

KENTUCKY KERNEL

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Beshear calls for 12 casinos, 1 in Lexington

By Jill Laster
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FRANKFORT — Gov. Steve Beshear released his plan for a constitutional amendment yesterday that calls for 12 casinos in Kentucky, including one shared between Keeneland and Red Mile racetracks in Lexington.

The amendment would allow up to seven licenses for horse racing tracks to add casino gambling and up to five separate casinos in the state. If passed by the General Assembly, the amendment would be placed on the ballot for Kentucky voters.

Beshear's bill would allocate

50 percent of casino revenue to education at all levels, from early childhood to postsecondary. Health care would receive 20 percent of the revenue, city and county programs would receive 5 percent each, local governments would receive 3 percent, and the remaining 17 percent would go to statewide programs.

The plan would raise \$500 million in revenue between July 2008 and June 2009 from application and license fees, Beshear said yesterday. After the casinos are up and running, Beshear said the limited gaming would bring in \$600 million per year.

Money from casino gaming

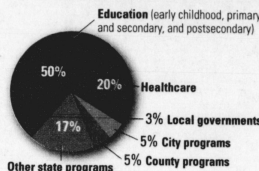
would help fill gaps in state revenue, which Beshear has said would be about \$580 million less in the first year of the 2008-10 budget biennium than the state is spending now.

However, critics of Beshear's plan say the revenue may come with drawbacks that impact the entire state.

"Yeah, we're losing money out of state, but we could be losing companies and employees that want to be somewhere that doesn't have casinos," said the Rev. Nancy Jo Kemper, executive director of the Kentucky Council of Churches.

See **Casino** on page 5

WHERE THE CASINO MONEY WILL GO UNDER BESHEAR'S PLAN



Wording of amendment

"Are you in favor of increasing state financial support for elementary and secondary education, expanding health care for senior citizens, children and others, support for local governments, and combating drug and alcohol abuse and other important programs by permitting the General Assembly to authorize up to five casinos subject to approval of the voters in the city or county where the casino is located, and up to seven casino licenses for existing horse racing associations, all of which will be subject to the approval of a state agency created to oversee casino gaming?"



Above: Protesters gathered in a tunnel underneath the Capitol Building in Frankfort to protest mountaintop removal during Kentuckians for the Commonwealth's '1 Love Mountains Day' rally yesterday.

Below: Two mountaintop removal opponents shake hands yesterday while holding a banner during the '1 Love Mountains Day' rally.

Students among those lobbying for mountains



STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT — Instead of flowers and candy, thousands of people gave state legislators something to think about on Valentine's Day.

Kentuckians for the Commonwealth and other environmental organizations rallied yesterday at the Capitol Building in Frankfort to protest mountaintop removal, a form of strip mining where explosives are used to blast the tops of mountains to mine the coal beneath.

The group is lobbying on behalf of House Bill 164, also known as the "Stream Saver Bill," which would require all strip-mined mountains to be re-

stored to their original contour.

"This cause is more important in terms of people, not just the land," said UK senior Matt Harmin. "They are destroying people's backyards, and not just that. It's like they are destroying the backyard, both side yards and half of the front yard."

Harmin also said that he has seen how mountaintop removal pollutes surrounding water.

"This is destroying people's lives," Harmin said.

Many protesters said they were pleased with the day's turnout.

"It's been a bigger crowd than I imagined it would be," said Ricky Handshoe, a member

See **Mountains** on page 5

1st-time renters may face problems

By Stephanie Short
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Many students who sit down with a pen in hand ready to sign the lease on an ideal off-campus pad may not know they're holding a contract that could make or break their living conditions over the next year.

Lack of communication, misunderstanding the lease, improper termination of the lease and leasing an apartment before seeing it are the most common problems renters have when they come to Shirlene Mosley, an administrator of the Division of Adult and Tenant Services.

"Know that lease, read the lease, know your rights and responsibilities, and do not be intimidated," Mosley said. "Some of the landlords tend to think that (tenants) are their children. But this is business."

Many first-time tenants make the mistake of signing the lease after only viewing a model or a layout on paper instead of the actual property, Mosley said. They later discover the living conditions are very different. Some tenants deal with a hard-to-reach landlord and have trouble reporting maintenance problems.

"I do advise everyone to do a move-in and a move-out inspection," Mosley said. "Even if the landlord is not there, do one yourself. Get one of those throwaway cameras and take pictures. It is one of those things that is well worth the \$15."

Landlord David Burton is an officer of the University Area Housing Association and has been dealing with renters for 15 years. Paying rent on time, keeping the

See **Renting** on page 5

Reps: Slim chance of benefits ban passing

By Jill Laster
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FRANKFORT — A domestic-partner benefits ban does not have the support to get to the floor of the Kentucky House of Representatives, said the chair of the committee the bill is now in.

Senate Bill 112 would ban public universities and other state institutions from providing domestic-partner benefits to their employees. The bill went to the House Health and Welfare Committee after the state Senate approved the bill in a 30-5 vote last month.

Rep. Tom Burch, D-Louisville, is the committee chair. The bill would have a "difficult time" getting the votes to make it through the 16-member committee to the full House, where it could be voted into law, he said.

If the bill were to be approved by the House, health benefits for state workers would only apply to the employee and the employee's spouse and family members.

UK added domestic partner benefits in July. Currently about 60 employees use the program, UK spokesman Jay Blanton said.

See **Benefits** on page 5

'Real World' looking in Lex for next roommates

By Ben Hyatt
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Calling future reality show stars: MTV's "The Real World" will be in Lexington tomorrow in search of new roommates for the show's 21st season.

The casting directors from Bunim/Murray Productions will be at Main Street Live tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. searching for potential cast members ages 18 to 24.

"Lexington has a unique regional flavor," said supervising casting director Damon Furberg. "The area contains the right age group, and the students seem to all be down to earth."

Filming for the next season begins in May, takes approximately

four months to film and will air in the fall, Furberg said.

Producers have not selected next season's exact location, but Furberg said the house will likely be in the U.S. It's difficult for people to act the way they would in everyday life when immersed in an unfamiliar culture, he said.

