-eye in the stands.

Next, the women's gymnastics team will hold their annual blue/white meet Dec. 4 at Memorial Coliseum. You will have the opportunity to meet the gymnasts, get their autographs and see the team in action. All for the very low price: Free.

If you want the chance to get away for the holidays, visit the swimming and diving team's meet Jan. 5 in Fort Pierce, Fla., right on the shore of the Atlantic Ocean.

The 12th-ranked men's swimming team holds the fastest times in the nation for the 200-, 400- and 800-meter freestyle relays. Grab a few friends, book a hotel for a few nights, make the 14-hour drive and bathe in the sun while watching our Catfish flock like the salmon of Capistrano.

Although the women's basketball team charges admission, plan to visit them while they play the Lady Vols of Tennessee on Jan. 23 in Knoxville. This will be a major SEC match-up you won't want to miss. Call the University of Tennessee's Athletic Department to find out about ticket sales. Also, if you belong to any type of national organization, like a fraternity or sorority, you can use those connections to help get tickets. These same connections may even provide a free place to stay for the weekend.

If dinner and a movie ceases to be appealing on a Friday night, check out the Cool Cats at the Lexington Ice Center. Tickets for the Cool Cats are \$5, and games are Friday and Saturday at midnight.

For Your Information

For ticket sales and team schedules, check out:

- www.ukathletics.com
- www.ukhockey.com

Upcoming athletics events:

- Hockey: Midnight Dec. 3 & 4. UK v. Illinois. Tickets cost \$5.
- Gymnastics: 6 p.m. Dec. 4. Blue White Meet. Free.
- Women's Basketball: 2 p.m. Dec. 5. UK v. UofL. Free for students.
- Men's Basketball: 7 p.m. Dec. 8. UK v. Morehead State. Tickets are \$5 for students.
- Rifle: All day Dec. 4. UK v. Air Force. Free.

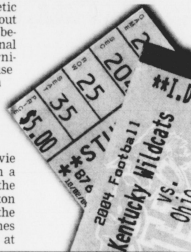
midnight. Make sure to bring your mittens.

The UK Athletics Department has lots of plans for the upcoming years in making additions to or helping maintain many of our athletic facilities.

In addition, UK athletics contributes \$1 million annually to UK for non-athletic scholar-

ships. With our fan support, we can help achieve these goals.

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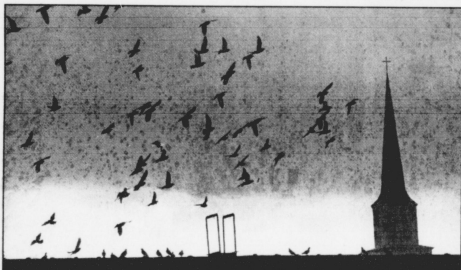
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A FLOCK OVER LEXINGTON



About fifty pigeons fly over the Kentucky Theatre on Main Street Sunday. Though pigeons do not migrate, about 200 bird species do travel through the United States every year, according to the Smithsonian National Zoological Park Migratory Bird Center. The majority of migratory birds are songbirds — such as warblers, thrushes, tanagers and vireos — but there are also many shorebirds, raptors and a few types of waterfowl that travel. Some of the longest migrations are made by shorebirds that nest in the arctic tundra of northernmost Canada and travel as far south as Tierra del Fuego, which is in the southernmost part of South America — a one-way distance of up to 10,000 miles, according to the center.

JONATHAN PALMER | STAFF

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When you take courses through the University of Kentucky's Independent Study Program, you pick the place. Your classroom can be your dorm room, your apartment, or even on the slopes. More than 130 credit courses, including many degree requirements, are available for registration at any time. So, if you want to take your classroom with you this winter, stop by the Independent Study Program at Room 1 Frazee Hall and pick up a free catalog with course descriptions and costs, or call 257-3466

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IN OUR OPINION

Council haste made surplus a waste

No strangers to bonehead moves in the past, members of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council once again have outdone themselves.

At a committee meeting last week, members of the council wasted no time in spending almost all of the \$11.1 million surplus belonging to the city.

The council members went through all but \$415,000 in a meeting that lasted only three hours.

But the speed at which the council decided to spend the money may not be the most disturbing element of this mess.

That honor goes to the fact that the council did so without discussing all of the more than 130 appropriation requests.

Getting work done fast is one thing, but in

this case, the council members were wrong to pick and choose what they wanted to spend the city's money on without even taking into account other viable requests.

And some of the requests that were not considered were surely better than those that were approved.

One measure the Urban County Council deemed worthy was a \$1 million plan for the construction of a road-salt barn.

Building a storage facility for vehicles and

other items relating to the cleaning of the roads in harsh winter weather is a good thing.

