



He's new, he's blue
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June 20, 2002

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GREENSPACE VS. GREENBACKS

Scholarship's problems sparks mining debate

Dilemma: Two needs, one Robinson Forest

By Joe Anderson
SUMMER EDITOR

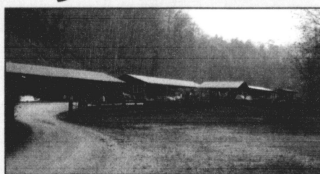
The financial troubles faced by a popular scholarship program have led UK officials to discuss expanded strip mining in Robinson Forest, UK's research forest.

The Robinson Trust scholars program, which provides scholarships to Eastern Kentucky students whose parents have never been to college, is quickly running out of money. The program will have financial problems by 2005 and could go broke by 2010, said Jack Blanton, senior vice president of administration. Low coal prices and poor market condition fueled the shortfall.

About five percent of the endowed scholarship is being used up each year to support the program. As a result, President Lee Todd and Grady Stumbo, a UK trustee, discussed the possibility of strip mining in the central, contiguous block of Robinson Forest during a recent East Kentucky Leadership Conference in Ashland. The tract is one of the largest unbroken forests in the state.

The forest also contains the largest block of unmined coal east of the Mississippi, with 97 million tons of coal, according to studies.

The sawmill and maintenance area of Robinson Forest is surrounded by the tree-lined ridges which characterize the region.



PHOTOS FURNISHED

Robinson Forest is divided into two sections, Blanton said. The outer, 5,000-acre section is mined to support the Robinson scholarships. The inner, 10,000-acre area was designated under state and federal law as "lands unsuitable for mining," and has not been mined to support the program — yet.

Blanton said the idea of mining the inner tract is a very contentious one. "Mining in the main block is a very, very controversial issue," he said. "There are powerful groups that feel very strongly on both sides." Blanton said the "lands unsuitable for mining" designation currently prevents any mining in the inner tract, and that he does not know how it could be removed. "It would be a very long and complicated process," Blanton said.

Erik Reece, an English professor who is organizing a summer writing program in the forest, said UK should

find another solution. "The whole issue is set up as an either/or situation, which is not really what it is," he said. "If mining is the only way to get money for the program, that's pretty unimaginative thinking."

The first generation of Robinson scholars, 138 students, just finished their freshman year in college. Due to financial constraints, however, only 29 new students were selected this year.

Brad Goan oversees the scholarships. "It's important to find a way for it to continue," Goan said. "Coal mining is one of several possibilities."

Reece said mining is a poor solution to the financial troubles. "The forest is a jewel in the university's crown; it should be treated that way, and not as a raw resource," he said.

Blanton said the administration has no immediate plans to mine the inner tract, but the idea remains a possibility.

The woods

Smoke from a fire hangs over Robinson Forest. Arson has plagued the area, which UK officials have discussed as the site of an expanded strip mining project.



INCOMING

Conferences help freshmen find bearings

By Holly McIntosh
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Classes don't start until August 28, but many incoming UK freshmen began arriving on campus this week. On Monday, 279 incoming freshmen attended the first of 11 Freshman Advising Conferences, which will bring over 3000 new students to campus this summer.

The conferences are a two-day, mandatory event organized by the Registrar's Office to answer questions about college life and help new students prepare for their first semester.

During the conference, incoming freshmen hear from faculty, staff, students and administrators, getting information about academics, Greek life, study habits, health services, housing, food, student government and more. They also take placement tests, get student ID cards and register for

their first semester of classes.

At the end of the first day, students and their parents can stay in Patterson Hall overnight to get a brief, first-hand dorm experience.

One incoming freshman, Noelle Bertram, said while the conference is a bit long and dense with information, she is more excited about coming to UK and knows a lot more about campus.

Another incoming freshman, James House, said, "It really helps you become familiar with UK and see that it's not such a scary place."

His mother, Terry House, said it is a great idea, and even made her want to take classes at UK.

"The conference represents what UK is really all about," said University Registrar Don Witt. "It takes everyone from food, academics, housing, billing, financial aid and others to make sure that they go well."

Witt said he already has



SCOTT LASHMEYER | KERNEL STAFF

Jeff Powell, a business management senior, gives a campus tour to a prospective student and his family during an advising conference.

a good feeling about this year's incoming freshman class from the first two conferences. On the first day, 96 percent of students registered for the conference attended it, and 86 percent of registered students showed up for the second conference. Last year's best attendance rate was 92 percent.