Casting calls for "The Real World" are unlike the calls for talent shows like "American Idol," Furberg said. "The Real World" has gone as far as sending special invitations to people through MySpace.com, ensuring them an interview for a potential spot on the show, Furberg said.

Others can find out about auditions by watching the show or visiting the MTV Web site and searching

for casting call dates.

"We want something new this year from the cast," Furberg said. "We have seen the break-up story almost every season, and we want something different. Hopefully someone can bring something new."

Between 400 and 500 people are expected to gather for a chance to be on the show, Furberg said.

Participants must bring an official ID, such as a driver's license, and a head shot to the interview.

Former Real World housemate Ashli Robson said the experience is an opportunity of a lifetime. Robson spent her four-month adventure in Sydney, Australia, with six other roommates from around the world.

Living with a group of outgoing

people who weren't afraid to speak their minds was different from the roommates she has now. While she sometimes fought with people in the house, Robson said she walked away with great friends.

"I learned so much about me through this experience," Robson said. "I grew from my now-noticeable faults. I don't regret anything about the trip."

Robson offered advice for potential future roommates.

"If you are going to do this, you have to remember one thing, and that is people are going to judge you during this show," she said. "If you can handle that and get past all the cameras, then you will have the time of your life."

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Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21 - April 19) Today is an 8 — Just when you'd almost given up, you find another clue. You're off on the quest again, after a brief respite. You're at the head of the pack, with your friends close behind.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 6 — Be careful not to outspend your income and get yourself into debt, unless that's your intention. Things are happening pretty fast. Follow your plan.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is an 8 — Travel conditions are good now. Get going as soon as you can. Go to a place where you can shop, you'll find some excellent deals.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is a 5 — Pay off an old debt, but not a penny more than is required. You may be able to work a deal to avoid excessive charges. Consult an expert.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is an 8 — Party conditions are excellent. What other excuse do you need? Celebrate love, friendship and family. Celebrate roses and chocolate. Celebrate life.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is a 5 — You're very good at following directions, when they make sense. Some you get now may not, however. Keep asking questions until you're sure what to do.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is a 10 — If there's anything you've been meaning to do, throw your hat into the ring. You're not going to find better conditions for following through.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is a 5 — No need to hurry, especially when large sums of money are involved. Make sure all your questions are answered. Think of more before you sign.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is an 8 — Somebody else wants to tell you how to run your business. Listen politely. You might pick up a couple of good ideas.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is a 6 — This part is difficult, but it's nothing you can't handle. You'll win an extra prize if you get it done before quitting time. You'd better get going.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 9 — Allow yourself to be talked into something a little more exciting than your usual custom. Conditions are good for taking risks, especially in romance.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 5 — Something you've been worrying about doesn't have to be done. Something else does, however. Your first task is to determine which is which.

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MY HEART IS BROKEN

As she mourns Heath Ledger's death, Michelle Williams draws strength from her love for 2-year-old Matilda

The chateau marmont in West Hollywood was a special place for Heath Ledger and Michelle Williams, who used it as a home base during trips to the West Coast when they first started dating. On February 2, Williams, 27 (who has been in virtual seclusion since Ledger's shocking January 22 death), gathered a small group of family and friends, including his Casanova costar Sienna Miller and Miller's boyfriend, Rhys Ifans, at the legendary hotel to remember her ex-fiance and the father of her 2-year-old child, Matilda. "Michelle sat and told stories about Heath for several hours or a source close to the actress. "Everybody was comforting her. It was very somber."

Earlier that day, Williams had attended a memorial service on the Sony lot in Culver City, California, where she was joined by her Dawson's Creek costar Katie Holmes and Tom Cruise. Ledger's 'I'm Not There' director, Todd Haynes, said a few words; Ben Harper sang; and a slideshow brought a few guests to tears. "It was a beautiful, moving celebration of his life," says a source who was there. As Ledger is finally laid to rest, the controversy over his death is far from over. On January 31, Entertainment Tonight planned to air a video of Ledger taken at a drug-filled 2006 party. (While Ledger's death is widely believed to be drug-related, results of a toxicology report had not been released at presstime.) After stars such as Sarah Jessica Parker and Natalie Portman

urged the show not to air it, the footage was pulled. Soon after, Williams, who split from Ledger in 2007 after a tumultuous three years, issued her emotional plea for privacy. Her priority: to help Matilda face life without Dad.

What Matilda Knows

"She looks just like her father," says one Williams pal of daddy's girl Matilda, noting that it is unlikely the child — who, a source says, will inherit "everything" from her father — is aware of his death. "She's too young." So how is Williams explaining all the trauma of the past several weeks? "Michelle and the family are showering Matilda with love right now to cushion it so she isn't really aware," says another source close to the family. "Michelle basically told Matilda, 'Daddy went away.' Matilda still doesn't grasp it."

Life With Mom

Though Williams and doting dad Ledger shared custody (and employed a nanny), by all accounts Williams is a hands-on mother. Neighbors in the family-oriented Boerum Hill area of Brooklyn recall a laid-back mom who attends neighborhood parties and even opened her house to trick-or-treaters. Local dad Eric Havlik says he visited Williams' house last Halloween: "Michelle and Matilda gave out good candy together." Another parent, Stacey Shapiro, noticed a tight bond between mother and daughter at one party in nearby Cobble Hill. "Michelle let her just be and wander freely," she

says, "but Matilda seemed to never want to leave her side."

More recently, Matilda traveled to the Trollhattan, Sweden, set of Williams' movie Mammouth (now on hold), where, a set source says, the two hiked and picnicked. "They loved the outdoors," says the source, adding that Matilda is "a gentle child. Always smiling and laughing."

Finding Closure

"Michelle was always really vulnerable, so this has shaken her quite a bit," says the Williams friend, who spoke to the actress on January 31. For now, production on the upcoming Blue Valentine has been pushed back.

Michelle's Own Words

On February 1, Williams released a statement in which she mourned the loss of Heath Ledger and revealed how their daughter, Matilda, will keep his spirit alive. "Please respect our need to grieve privately. My heart is broken."