But it probably doesn't warrant a \$1 million spending plan — certainly not with the funding problems mentioned by Lexington Police Chief to the Kernel last month.

Surely the council could have searched the county for an already-existing structure to transform into the facility.

Another issue the council decided to pursue was a \$2.5 million plan to the heating and air condition-

ing systems in the Urban County Government Center.

It's nice to know council members will be able to make these rush judgments at a comfortable 68 degrees Fahrenheit.

The only member of the council who seemed to make any sense at all on the spending of the surplus was Councilman George Brown.

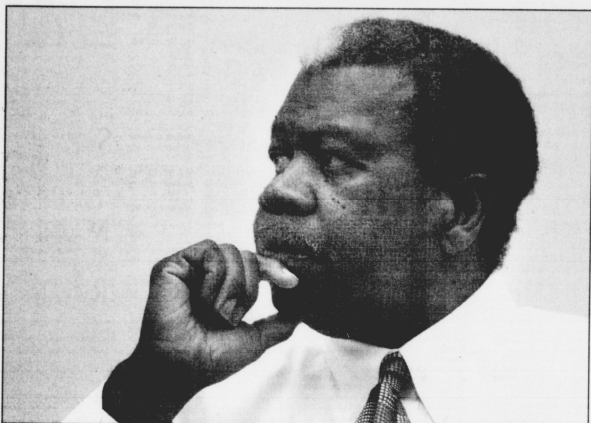
Brown was the only member to oppose the spending plan because the council moved to approve without hearing all appropriation requests, the Lexington Herald-Leader reported.

Hopefully, the newly elected members to the Urban County Council will follow Brown's line of thinking when they take office and actually consider all of the options put before them on important issues.

The Urban County Council managed to squander nearly all of an \$11 million surplus in one fell swoop on frivolous projects.

Q&A with Jim Wims

Director of UK Residence Life



JONATHAN PALMER | STAFF

Opinions editor Andrew Martin sat down with UK Residence Life Director Jim Wims to talk about Residence Life and on-campus living.

Q. What is the basic mission of UK Residence Life?

A. I think our mission is to provide for a residential living environment that is conducive to a student's personal, social and academic growth.

Q. What is the function of the Resident Student Association?

A. The RSA is the governing body for the resident student government that are in each residence hall. They are responsible for programmatic components that go on in residence halls.

They are responsible in part for leadership development as it relates to students who live in our residence halls. They get involved with policy development.

For example, they were involved in helping shape the visitation policy on campus and were involved in our work with Dining Services in terms of the changes you see in Blazer cafeteria.

Q. What types of Living and Learning Communities are in operation, and where are they located?

A. We have several Living and Learning Communities on campus. On North Campus we have the Honors Program Community in Boyd and Patterson Halls.

In Jewell Hall we have the International Community. In Keeneland is the Civics Matters Community. The German House is a Living and Learning Community. On South Campus there's a Wellness community in Kirwan II.

The Multicultural Science Cohort is housed in Kirwan III. The Interfaith Community is currently housed in Kirwan I. There's an Engineering Community in Blanding III.

Q. What do you want to do with Living and Learning Communities in the future?

A. I think one thing we want to do with all of our learning communities is for each community to have its own academic anchor where there is a course or two courses that will link these communities together.

So the students who are taking these courses are not only taking the

courses together, but they also live together. That is the case with our Civics Matters course housed in Keeneland.

In the future, I think we want to incorporate Living and Learning Communities into our new residence halls, which will open in Fall 2005. For instance, on North Campus in our new residence hall we want to see a combination of an Arts Community and a Global Village.

We are looking for other opportunities for learning communities. What we would eventually like to see is all of our residence halls becoming learning communities.

We're taking our time to make sure we have the right mix of those communities in our residence halls. Part of what we need is input and feedback from students.

Q. How do you resolve conflicts between roommates if the RAs can't seem to find a solution?

A. I think there is a number of support staff available to help in resolving roommate conflicts. One thing we try to do on the front end is to have students engage in discussion about lifestyles. We try to be proactive.

Students sign a roommate agreement form or roommate contract. And in working with this roommate contract, it causes students to engage in conversations about lifestyles, likes and dislikes.

If the RA can't resolve it, there's always the hall director. If not the hall director, there are assistant directors for Residence Life that would become involved. We also take advantage of on-call counselors who help at times to mediate roommate conflicts.

Q. What steps have been taken recently to improve security in residence halls?

A. I think this year and last year we have focused a lot on the use of technology. We have installed in all the residence halls all the latest digital video recorders to help us to monitor front door and/or other entrances to our residence halls.