The incoming class is so

large that some of the conference staff, who typically stay in the residence hall with students, gave up their rooms so more incoming students could stay in the residence hall.

Witt said he is looking forward to a large, strong and diverse freshman class and an excellent group of students.

PAGEANTRY

UK student crowned new Miss Kentucky

You go, girl: Correll claims first place after an unsuccessful SG bid

By Jodi Whitaker
STAFF WRITER

From politics to pageants, Mary Catherine Correll has had a busy year already.

Just months after her losing bid for Student Government president in a somewhat controversial race, Correll has been crowned this year's Miss Kentucky.

Correll, a 21-year-old biology senior, was very surprised at being named this year's representative.

"In my past years in the competition, I've never even made the top 10," Correll said of being crowned with the top honor in her third year of competing. "I was astounded. It was a total shock."

Correll said she competes in the pageant to help pay for school. "There are seven kids in my family, all getting to be college age," Correll said. "Every little bit I can do helps."

Had she won her bid for the SG presidency and Miss Kentucky, Correll would have had to choose one or the other. As Miss Kentucky, Correll will take a year off from school to fulfill her duties. She said that possibility was something she discussed up front with Tommy Logsdon, who ran with her for vice-president.

"I told him that in the event I was to win Miss Kentucky, I would leave it up to the senate to take a vote. If they wanted me to stay, I would do it. But (SG) was first and foremost. I had made that commitment."

During her year as Miss Kentucky, Correll will travel the state to promote the National Bone Marrow Donor Program.

"I really hope to get the word out," Correll said of her platform. "There are so many people who are not finding matches because there aren't enough people on the registry. I hope to promote that and get as many people on the registry as possible."

The National Bone Marrow Donor Program is a network of donor centers, transplant centers, collection centers and recruitment groups in the U.S. that coordinates matching patients who need bone marrow transplants to unrelated volunteer donors. The Central Kentucky Blood Center is the only blood center-based donor center in Kentucky. It also serves parts of West Virginia and Tennessee.

"It's that one person that can make all the difference," Correll said of the importance of being on the registry. "It only takes that one special match."

Correll is excited about spending the year touring the state and promoting her platform. "It will be a busy year, but I'm looking forward to it," Correll said.



Correll

NEWS TO USE

CampusBriefs

Kernel editor receives \$10,000 scholarship

Tracy Kershaw, Kernel editor-in-chief for 2002-03, was one of only 10 students across the country to be awarded a \$10,000 scholarship for excellence in journalism. The Scripps-Howard Foundation awarded her the scholarship. Kershaw interned at the Washington bureau of the Scripps-Howard wire service last year. Kershaw, a journalism senior, is interning at the Tampa (Fla.) Tribune this summer.

UK hires news student affairs vice president

UK has hired a new vice president for student affairs, a position many officials say has a great impact on students and campus life. Patricia Terrell, who currently serves in the same capacity at Utah State University, was formally announced as the new vice president at last Tuesday's Board of Trustees meeting. The vice president oversees many student-related activities and offices, such as the Dean of Students, Student Media, Residence Life and the Student Center. Terrell will replace Jim Kuder, who is retiring after 15 years in the position.

Former U.S. senator donates papers to UK

Former Kentucky U.S. Sen. Walter (Dee) Huddleston presented the public papers from his 12-year senatorial career — all 1,000 boxes — to the UK Libraries on Monday. During his terms in the Senate, Huddleston, a UK graduate, was active on Senate intelligence subcommittees and was recognized in 1985 with a Distinguished Service Medal. He was elected to the Kentucky State Senate in 1965 and re-elected in 1968. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1972 and re-elected in 1978.

UK will not renegotiate Rupp lease, will stay

UK has decided to assure the Lexington Center Corporation, the owners of Rupp Arena, that the Wildcats are committed to playing in Rupp through the 2017-18 season, according to the Lexington Herald-Leader. Interim Athletics Director Terry Mobley said UK will not use the Rupp renovation interruptions as a means to renegotiate its new lease at Rupp.



THE RACE FOR MAYOR



Crosbie speaks about city, cash and water flow

By Rebecca Neal
DIALOGUE EDITOR

Although Lexington mayoral candidate Scott Crosbie has been vocal on many issues while serving as an Urban County Council at-large member, he may be best known for his stand against the showing of an X-rated movie at the Kentucky Theatre.