"I am the mother of the most tender-hearted, high-spirited, beautiful little girl who is the spitting image of her father. "All that I can cling to is his presence inside her that reveals itself every day. His family and I watch Matilda as she whispers to trees, hugs animals and takes steps two at a time, and we know that he is with us still. She will be brought up with the best memories of him."

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HOME VISITOR

THE GAME

“You know, this is a different animal than anything that he's had to deal with before.”
— New York Yankees pitcher Mike Mussina on the scrutiny teammate Andy Pettitte might face from the media about Roger Clemens and steroids use.



Referees Simone Heath, left, a landscape architecture sophomore, and Charles Huffman, center, keep time and statistics for an intramural basketball game at the Seaton Center last night. The game was also refereed by kinesiology senior George Young, right. PHOTOS BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

Student refs try to balance friends and fouls

By Bryan Kennedy
sports@kykernel.com

You have them in every sport. Whether they're throwing flags on the gridiron, eyeing balls in the strike zone or blowing whistles on the court, referees can be found in every sport. Usually right along with referees are the fans and players that hassle them.

The referees that preside over the intramural basketball games played at the Seaton Center are not exempt from the jeers of the crowd or the gripes from the players.

Like the professional referees who are seen officiating sporting events on television, the men and women in stripes at the Seaton Center face challenges. They still have to manage the game while refraining from being biased. It's not always easy for these student refs, especially when a familiar face is on the court with them.

They occasionally have to call games of fellow classmates. Such a scenario can present an awkward situation on the court. It's where friends that could take courses together face-off as refs and players,

sometimes with hostility.

"I've had friends get mad at me for certain calls before," said Michael Hallin, a political science senior. "Some of the comments people make are harsh, but most are made in the heat of the moment."

"It's hard to avoid refereeing games with your friends in them," Hallin said.

"Some of the comments people make are harsh, but most are made in the heat of the moment."

MICHAEL HALLIN
political science senior

Because there are more players than referees in the intramurals league, some refs can avoid sharing the court with a friend sometimes. Hallin said most of the time the referees are calling games with total strangers. The intramural program would like to have around 60 officials for the season, but they usually end up with around 45-50 referees each year, said Charlie Burke, director of UK Intramurals.

Referees go through a four to five day training period, two of which are in the classroom and two on the court. Usually one of those on-court days features the referees officiating a scrimmage.

With 24 referees calling games each night, and most being new this year, complaints are common.

See **Referees** on page 4



Referee Brad Clark, a communications senior, watches over an intramural basketball game last night in the Seaton Center.

Vanderbilt strikes gold against another UK basketball team

UK women's hoops headed toward Nashville, Tenn., with the same traveling plans as its men's counterpart, with hopes of getting the ball to fall right their way. But for the second time this week a UK team was sent packing from the Music City signing the blues as the women's basketball team fell to Vanderbilt on the road, 66-49.

Unlike the men's outing on Tuesday, the women's team played the game close during the first half, ending with a 25-19 lead at the intermission.

During the first half, sophomore guard Amani Franklin proved to be a catalyst for UK. She tallied 7 of her

13 points in the opening half, and ended the game with 11 rebounds. But Vanderbilt began the second half on a 14-5 run bringing the home team's lead to 33-30. Despite the play of senior guard Chelsea Chowning, who scored 11 of her team-high 14 points in the second half, the Commodores were able to put together more runs that pushed them to victory. Vanderbilt dominated the paint in last night's game outscoring the Cats 36-14.

The loss marked the Cats' third defeat in five games. The current slump comes behind a streak of winning 5-of-6 games from Jan. 7 through Jan. 24.



Chowning

Injuries push sophomores into key roles

By Travis Waldron
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Entering this season, Perry Stevenson and Ramon Harris may have been afterthoughts on the UK roster with attention focused on new head coach Billy Gillispie, outstanding recruit Patrick Patterson or senior guards Ramel Bradley and Joe Crawford.

But 22 games into the season, injuries and other issues have forced the sophomore forwards into key roles.

Both Stevenson and Harris have responded, improving as the season has worn on. But both also need to get better if the Cats are going to extend their season into March, Gillispie said earlier this week.

Complementing Patterson inside, Stevenson has come on strong lately. He

UK vs. LSU

When: Tomorrow at 1 p.m.
Where: Baton Rouge, La.

TV: RAYCOM (WKYF-27 in Lexington)

scored 14 points and grabbed seven rebounds in UK's win over Tennessee, had 12 points against South Carolina and 10 at Auburn and also nabbed nine rebounds against Alabama, all of which came during UK's season-long five game winning streak.

Stevenson and the coaching staff have credited his improvement to newfound aggression and confidence, attributes the wiry 6-foot-9, 201-pounder once lacked and still struggles with at times.

But Stevenson needs to keep im-

proving, Gillispie said.

"I think his numbers might indicate he's played better and he has improved greatly, but I don't think he's played nearly as well the last two or three games," Gillispie said. "He needs to play better for us. He needs to be more alert from the very first play. It's very important that he plays well every single play."

Harris, on the other hand, has developed into a steady defender and rebounder for UK, at times contributing as a scorer. Harris scored a career-high nine points in back-to-back games against Auburn and Georgia, and before leaving the Alabama game with a hip injury, he scored four points, grabbed five rebounds and dished out five assists.

Harris's improvement is unparalleled.

See **Sophomores** on page 4

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SPORTS BRIEF

Thinking pink

When the Cats host Alabama on Sunday, they will have a new school of thought. UK is one of over 600 schools participating in "Think Pink," an effort to raise breast cancer awareness on and off the court. The Women's Basketball Coaches Association started the program last year with 120 schools. It has become popular with several teams wearing pink jerseys and shoes during the initiative that began nationally Feb. 8.

Although the Cats will not wear pink jerseys they will have pink warm-ups, headbands and shoes. Any fan in pink clothes will be admitted into the game for \$1.

REFEREES

Continued from page 3

Some believe there is favoritism shown on the court. "At times some of their calls can seem biased," said Geoffrey Griggs a member of the Major Moves basketball team and an agriculture communications and community leadership development sophomore. "Overall they're pretty average — you can tell they might make calls to help out friends."