Last year we implemented card access and we think we have had a good deal of success with card access. We still need to work on that because we realize that is not a foolproof way to enhance security, but that certainly is better than what we had before.

We have put a lot of time and effort into training the RAs and the night desk to be more vigilant as it relates to safety and security in the halls.

We have started a new program called MASH (Motivation to Achieve

Safer Halls). We employ a number of people to go out into the residence halls during the day and evening hours to evaluate how our staff performs in terms of front desk operations.

The idea is not to catch the staff doing something wrong but to reward them or acknowledge them for doing what is right.

Q. How do you become an RA?

A. Depending on when you want to be an RA, one applies via this office. They pick up an application. Then we review the application to determine whether the person meets the requirements, a certain GPA and lived a time on campus.

That application is processed and we set up times for that individual to go through an interview process. Typically that process involves, in the first round, an all-day interview.

They will interview with more than one Residence Life staff member. They'll interview with RAs, hall directors, assistant hall directors, assistant directors, pretty much everybody in the Residence Life family.

They have to also be involved in an RA shadowing experience. They have to spend an hour or two shadowing an RA. And they actually get evaluated in that process.

There's a reception they would attend as well. They don't get evaluated, but that's just another opportunity for the staff to take a look at the candidate. That's like the third round.

So by the time all of that's over and we look at scores based on interviews and shadowing, then we determine, not just based on scores but the quality of the person's interview and whether he or she will be someone considered worthy of the RA position.

Q. Is there anything you would like to add?

A. I can't say enough good things about the RA staff, particularly as our RAs compare to other benchmark institutions. Every two years we do a benchmarking survey where we compare ourselves to six other benchmarks. And we choose our grouping of six. In addition to that, we also compare ourselves to the 230 schools that participate in this survey. There's another comparison group called a Carnegie class that we compare ourselves to.

Our RAs scored significantly higher than any other group in terms of student overall satisfaction, programming, etc. I'm proud of what they've done, and I shared this with the returning RAs because this was the survey just done last year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UK employee coordinating effort to support American soldiers

I am writing to request your help in publishing an opportunity to aid some of our troops who are abroad.

My brother Patrick's marine unit is currently stationed in Afghanistan, and I am soliciting letters and items for him and his fellow soldiers.

Due to Department of Defense restrictions against publishing their address (for safety reasons), I am coordinating a collection at WT Young Library and would like to invite students, faculty staff and any other community members who would like to write letters or send words of encouragement to our marines to send them to me via campus mail (Colleen Harris, Young Circulation, Speed Sort 0456) or to e-mail me directly at colleen.harris@uky.edu if they have any questions.

COLLEEN HARRIS
night supervisor, WT Young Library

Kernel cartoonist's euphemism a stroke of comic genius

Oh man, did you see Monday's political cartoon by Matt Carey? It was just so good. It was like I was reading a political cartoon by God himself! I didn't even understand it at first because it was that good.

Thank the Matt Carey almighty that I finally figured out that when he wrote the word "sword," what he actually meant was "penis." His wit is just so subtle that I didn't even pick up on it at first.

When I finally read through it again, substituting the appropriate words, I laughed uproariously at the homosexual reference Carey made toward the film "Alexander."

I hope that director Oliver Stone has a sense of humor because he just got put in his place by one of the comedy legends of our time. The thing that strikes me most about Carey is just how original he is.

I mean, most people would go for an easy joke that has been made hundreds of times before, possibly even using a euphemism that has been said to the point of being a cliché, but not Carey. He looked at the issue from all sides, finding one that suited his comic style best and made sure not to talk down to his audience.

I just want to applaud Matt Carey for his continuing work in the field of humor, and also I want to say that the Kernel is lucky to have this fine gentleman submitting work — I just don't know if anybody would ever even think of reading the paper without knowing that there's a possibility of seeing a Matt Carey cartoon.

BRANDON IVANCHAK
art studio sophomore

Christians have to worry about persecution less than others

Stephen Burnett's recent column reflects a recurring sentiment that I've heard from the religious right for quite some time that American Christians feel persecuted by modern trends. This is somewhat troubling, as they are concerned from fellow citizens in a free society. However, for an interest group that holds majorities in all branches of the federal government, this argument is less compelling.

Contrary to Burnett's column, there is reason to feel that the Christian right would prefer to theocratize America. For example, Burnett reiterates the right's views about instruction in public schools, stating that Christians would "rather not have secular scientific interpretations monopolize the discussion of origins."

At first glance, it seems that public schools have pushed aside and ignored the views of a sector of American society. However, the goal of science is to use empirical methods that have been rigorously tested for decades to help us to understand the world, including its origins. Science is not concerned with religion.