"It's a matter of public policy," Crosbie said. "I don't believe that an X-rated pornographic film should be shown at a city-owned theatre."

Crosbie also drew attention when the state's Republican Party mailed out campaign literature on his behalf.

Crosbie switched from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party in 1999.

Some say this party involvement is not in accordance to this city's "non-partisan" charter, but Crosbie disagrees.

"What a non-partisan race really is is an open primary where anyone can vote," he said.

"This race is no more partisan than it has ever been," Crosbie said.

Crosbie said that he is known as a fiscal and social conservative, one thing that separates him from his opponent, Teresa Isaac.

"I think, philosophically, I'm probably for less government while Teresa may be for bigger government," he said.

Another difference between the two candidates is where they stand on the possibility that the city of Lexington might purchase the Kentucky-American Water Co. rather than let the water company be sold to a German utility conglomerate.

Crosbie said he does not support the idea of the city purchasing the company and worries about the precedent that such a purchase would set.

"I'm worried about the effects on business and the message we'd be sending to local businesses," Crosbie said.

He said he would like to hold the government accountable for tax dollars and yet still provide for the city's needs.

"I've often said that government can't do everything for everyone," Crosbie said.

Crosbie said that serving as a councilmember helped him learn about government.

"You get an appreciation for how government operates," he said.

Crosbie listed his top three issues as education, providing equal services for all neighborhoods and building a relationship between the city and UK.

"I want to work with President Todd to determine a plan of action for the future," he said.

Crosbie said that a working relationship between the city and UK could have prevented the controversy over the Lexington Area Party Plan, which was passed last November.

"It was a measure proposed in response to our inability to work with our neighborhoods and the university," he said.

Crosbie voted in favor of the party plan.

"I think it's probably ineffective and I don't think it could withstand a challenge in court," he said.

Isaac discusses public services, water company

By Rebecca Neal
DIALOGUE EDITOR

Lexington mayoral candidate Teresa Isaac said that many neighborhoods in Lexington feel deprived of basic city services, an issue she hopes to address in her campaign.

"Many of the older neighborhoods feel ignored," said Isaac. "It's just a matter of making sure that all neighborhoods are served fairly."

Besides equality in basic services, public safety and housing are two of Isaac's main issues in the campaign. She said that many people in Lexington are unhappy with police and fire response times. Also, Isaac said that almost fifty percent of Lexington residents rent, and she would like to see more people buy homes instead.

"I think it's better if you're raising a family; it provides more stability when you actually are a homeowner," she said.

Isaac said that another important issue is whether the city should purchase the Kentucky-American Water Co. or let the company be sold to a German utility conglomerate.

Isaac supports the idea of the city purchasing the utility.

"I think you could have a lot of arrangements like where the city could actually own the water company and you could enter into a contract with the German company to manage it, but the ownership is still with the city," she said.

Isaac said the issue of the sale of the water company is one of the differences between her and her opponent, Scott Crosbie.

"I think both of us are fiscal conservatives, but I think where we would differ would be on social issues," she said. Isaac said her experiences serving as a councilmember and vice-mayor gave her valuable insight.

"I sat next to two different mayors and I saw their successes and I saw their mistakes," she said.

Isaac also said she is concerned about the role political parties are playing in the mayoral election after the Republican Party mailed flyers on Crosbie's behalf.

"The charter says it's a non-partisan race, so I think it violates both the spirit and the letter of the law," she said.

In addition, Isaac said Lexington needs more entertainment venues for people under 21. "They're not supposed to be in bars, but when you want to do something with your friends somewhere and hear live music, there are limited opportunities," Isaac said.

Isaac said she would like to see relations improve between the city and UK, as she said relationships were damaged during the debate over the Lexington Area Party Plan.

"I think the president of the Student Government Association sort of took an adversarial position with the councilmembers, and then some councilmembers responded in kind," she said. Isaac did not vote on the party plan, because she was not serving as a councilmember at that time.

She said the resulting situation was not necessarily either side's fault.

"I felt that both sides got backed into a corner," Isaac said.