The issues of being biased are addressed during the training period for the referees. Burke has noticed at least one thing in common for most of the players who challenge the integrity of the referees in the league.

"There are always complaints, but most are unfounded," Burke said. "Most of the time the complaints come from the losing team."

The intramural league is divided into three divisions; A-League is the most competitive, made of more experienced players, the B-League, and the Fraternity League, which is open to Greek members.

Refereeing the Division-A League games sometimes can come with many complaints, Burke said, but usually the most experienced referees are chosen for these games.

A.J. Pratt, a fifth-year landscaping senior, said while refereeing can be hard to deal with certain people, but they learn to stay calm like most referees in any sport.

And although under scrutiny, the referees still have fun. "Refereeing the games gets fun when there are huge crowds," Pratt said. "Around the playoffs games, more people come out, and other than the hecking, the games are really fun."

Sampson coaches amid controversy

By Skig Mylenki
Chicago Tribune

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — They also played a basketball game Wednesday night in Bloomington.

It, of course, received second billing to the storm swirling about Hoosiers coach Kelvin Sampson, whose future at the school is in jeopardy after the NCAA charged him with five major rule violations.

But he was still on hand to guide his team against Wisconsin at Assembly Hall, where his entrance generated little reaction. There was merely a boo here, then a cheer there. Later, signs popped up that found humor, to say nothing of irony, in the allegations that Sampson had made illegal phone calls and then lied about them.

"Kelvin's On My Fave 5," one of those signs read.

"Sampson U Can Call Me Anytime," another read.

As for the alleged infractions ...

After reading from a statement following his team's 68-66 loss to the Badgers, he deflected questions looking for more comment. But the game itself provided plentiful fodder for further discussion. The Hoosiers (20-4, 9-2), behind Eric Gordon (23 points) and D.J. White (17 points, eight rebounds), controlled it for the majority of the minutes.

Then the Badgers (20-4, 10-2), who finished 11 of 26 on three-pointers, rode that outside shooting into a tie at 60-60 with less than two minutes remaining. After the lead changed six times in just 61 seconds, Indiana was up one point with 17.1 seconds left as Wisconsin was taking the ball out on

the sideline.

Badgers point guard Trevon Hughes got it to forward Marcus Landry, who dribbled parallel to the basket and toward the key. His path blocked, he turned and passed to 6-foot-11-inch senior Brian Butch two steps beyond the three-point line.

Butch recently had found himself nailed to the bench as games rushed toward conclusion.

"Our good-foot team is on the floor a lot of times and with Brian, he wants to be on the floor in those cases," Wisconsin coach Bo Ryan explained. "So Brian, OK, keep showing us that your feet are getting better. He wanted to show that his feet are getting better."

He already had made a big play less than two minutes earlier by switching off his man, confronting Gordon and forcing the Hoosier star into a turnover. Now, with just 4.5 seconds remaining, he rose and showed his shot was better as well by banking in the

winning basket.

"I just let it go. I really thought I was going to make it too," he said.

"When it left his hand, I said, 'Well, that hits high off the glass,'" Sampson said. "It did hit high off the glass, but in. Sometimes it's better to be lucky than good."

That was the exclamation point to a tumultuous day in Bloomington, and White was asked if that furor had been any kind of distraction for the Hoosiers.

"Nothing outside hurt this team," he said. "Tonight has nothing to do with anything. We just didn't win."

Was it a distraction, Sampson was asked.

"D.J. answered that," he said.

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SOPHOMORES

Continued from page 3

leled so far this season. "He's played great," Gillispie said. "He's improved as much as anyone on our team."

Gillispie would like to see Harris develop more confidence on the court.

"His next step would be to be more confident," Gillispie said. "Be in attack mode instead of safe mode all the time. He's become a sound defender and a better rebounder. The next step for him would be to be a more confident offensive player."

Stevenson and Harris have turned into alternative offensive options for Patterson. Crawford and Bradley, especially with sophomore guard Jodie Meeks still suffering from a hip injury of his own.

But both have also been inconsistent at times. In UK's blowout loss to Vanderbilt Tuesday night, Harris failed to score and grabbed just one rebound.

Stevenson scored just five points and had three rebounds before fouling out in the second half.

With Vandy double- and triple-teaming Patterson inside, Stevenson failed to take advantage. In the past, with teams focused on stopping Patterson, Stevenson has found himself wide open in the lane for dunk after dunk.

That didn't happen at Vanderbilt, and Gillispie has expressed that Stevenson needs to start taking advantage of playing with his talented front-court running mate.

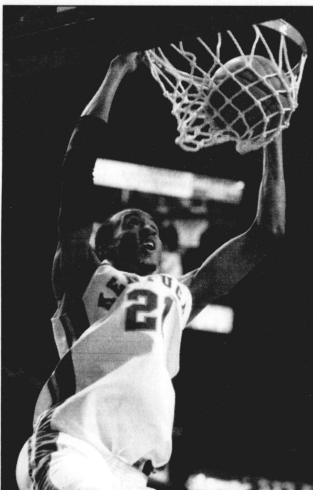
"You should take advantage of playing with Patrick Patterson," Gillispie said. "Patrick makes everyone better. (Stevenson) has to do a better job for us offensively, defensively, on the boards, consistently from the first minute to the last."

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"You should take advantage of playing with Patrick Patterson," Gillispie said. "Patrick makes everyone better. (Stevenson) has to do a better job for us offensively, defensively, on the boards, consistently from the first minute to the last."

"My concern with Perry is that you don't know what you're going to get."

The Cats travel to LSU tomorrow, and if they're going to rebound from the program's worst loss since 1989 and make something of their season, it may be Stevenson and Harris that become the keys.