Creationism belongs to philosophical and theological courses wherein a number of ideas from folklore and religion can be taught and debated equally.

Displaying the Ten Commandments because they represent the history of America's legal foundations is like flying the Confederate flag because it represents Southern heritage. The fact is, both symbols carry implications that transcend their essential significance. Ostracizing Christians does not apply here because no religious symbols are displayed in the public forum, despite what Burnett implies.

The dispute does not concern the merits of a document or religious ideals, but rather seeks to prevent overt favoritism for a particular group that already possesses significant political power.

BENJAMIN SCHULTZ
UK geography graduate

Submissions

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opinions@kykernel.com

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CATCHING UP WITH CATS



As a senior guard for UK in 1983-84, Dicky Beal helped lead the Cats to a Final Four appearance. That season, he was named the Midwest Regional's Most Outstanding Player, one of nine UK players to earn the honor. In UK's NCAA Tournament victory over Louisville, he had 15 points, nine assists and six steals.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UK ATHLETICS

Lessons from the court shape Beal today

By Michael Brent
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Dicky Beal shows how great college athletics can be.

Many UK basketball fans will remember Beal as the 5-foot-9 jitterbug point guard who led UK to the Final Four in 1984.

Beal remembers UK as a life-shaping experience.

Don't think he doesn't remember his basketball playing days fondly.

Beal would tell you his experience wearing blue and white was "unbelievable."

But you will also find that he is much more than just a former basketball player.

He originally committed to play for Hall of Fame coach Ray Meyer at DePaul University. But when Dwight Anderson transferred from UK, the Wildcats called Beal.

"One of the toughest things I've ever had to do is call Coach Meyer and tell him I wasn't going there," Beal said. "It turned out to be

the correct decision."

Beal, a lifelong UK fan out of H o l m e s High School in Covington, Ky., caught fire down the stretch of his senior season, setting his career highs in every statistical category during February and March.

He was named the Midwest Regional's Most Outstanding Player — one of only nine UK players ever to receive such an honor — on the way to the Final Four, largely because of his 15 points, nine assists and six steals in a five-point tournament victory over the Louisville Cardinals.

That's something Beal doesn't need to be reminded of. "I remember that game like it was yesterday," he said, before rattling off his statistics for the game. "I was just on top of my game that day. Growing up in Kentucky, you didn't have to tell me how much that game meant."

It was a fitting way for Beal to end his career. After battling back from multiple knee surgeries to repair damaged cartilage, Beal admits he wasn't at 100 percent during his senior season.

"I knew we had a special team that year, and I wanted to do whatever I could to be a part of it," he said.

And it was a special team. Beal joined Wildcat greats Kenny Walker, Sam Bowie, Melvin Turpin and Jim Master in the starting lineup.

Only an infamous 3-for-33 shooting second half against Patrick Ewing and the Georgetown Hoyas in the Final Four semifinals could derail the Wildcats that year.

It was a strange phenomenon," Beal said, trying to find an explanation. "We were a good shooting team all season. That second half, we just didn't put the ball in the basket. Plain and simple."

That game won't be forgotten anytime soon — at their 20-year reunion earlier this year, Beal and his teammates discussed what could have been — but he still takes



Beal

positive memories from the Final Four.

"When you're working for that goal, there's nothing that can compare to 15 guys working together and reaching it," he said.

Beyond that Final Four run, Beal has thousands of memories from his time at UK.

He participated in the school's first Midnight Madness. He can recall being "blown away" by the sight of 17,000 fans showing up at Freedom Hall just to watch the team practice.

But talking with him for a little while shows that his accomplishments of the court at UK, such as his degree in public relations, mean just as much to him.

The Atlanta Hawks selected Beal in the fourth round of the NBA Draft, but concerns about the health of his knee quickly ended any professional basketball aspirations.

So Beal fell back on the other things he learned by playing basketball at UK.

He worked for various insurance and sales companies and had a few stints as a high school assistant basketball coach. Finally, he settled into a successful pharmaceutical sales job in 1993, where he remains today.

Recently, he decided to take a second job, but it wasn't to help him pay the bills.

Terry Brooks, principal of North Oldham High School in Oldham County and Beal's friend, asked him to be the head basketball coach. Beal decided to give it a shot.

Coach Beal is brimming with excitement about his team. "We're going to surprise a lot of people," he said. "We're senior-dominated and can go 10 to 12 deep."

And although he's excited about the team he will put on the floor, he shows an equal eagerness to mentor his players in life.

"My experience at Kentucky was unbelievable," Beal said.

"And it was more than just basketball. I can teach these young men not only what I learned about basketball, but other things like getting a degree and working hard."

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