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After lion cubs, genies, dalmatians and mermaids, Disney offers something a little alien

Ain't nothin' but a hound dog

It was a sunny, cloudless day in summery Orlando town — the kind of weather that makes you want to whistle a round of "Zipity Doo Da." How appropriate, then, that I happened to be ambling through the land of said tune's origin — Disney World, the happiest place on Earth. I was young and carefree, merrily making my way through the wonders of Adventureland when a bird pooped on me.

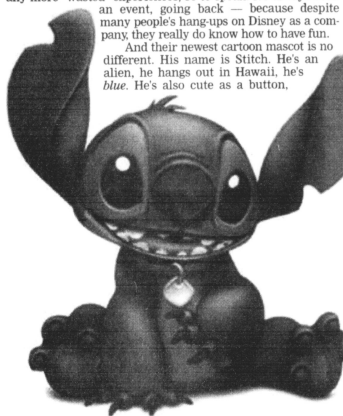


Lucas Thomas
SCENE EDITOR

Uh? Gross!
There I was, minding my own business on the way to Splash Mountain, when a flying rat decides to defecate on my person. A twist of fate? A wicked form of poetic justice? I'll never know — but in the land of smiling faces and cartoon mice, I was the kid who got crapped on.

Now, me and Mickey have patched things up in recent years. I've gone back to central Florida to visit him and his friends on a few occasions, and I've been lucky enough to avoid any more "wasted" experiences, so to speak. It's always been an event, going back — because despite many people's hang-ups on Disney as a company, they really do know how to have fun.

And their newest cartoon mascot is no different. His name is Stitch. He's an alien, he hangs out in Hawaii, he's blue. He's also cute as a button.



giving all those mall stores a new plush toy of choice for the summer season.

I may or may not have bought one. Anyhow, Stitch makes his debut in the new animated feature *Lilo & Stitch*, opening tomorrow to millions of delighted fans. New Disney movies are always a reason to get excited, as you usually only get one per year, and they're often good little flicks.

But I have to be careful with my language, you see, because we're on a college campus here. Certainly there are a few of us who don't see eye to eye with Eisner. But for those of you who claim not to enjoy a good 88-minute showcase of old Walt's magic, I invite you to consider the idea that you don't know what you're talking about.

Just take a look at the track record. Disney's got *The Little Mermaid*. You know you've got a clamshell VHS of that at home. Disney gave us *The Lion King* — one of the highest-grossing films of all time. And they gave us *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, which I hear really impressed one guy living in Sacramento.

But mostly, we must thank Disney for *Aladdin*. The Arabian adventures of the misunderstood street rat, the mistreated young princess and the mischievously comical genie will forever be the brightest jewel in their cinematic crown.

It must have been the costume guy that made it my favorite. I went to see *Aladdin* on opening day in November of 1992, accompanied by my mom, my brothers, and my aunt Stacey. But our group of five got larger ten minutes before the previews, as a real-life Aladdin and Princess Jasmine approached us to discuss the film and encourage our purchase of more drinks from the concession stand. My 11-year-old mind was wowed at the fact that I was meeting the Aladdin, face to face. I asked him if I could ride his carpet.

OK, so I wasn't that dumb. But regardless, Disney had made its magic known once more. And naysayers, in my opinion, are just trying to hide their secret love for Abu. So newcomer Stitch has some big sandals to fill. Judging from the hundreds of commercials interrupting my nightly Disney Channel viewing, the little blue guy's film won't have the ensemble cast of previous pictures. It will instead try to put the burden of comedy, seriousness and Elvis impersonations squarely on the multiple shoulders of the main mutt. Hawaiian girl Lilo is an interesting enough character, but seems a bit one-dimensional to begin with. She loves pretty puppies and surfing. And that's about it.

But that's all speculation, and you can rarely get an accurate reading of films from their TV promos. And though the pre-release hype is there, and all early reports are favorable, the magic must be proven in the theater. I'm confident that it will be. Disney rarely steers me wrong.

But a word of warning to my 14 1/2 month old nephew Noah, who's making his first trip to the Magic Kingdom this weekend — watch out for those foul fowl.

THE ALTERNATIVES

Frame by frame

The Importance of Being Earnest

Finally, Oscar Wilde gets his due with a film adaptation of a great British period play. I'm particularly excited about this one, as I happened to act in the stage version years ago, in my more theatrical high school days. They've given the role of my character, Algernon Moncrieff, to the well-respected Rupert Everett. I can deal with that, I suppose, especially with Reese Witherspoon playing his romantic interest, Miss Cecily Cardew. Lane, get me some cucumber sandwiches!