Sophomore forward Perry Stevenson has been forced to step up this year because of UK's struggles with injuries.

krystalball

Picks for Saturday, Feb. 16

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

- No. 7 Stanford at Arizona
- No. 8 Georgetown at Syracuse
- Florida at No. 24 Vanderbilt
- No. 10 Michigan State at No. 12 Indiana
- Arkansas at Mississippi State
- No. 21 Washington State at Oregon

Travis Waldron
Staff writer
Record: 13-4
Last week: 3-3
Stanford
Georgetown
Vanderbilt
Indiana
Mississippi State
Washington State

Eric Lindsey
Sports Editor
Record: 11-6
Last week: 3-3
Stanford
Georgetown
Vanderbilt
Indiana
Mississippi State
Washington State

Kyle Brown
UK fan
Record: 10-7
Last week: 2-4
Stanford
Georgetown
Vanderbilt
Michigan State
Mississippi State
Oregon

Matthew George
Asst. Sports Editor
Record: 12-5
Last week: 4-2
Stanford
Georgetown
Florida
Indiana
Mississippi State
Oregon

Jonathan Smith
Sports columnist
Record: 11-6
Last week: 5-1
Arizona
Georgetown
Vanderbilt
Indiana
Mississippi State
Oregon

J.D. Williams
Asst. Sports Editor
Record: 9-8
Last week: 3-3
Arizona
Georgetown
Vanderbilt
Indiana
Mississippi State
Washington State

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CONGRATULATIONS
To the members of KAΘ who earned 4.0s last semester!

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A CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT LEE TODD

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MONDAY FEBRUARY 18TH 6:30PM

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Author to speak on teachings of Turkish Muslim advocating unity

By Ashton Smith
news@kynews.com

Peter Berres considers talks like the one author Jill Carroll will give tomorrow important in the quest of finding bridges and similarities among cultures in a "dangerously volatile world."

"This event will address the real meaning of Islam and its commonality with Western religions and humanity," said Berres, an advisory board member for the Interfaith Dialogue Association.

Carroll is the author of "A Dialogue of Civilizations: Gülen's Islamic Ideals and Humanistic Discourse," a book that looks at the teachings of contemporary Turkish Muslim scholar Fethullah Gülen, said Mehmet Saracoglu, president of the IDO. Gülen is "open to dialogue and an advocate of coexistence and friendship" among different cultures, said Saracoglu, a mining engineering graduate student.

The IDO is sponsoring the event, which takes place tomorrow at 4 p.m. in the W.T. Young Library auditorium. A book signing will follow the speech.

Nazif Muhtaroglu, a philosophy graduate student and IDO member, wants to use the lecture as a model in approaching people of different cultures.

"Dr. Carroll argues that even the world views belonging to different civilizations could come together by emphasizing the common elements between them," Muhtaroglu said.

Gülen's ideas have been compared to philosophers of very different viewpoints, such as Socrates, Kant and Confucius.

"In general Dr. Carroll is making a comparative study between Gülen and well-known philosophers to create a discussion on basic humanistic subjects, such as freedom, education and inherent human dignity," Saracoglu said.

Events like Carroll's speech

are important in the UK community, Berres said.

"Religious organizations must lead the effort in creating and continuing this effort," he said.

Political and military means alone have not been able to end the violence between different faiths and communities, Berres said.

"The lesson of Vietnam and Iraq is that military power is insufficient to defeat an enemy which is committed to dying for their cause," he said. "And so we need to find other ways to deal with this threat. We need to first understand them and then find the common ground we share as humans."

If you go

What: Interfaith Dialogues
When: Saturday at 4 p.m.
Where: W.T. Young Library auditorium



much is given
February 16 at 10 pm

CASINO

Continued from page 1

Kemper said she fears that legalized gambling will enable outside companies to take the new casino revenue and "get rich off of the people of Kentucky." She also said casinos could cause Kentucky's unemployment to think gambling will help them escape debt.

"Most of the people don't understand what they're going to be deciding on," Kemper said. "They don't understand the Pandora's box they would be opening."

Beshear also proposed that the five freestanding casinos would be located in Kenton or Campbell, Boyd or Greenup, Laurel or Whitley, Daviess and Christian counties. Each proposed casino location would have a local referendum placed on ballots so voters could de-

cide whether to allow a freestanding casino in their city or county.

Sen. Darryl Owens, D-Louisville, will sponsor the bill to allow the amendment to be put on a ballot, and Rep. Charlie Hoffman, D-Georgetown, will sponsor the legislation for how the casinos will be set up, Beshear said.

House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, said he would support the legislation but does not want the specific percentages to be part of the constitutional amendment. The legislature should pass the bills after they have been altered in committees, he said.

"Polls show that the people of Kentucky want to vote on that constitutional amendment," Richards said.

Rep. Stan Lee, R-Lexington said the wording of what Kentuckians would vote on is biased because it leads with what would benefit from the increase

in revenue. If Beshear's language is approved by the legislature, voters would be asked to answer whether they would be "in favor of increasing state financial support for elementary and secondary education, expanding health care for senior citizens, children and others, support for local governments, and combating drug and alcohol abuse and other important programs" by allowing limited casino gaming.

The casino bills would not pass if they were up for a vote right now, Lee said. Talks behind closed doors will create a "carrot-and-stick" situation, where legislators who fall in line are rewarded and those who don't are punished, he said.

"The carrots have been thrown out," he said, "and I'm sure if the carrots don't work, the sticks will come out behind closed doors in the next few days."

RENTING

Continued from page 1

property clean and not disturbing the neighbors are all key to avoiding problems as a renter, Burton said.

Budgeting for other expenses besides rent sometimes catches first-time tenants off guard, Burton said.

"I think working with utility companies takes (first-time renters) by surprise," he said. Tenants should also make sure they're comfortable living with their roommates to ensure a smooth year, Burton said.

"People need to sit down and talk about everything before

they move in, especially if a pet is involved," Burton said. "Also, the level of conflict increases with the number of people, and that can be a real pain."

Mosley advises all tenants to look for a place to live three to six months in advance. Calling the police department and asking about the crime rate in the area can also be beneficial.

"It gives them time to look and figure out what their resources are, what part of town they want to live in," she said. "Then, you want to check that place out and know what your obligations are before signing a lease."