Kentucky Theatre

Shorty Report

Tom Cruise is back. Back...to the future! He's a next-generation cop who can see murders before they happen, and arrest the culprits while they're eating breakfast the morning before. Everything's peachy until he finds out that he's the newest wanted man, and he has to run away from his friends to clear his name. Based on a short story by Philip K. Dick — you can pick up a copy in a nifty little flipbook at your local bookstore.

Opening Friday — Regal

The Bourne Identity

More intrigue and misdirection, but with Matt Damon at the helm instead. I've heard this one leaves a little something to be desired, but that's understandable, coming from young Will Hunting. He and Mr. Ben Affleck have to trade off good films, and you know they're both on the downslope after the excellent *Jay & Silent Bob Strike Back*.

Regal, Lexington Green, Woodhill

Scooby-Doo

RIT's rabout rims rat Rooby rand re ranol reir rown rovie. And don't worry if that didn't make sense to you — save your concern for the horrid dye job done to poor Freddie Prince Jr.'s hair. *Rooby* has it that his roots shine through in different intensity from scene to scene — perhaps that's a mystery worth investigating...

Regal, Man o' War

Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood

I don't even know if I'm allowed to write anything about this film — lack of estrogen and all. If you happen to be female, then you already know this is the big screen adaptation of the popular Rebecca Wells novel from 1996. If you're a guy, all you need to know is that Ashley Judd stars, and there's a scene where all she's wearing is a bra and a smile. With those two bits of knowledge, everyone in the commonwealth should be heading to the theater.

Regal, Lexington Green, Woodhill

Undercover Brother

It's the summer movie that uses all the funny parts in the trailer. Granted, those funny parts are pretty good. And granted, Doogie Howser does play a supporting role in the film. But basing an entire movie off a Denise Richards catfight strikes me as a little odd. Wait a minute... Denise Richards catfight? Dude, I'm so there!

Regal, Man o' War

Compiled by Frame by Frame Editor Lucas Thomas

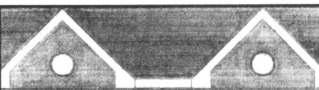


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4 | THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2002 | KENTUCKY KERNEL



Fun while driving

Oh look, I've pulled something off the Internet instead of actually writing something. This is really getting bad. I need to start allotting time to actually write these articles, but I'm currently working two jobs from sun up until midnight everyday. That only allows me to either think of something funny, or get drunk and laugh at things that aren't funny. Oh well, here's some more crap to enjoy, and yes, I am that cynical.

Vary your vehicle's speed inversely with the speed limit.

Roll down your windows and blast talk radio. Attempt to head bang.

At stoplights, eye the person in the next car suspiciously. With a look of fear, lock your doors.

Occasionally wave a stuffed animal/troll doll/Barbie out your window or sunroof. Feel free to make it dance.

Eat food that requires silverware.

Wave at people often. If they wave back, offer an angry look and an obscene gesture.

Let pedestrians know who's boss.

Lob burning things in the windows of smokers who throw their cigarette butts out the window.

Get in the fast lane and gradually... slow... down... to a stop. Then get out and watch the cars.

Stop and collect roadkill.

Stop and pray to roadkill.

Look behind you frequently with a very paranoid look.

Sing without having the radio on.

Pass cars, then drive very slowly.

Throw Spam.

Root (cheer, not snuffle in the mud) for fire trucks.

Keep at least five cats in the car.

Have conversations, looking periodically at the passenger seat, when driving alone.

Hang numerous car-fresheners in the rear-view mirror and talk to them.

Compiled by
Jonathan Ray
Staff Editor
jonathan@
kykernel.com



IN OUR OPINION

Today's need or future's wealth

Strip mining Robinson Forest is an unacceptable solution to the problems faced by the Robinson Trust scholars program.

The program is funded by mining outlying areas of Robinson Forest. But the money for the program is running dry. UK administrators have discussed mining in the central core of the forest, an area designated as "lands unsuitable for mining."

The scholarships, which provide money to first-generation college students from Eastern Kentucky, serve an important, noble cause. As the flagship public university of the state, UK has a responsibility to help educate and improve the lives of the state's citizens, particularly those in impoverished areas.

But permanently harming a rich and irreplaceable resource to satisfy a temporary need is shortsighted and foolish. The inner tract of Robinson Forest is perhaps Kentucky's largest block of unbroken forest, and only the second place in the state to receive the "lands unsuitable for mining" designation. Mixed mesophytic forest, the type found in Southeastern Kentucky, is considered the most diverse temperate ecosystem on the planet by biologists. Robinson Forest also contains some of the purest watersheds in Kentucky.

Endangering this resource will only impoverish Kentucky and UK. Before the lands can be mined, the protected designation must be removed, a lengthy and controversial process. Such an endeavor would bring national attention, catching UK in the embarrassing act of trying to remove a protection they themselves lobbied to put in place.

If President Todd and the UK administration display the same type of fiscal savvy they showed when crafting this year's budget, they can find a way to keep the scholarships without exploiting the forest. And there may be more money around than the administration thinks. UK spent \$4.1 million of the revenue produced by mining the forest on Lees College, a small Eastern Kentucky college that they wanted to bring into the state's community college system. That's more than they have spent on Robinson scholars.

The "strip-mine-or-scholarships" attitude presents a false dichotomy. Strip mining a forest is not the only way to raise funds for a university. Lobbying both concerned environmentalists and coal magnates, for example, could provide much-needed financial help for Eastern Kentucky students while preserving the forest for future generations.

Robinson Forest, left untouched, will provide UK and Kentucky with a rich educational tool, for many years. In balance, destroying this resource to provide a few select students with an education simply doesn't make sense.

There has to be a better way.

So much for Bush's covert operation

The desire to rid the world of Iraqi president Saddam Hussein must run in the Bush family. George H. W. Bush Sr. declared war on Iraq and Hussein in January of 1991. Now, after leads were made to various media outlets, George W. Bush announced a plan to overthrow Saddam and his government.

"When we see evil — I know it may hurt some people's feelings, it may not be what they call diplomatically correct — but I'm calling evil for what it is. Evil is evil, and we will fight it with all our might," Bush said last week, according to the Associated Press.

Support for Bush's plan has crossed partisan lines in Congress as well. Top Democ-



Rebecca Neal
DIALOGUE EDITOR

atic leaders like Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle and House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt backed Bush's plan on the talk show circuit this week-end.

"If Saddam Hussein is around five years from now, we've failed," said Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., on CBS' "Face the Nation" Sunday.

The reasons for attacking Saddam are straightforward. Saddam has refused to let U.N. officials search his palace and many arsenals for weapons of mass destruction, even though allowing such searches would result in U.N. sanctions against Iraq being lifted. Instead, he allows the Iraqi people to suffer. The Iraqi government has said that it has no chemical, biological or nuclear weapons.

Evidence found during the Persian Gulf War and by U.S. surveillance planes, however, raises suspicions that Saddam is less than truthful.

Also, government officials suspect Saddam of supporting terrorist organizations like al-Qaida. Many say that Saddam's arsenal of weapons and hatred for the United States combined with the determination of a terrorist organization could have deadly consequences.

For these reasons, Bush named Iraq as part of his "axis of evil" in his State of the Union address, along with Iran and North Korea. In that same address, Bush hinted that an attack against Saddam was inevitable.

"I will not wait on events while dangers gather," he said.

It seems that the Bush administration has made their case for overthrowing the Saddam regime convincing.

Michelle Demeter
GUEST COLUMNIST

Caught in a pro-Bono slipstream

I love U2. I really do. Ask my boyfriend to tell the story of how I got up early and stayed online for hours at Ticketmaster's Web site to ensure floor tickets for their "Elevation" tour. I love the band because they're great performers with a cause. However, their causes are not performances; they are realities to be taken seriously.

I got to thinking about U2, and specifically Bono, last weekend because the ABC Family Channel aired U2's concert in Boston. With legions of fans cheering him on, it just made sense that Bono would be the one who can help the world's developing nations gain some political, medical and economic footing.

As the front man of one of the world's most popular bands, Bono has been privileged to many things not afforded to the ordinary citizen. He grew up in Ireland and observed the violence and injustice firsthand in his own homeland. He later learned about civil rights, Africa's troubles and the proliferation of poverty around the globe. He is a man on a mission, and his music and recent missionary efforts show he is not just a casual observer.