By following these steps, tenants, as well as landlords, can avoid major confrontations,

Mosley said. She deals with more renting problems during May and June, when most leases end, and cautions renters that landlords can sue for the balance of the lease if tenants break leases early.

Tenant and landlord packets are available at the Central Kentucky Job Center on Industry Road. For 83 tenants or landlords can get a copy of the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act, which includes renting suggestions, a housing guide and a list of landlord and tenant rights.

For further questions or to report a leasing problem, call Mosley at the Division of Adult and Tenant Services at (859) 258-3965. The service is free.

BENEFITS

Continued from page 1

last month.

A domestic-partner benefits ban would unfairly single out one group of people and deny them needed health care benefits, Burch said.

"If (supporters of the bill) follow the word of Jesus, they wouldn't do something like this," Burch said. "Jesus was a healer. He forgave people."

"I don't recall anything in the Bible about domestic-partner benefits," he said. During the 2007 legislative session, the Senate passed a similar bill. The bill entered the Health and Welfare Committee and died after an 8-8 committee vote.

Rep. Bob Damron, D-Lexington, has said he supports a bill to ban domestic-partner benefits because they raise state health care costs and could be abused by people who are not in a long-term relationship. However, Damron, a committee member, said yesterday the bill does not have a good chance to pass in the committee.

"I think it should probably be somewhere else to be heard on the House floor," he said. If the bill were to make it to the full House, it would pass 80-20, Damron said.

For the domestic-partner benefits ban to become law, it would need to make it through the committee and the House by the end of the legislative session in April.

MOUNTAINS

Continued from page 1

of Kentuckians for the Commonwealth who lives in Eastern Kentucky.

Handshoe said the mining near his home is getting out of control.

"I live in the mountains so I know what really goes on up there," Handshoe said. "If they don't stop soon, there won't be a mountain I can see from my home left undamaged."

To some, protesting mountaintop removal was a way to show love on Valentine's Day in a non-traditional way.

"This is so much less superficial than your typical Valentine's Day celebration," Harmin said. "This is real love."

Julliard cellist to perform tonight

STAFF REPORT

The UK Symphony Orchestra will be performing tonight at 7:30 in the Singletary Center for the Arts Concert Hall. The orchestra will share the stage with Julliard-trained cellist Lynn Harrell. Student tickets range from \$10 to \$22, while faculty, staff and seniors tickets are \$28, and other adult tickets are \$32. Tickets can be purchased through the Singletary Center Web site (www.singleartytickets.com).

UK looking for nominees for diversity awards

STAFF REPORT

UK will present the President's Award of Diversity to five people in the university community in April and is currently calling for nominations. The award recognizes people who have promoted diversity of thought, culture, gender and ethnicity. A nomination form is available online (www.uky.edu/PCD) where

people can nominate possible recipients in the following five categories: UK student, UK faculty member, UK staff member, a female UK employee and a Kentucky individual or agency. Nominations should include the nominee's resume, two letters of recommendation and an example of the nominee's efforts in diversity. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 29.

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The opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas. Unlike news stories, the Kernel's unsigned editorials represent the views of a majority of the editorial board. Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the opinions page reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of the Kernel.

■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

Closing dorms hurts unique community of North Campus

With the state funding outlook still ominous, UK recently made the right move by making plans to close two residence halls with low occupancy next year. But UK should not consider it a job well done and stop there.

Closing Boyd and Jewell halls, with average occupancies this year of 82 percent and 61 percent, respectively, would save UK Housing about \$300,000, the Kernel reported on Feb. 6. For the housing program to break even, residence halls need to be at least 90 percent occupied, said Ben Crutcher, associate vice president of auxiliary services.

While closing these dorms effectively cuts UK's spending, it also presents some problems of its own.

First, both dorms are located on North Campus, a part of campus that has its distinct qualities and attractions for many students. Closing two of its seven dorms will significantly lower the number of residents on North Campus and change its composition drastically, thereby stripping away some of its unique qualities.

In addition, demand for campus housing will rise with the natural growth in enrollment, and closing two of the existing 22 dorms only serves to increase the housing strain, especially without building any new dorms.

UK currently doesn't have a plan in place to solve the possible housing jam in the near future. For the coming school year, in the event that the number of applicants exceeds the housing capacity, some will be placed Jewell Hall until spaces open up in other dorms, Crutcher said. A large increase in housing applicants might force Boyd and Jewell halls to reopen for the 2009-10 school year, he added.

We think both of the above concerns need to be addressed by UK Housing. For now, what will be done with Boyd and Jewell halls after their

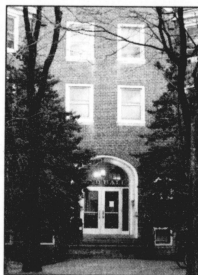
closing is still unknown, Crutcher said. While we understand it is difficult to make plans when state funding for the next few years is still up in the air, UK should look into preliminary plans for when the budget crisis passes.

With secure funding, UK should find ways to once again utilize the two soon-to-be-closed dorms. The main reasons these dorms have low occupancy rates are the lack of air conditioning and the overall condition of the buildings. To attract residents for these dorms, UK has two approaches: lower the housing rates for these buildings or carry out renovations, including the installation of air conditioning.

Currently, UK Housing charges students \$5,524 annually for a double occupancy room without air conditioning and the mandatory dining plan, according to its Web site (www.uky.edu/Housing/). The difference between the cost for these dorms and older air-conditioned dorms is less than \$300 per year. Such a difference is not significant enough to motivate students to choose dorms without air conditioning. Lowering the rate further can attract more residents to live in these buildings.

Carrying out renovations in these dorms, while costly, will help residents with a much better living and learning environment and will help retain North Campus' unique identity. However, it is up to the university to look into the situation carefully and decide whether the investment is better spent in renovating these old dorms or building new ones to replace them.

We are aware that both of these options will require funding to be carried out. While it seems unlikely that such funding can be spared during this time of budget crisis, UK should not stop making plans to solve these problems when funding is secured.



PHOTOS BY KRISTIN SHERBARD / STAFF

UK announced last week that two North Campus residence halls — Jewell Hall, left, and Boyd Hall, right — will not reopen next year because of low occupancy.



TOM WILKINS, Kernel cartoonist

Calls for Phelps' resignation unfounded after apology

Unless you've been out with the flu for the last two weeks, you should know that there has been a recent controversy involving an e-mail sent out by our Student Government President Nick Phelps. As of right now, the debate surrounding the issue seems to have gone out of control. I hear complaints from several different viewpoints, and each viewpoint seems to omit some key facts. As a member of the Muslim Student Association, I feel it is important that the facts behind the situation are set straight before any conflict goes further than it must.



MATTHEW LONGACRE
Guest columnist

To begin the discussion, it's important to know why members of the Lexington Muslim community would have an issue with Phelps' e-mail. Muslim students oftentimes face issues of prejudice. Whether it be a fellow student telling a Muslim that he or she is unwanted in America and should "go back to your home country," or a prospective employer asking a student to consider changing his or her "foreign-sounding name" to get a job, it is not uncommon for a Muslim student to be put in a compromising position.

Compared to most of these situations, a chain e-mail is of little concern. So, why was the e-mail by Nick Phelps so controversial? First, the e-mail was signed on behalf of the SG president and finished up with UK Board of Trustees credentials. This makes such an e-mail an official representation of our SG (and, by extension, our university).

Secondly, the e-mail had a request to be forwarded. Therefore, even if the e-mail were just for a private group of friends, it had every opportunity to spin out of control and end up in the hands of plenty of more impressive individuals who put their trust in public leaders like Phelps.

Even with all of this in mind, the issue could have been resolved privately. Almost a full month of private mediation, however, was met only with resistance. The e-mail went public because nobody seemed to want to correct what could be interpreted as an official, public expression of bigotry by our SG.

After the Kernel reported on the issue on Feb. 5, meaningful actions began to take place. Students, Muslim and non-Muslim alike, expressed their concerns over the issue, and Phelps and SG promised to take action toward resolving the controversy and improving diversity. MSA and SG had meaningful, productive conversations, and now action has been taken on the issue. Phelps showed maturity and sincerity in his apology and in his promise to continue efforts to achieve diversity goals at UK.

However, others still seem to be throwing punches. MSA (and the rest of the Muslim community, as far as I know) never asked Phelps to step down. We value his immense contributions to our campus, and we feel a mistake like this does not warrant resignation.

Although MSA welcomes the help of every student organization that wishes to give it, including the UK College Democrats, I feel this issue should not be a partisan one.

I encourage everyone to put an unfortunate event behind us and look forward to a brighter, more productive future in campus diversity.

There are plenty of international and interfaith groups on campus that SG can now work with to spread diversity without forcing politics into the issue.

For this reason, I encourage everyone to put an unfortunate event behind us and look forward to a brighter, more productive future in campus diversity.

With Phelps and SG promising progress, and many diverse student groups willing to assist, the positive and desperately needed change in campus diversity many have hoped for seems to be on the horizon. And try not to be skeptical: If any party doesn't keep up with its promises after all of this, you'll be hearing from me again.

Matthew Longacre is a management sophomore and a member of the Muslim Student Association. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Youth vote more important this year than ever before

There's still plenty of suspense left in this year's presidential campaign but one thing is clear: The youth vote is coming in.



STEPHEN WINN
Syndicated columnist

And not a moment too soon. Because — take it from a Baby Boomer — older voters have kind of screwed things up.

We've allowed one of the most remarkably incompetent administrations in American history to get our thinly stretched military forces bogged down in not one but two major conflicts abroad.

Despite years of warnings, we've failed to reform Social Security and Medicare. That needs to be done so younger workers aren't crushed by

new taxes as more and more Baby Boomers retire and start to collect government benefits.

We've run up a huge national debt, in part by asking the government to buy a ton of stuff we didn't really need.

The federal debt works out to a shade over \$30,000 for every person in the country, according to Harry Zeeve, national field director for the Concord Coalition, a budget watchdog group.

"Have you written your check yet?" he asks wryly.

For young people, Zeeve notes, this piece of the federal debt comes on top of other debt for things like rising college tuition — another big problem, incidentally, that Washington has ignored.

No, that's not quite right. In recent years the federal government, which is heavily involved in higher education, has done things that actually made the tuition crisis worse.

Other critical problems like global

warning and a chaotic health-care system have been neglected.

Oh, and one more thing: Our nation's name is mad across much of the globe.

Youthful idealism is a wonderful thing, and it has powered significant jumps in U.S. voter turnout so far this year.

The youth vote tripled and even quadrupled in some states on Super Tuesday. In Missouri, Sen. Hillary Clinton had been widely expected to win. But young voters provided Sen.

Barack Obama with his margin of victory. Obama's inspirational words about unity and new approaches to our nation's challenges have struck a chord on college campuses around the country.

That's fine as long as students and other young voters understand that sometimes politics basically amounts to a shoving match over who gets what, and who pays for it.

And older Americans, particularly retirees, excel at this game. They call their representatives in Washington. They write letters to the editor, pounding away at themes like why they deserve even more federal assistance with their medical bills than they already get.

They send in their dues to the AARP, a politically powerful organization that champions their demands on Capitol Hill and at the White House. And, most important, older people show up at the polls.

Many of them think of themselves

as idealistic, too. They talk about looking out for the next generation, taking care of our country's future, and so on. All that rhetoric is echoed by elected officials.

But time and again, year after year, those officials vote to hand out more and more benefits to older Americans. Younger workers are often just asked to help pick up the tab. Or the tab is simply left for future generations to pay.

So to my 20-year-old daughter and other young Americans: Congratulations as you move to take a more active role in the political process.

The country needs your idealism. It needs your enthusiasm.

And sometimes the rest of the country could use some help in really keeping focused on the future — your future.