Many of his albums showcase political themes. The 1992 "War" album and the recent "All That You Can't Leave Behind" show his commitment to the world's issues. But music doesn't seem to be an effective tool anymore, if it ever was.

Recently, Bono has made himself very active in eliminating world debt and helping the people of Africa. He was a prime member of the Jubilee 2000 and is still very active with its renamed organization, Drop the Debt. Bono has been in Africa for weeks with U.S. Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill.

He obviously has done his homework because not only has he impressed his fans and fellow celebrities (I reference readers to Chris Tucker's MTV Awards speech), but he has successfully convinced high-ranking world leaders that he is not seeking publicity, but instead looking to help those who seriously need it.

Time magazine and the St. Petersburg Times both graced their covers with Bono's work in the past months. I don't know if Bono can save the world, as Time asks, but I know he can do a great deal to improve it just through his efforts to sway political policy in the United States and overseas.

He is a man who does not give up easily and uses his charm and charisma in a way that puts leaders at ease. He does not have an outright personal agenda, which perhaps makes him the best and most ideal lobbyist.

Bono is a great rock star, by the most stereotypical of definitions, but he is a greater humanitarian. How many other music groups dedicate songs to political prisoners and offer information about Amnesty International and Greenpeace in their albums' liner notes? Perhaps not enough.

It is admirable that Bono has taken his star status beyond a mere concert for aid. He has taken his mission one step further by personally investing himself in his causes and educating himself to such levels that it is impossible not to take him seriously.

At 41, and with a family of his own, perhaps Bono does have something invested — the future of his children.

Either way, it is good to see him trying to throw his arms around the world. Hopefully, others will join him before his arms grow tired.

Guest columnist Michelle Demeter writes for The Oracle (U. South Florida). Her views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.

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crossword puzzles

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WORLD CUP

Soccer just needs to be understood



ASSOCIATED PRESS

What's with the mohawk?

Forward Clint Mathis and Team USA will play Germany in the quarterfinals of the World Cup on Friday. The U.S. soccer team hasn't reached the round of eight since 1930. Germany has won the cup three times.

Rematch: Germany beat USA 2-0 in the 1998 tournament

So Team USA is in the quarterfinals of the World Cup. This is the first time since 1930 that they've been this far and it seems that a lot of people are watching. The ratings for ESPN's live telecast of the match between South Korea and the United States were higher than NBC's telecast of the NBA Finals. By the way, the basketball game was on at 8 p.m. and the soccer game was at 2:30—in the morning!

So if football, as it's called everywhere else in the world, is so popular right now, why don't people watch during the Major League Soccer season?

This is probably one of the greatest debates in sports. There are many different theories by which people subscribe. Some sports writers think that it's because the game wasn't invented by Americans. Others think it's because you're not allowed to use your hands during the game, unless of course you are the goal keeper. Then of course there's the fact that The World Cup happens once every four years; it therefore has an Olympic feel and that's why more people in the United States watch.

The reason I don't watch? It's just not

that exciting. A bunch of guys run up the field and kick the ball. Another group kicks the ball the other way and then they run after it again. Every now and then somebody puts the ball in the net. You say to yourself, "that sounds a lot like hockey, but they're on grass." Well, my friend, you would be right—except they fight in hockey.

This was the way I felt about soccer for a long time. Then I started writing for the Kernel. Low and behold, my first assignment was covering the UK men's soccer team. Of course, I was eager to do it. When you're the new guy, you can't exactly say no to a request from your editor.

So I went. I watched my first game and sat in the press box, having no idea what was happening. I just knew that UK lost to Louisville and the coach was pretty upset. You talk about a tough post-game interview. But as time went on, I began understanding more of the rules and strategies that are involved in playing the game. I developed a relationship with the coaches and the players. Before I knew it I was watching soccer on TV. I said to myself "what's going on? I've never watched soccer before." It also didn't hurt that the Cats won their conference and had a decent showing in the NCAA soccer tournament. So that brings me to my point. People don't watch soccer on a regular basis because they don't understand the game. As I learned more, I enjoyed the game more.

I'll be up at 7 a.m. Friday to watch Team USA play Germany. Then, in a couple of weeks, I'll watch to see if San Jose can keep it going in MLS. It really is an exciting game.

Tom Soper is a journalism senior. His views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.



Tom Soper
SPORTS WEEKLY EDITOR

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- SPIRIT (G) 1:00 3:15 5:15 7:25 9:15
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