Stephen Winn is a columnist for the Kansas City Star. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Submissions
Send a letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Linsen Li. Be sure to include your full name, class, major and phone number (for confirmation).
E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

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LIFEGUARDS & POOL MANAGERS: PPM is hiring for clubs & water parks in Lexington, Richmond & Danville. \$8-15/hr. 859-538-4999 or hr@ppmrec.com for application

PERSONALS

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NEOPEN CORPORATION is looking for a Quality Assurance Coordinator who would be responsible for assessing in quality assurance audits on manufacturing, shipping and receiving procedures for the Veterinary Operations Department. Ideal candidate would have a biology or chemistry background. Flexible hours - candidate will be considered for FT employment after completion of degree. Please send resume to resume@neopen.com or fax to 859-295-5532 including job interest and salary desired. Neopen is a EOE.

NOW HIRING, OUTBACK Steakhouse, Lexington, Kentucky. All Positions. 859-263-3779

PROFESSIONAL OPERATOR/APPRAISER NEEDED for edgy young company. Make above and beyond min wage working part time 2-4 days per week. Compensation paid out weekly. Must be a night owl with flexible right/overnight shifts. We offer flexible scheduling up to two weekend availability is preferred. Lots of down time between calls as study, watch movies, etc... such an easy job as long as you can stay awake! Computer with internet available for personal use. Female strongly preferred, non-smoker & clean. Call 859-327-9865, leave mail and number.

PT SALES CLERKS & Cashiers, Flex. Hrs. Must be avail. Through summer. Call Bill M. Sat. 8-4 or avail. Hours. Chevy Chase hair styler. 289-3611

PTFF SECRETARY NEEDED @ Paradise Motor Sports. An upscale used car dealership. Bilingual a plus. Call for interview 859-373-0123

SALVAGE BUILDING MATERIALS a living dependent PT warehouse workers w/ good people skills. Apply in person M-Sat at 573 Angliana Ave.

THE UK TEAM SHOP is looking for outgoing and reliable PT help. Duties include managing or operating merchandise stands at UK athletic events. No experience necessary. Weekend and evening availability necessary, if interested, please email your resume and salary history to employment@ukteamshop.com

TWO OF MONTHLY PERIODS? Then join our study. We are researching an investigational dosing schedule of an approved contraceptive that could give you freedom from your monthly periods. You may be eligible to participate if you are healthy and 18-35 years old. Study participation last for one year. Qualifying volunteers can expect a study clinic visit. All study-related office visits, medical evaluations, and oral contraceptives will be provided to qualified study participants at no cost. For more information, please contact Center for Kentucky Research Associates at 859-264-8888 or 1-800-988-1886

VOLUNTEERS PAID TO participate in studies concerning the effects of alcohol on behavioral and mental performance. Looking to M & F social drinkers 21-25 years of age. Call 252-5794

WE PAY UP TO \$75 for online surveys.

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This week's box office hits and misses

Film loses mystery of true treasure hunt

By Ricky Simpson
rsimpson@kykernel.com

Fool's Gold

Starring Matthew McConaughey, Kate Hudson, Donald Sutherland

From the opening credits, you feel you are emerged in a historic treasure hunt spanning generations. But quickly the emphasis on the sunken treasure and the epic historic portion of the film, is lost to the bubbly, blonde curls of the air-headed lead character — and I don't mean Kate Hudson.

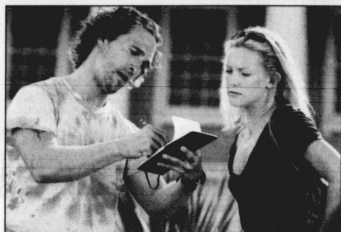
In "Gold," Benjamin (McConaughey) and Tess (Hudson) are going through a divorce after years of Benjamin's carelessness and immaturity. When Benjamin finds a significant piece to a treasure the two have been seeking for years, they come together for one final attempt at grasping their treasure before it falls into the hands of infamous rapper Big Bunny (Kevin Hart).

The beginning makes you feel like you are about to partake in an epic treasure hunt a la "National Treasure" while piecing together minutiae to create a grand picture. Instead, the mystery of the treasure is solved in the first minutes, and the adventure turns into relationship banter.

McConaughey and Hudson come together again and actually make a charming team as romantic companions. The background of Benjamin and Tess is complemented wonderfully by the two as they have frustrating history but remain drawn to each other in an adorable way.

This film runs 113 minutes and is rated PG-13 for some sexual content and violence. I love the tension between the two stars, but the plot could have been helped if there was more mystery to the treasure and given us more of a hunt. If there was more Indiana Jones thrills or even "Goonies"-like adventure, the romance would have been there regardless. In the end, this film isn't exactly "Gold", but it isn't "Fool's Gold" either.

Grade: B-
Playing at Fayette Mall, Movie 10 Codell Drive, Regal Hamburg Pavilion.



Matthew McConaughey, left, and Kate Hudson co-star in Warner Bros. Pictures' romantic comedy adventure "Fool's Gold."

Opening Today

Jumper

Starring Hayden Christensen, Samuel L. Jackson, James Ball

This sci-fi thriller focuses on a man (Christensen) who can transport across the world in a single second. After a life of this talent he finds he is not the only one with these mysterious powers.

film was adapted from a news article about the infamous New York drug lord Frank Lucas and is now nominated for two Academy Awards. This film is well-paced and, though long, remains remarkable throughout.

Michael Clayton

Starring George Clooney, Tom Wilkinson, Tilda Swinton

This was the favorite crime drama of 2007 and was heavily doted on by critics. This is a thrilling flick with a gut-punch of an ending.

In the Valley of Elah

Starring Tommy Lee Jones, Charlize Theron, Susan Sarandon

Paul Haggis wrote and directed another gripping drama, this time a stateside war drama about the unseen scares of wartime. This film has earned Jones an Oscar nod and has made an appearance on my top-10 list for 2007.

Rendition

Starring Omar Metwally, Reese Witherspoon, Jake Gyllenhaal

Depending on your perceptions of the film, in the end you are left with a feeling of either disgust or triumph. With stellar performances throughout, this film is touching and debatable after the credits.

Upcoming DVDs

American Gangster

Starring Russell Crowe, Denzel Washington

This Ridley Scott-directed



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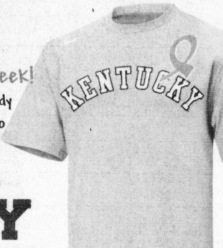
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