

# KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 36 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

## On-campus TV station moves to student-run format

By Stephanie Durnell  
news@kykernel.com

Channel 50, a UK station broadcasting to on-campus TVs, is shifting from being a movie channel to a student-run station with student-produced shows.

The channel reaches about 7,500 people and is broadcast in campus residence halls, on-campus Greek houses, K-Lair Grill, the Student Center and the UK Chandler Medical Center. Until recently, the channel has shown movies from a computer program instead of being run by students.

"We went to the National College Media Convention in St. Louis and got a chance to see what other college TV stations around the country were doing," said Chip Heilman, a political science sophomore and Channel 50 station manager.

"Some of the really small tech schools had amazing news stations and it made us wonder, 'why can't UK have this sort of thing?'" he said.

Chris Thuringer, student activities director associate for Channel 50, and co-adviser Jodee McElfresh chose Heilman as student manager over Winter Break. The three decided on a four-member executive board earlier this semester.

Now Channel 50 is waiting to move into permanent headquarters in the Student Organizations Center and is looking for greater student involvement and more shows.

As one of the first projects, Heilman said Channel 50 hopes to air a daily news show starting next semester.

"Part of Channel 50's success will be directly tied to its ability to partner with students interested in obtaining broadcasting experience," Thuringer said. "JAT News has been broadcast on Channel 50 in the past and will continue to be in the future."

Beth Barnes, director of the UK School of Journalism and Telecommu-

nications, said the station will give journalism students experience in the broadcast field.

"The good thing about Channel 50 is that many more people will be able to see the work being done by students," Barnes said. "We're hoping what will happen is that Channel 50 will provide an outlet to showcase students' work, not just broadcast students, but include students from all three of the school's (School of Journalism and Telecommunications) majors."

One show called "Cat Walking" has already aired several episodes. The show is made up of interviews with

students on random subjects such as worst pick-up lines, favorite movies and rival basketball players.

Students are working on a music show featuring local musicians and a sports show featuring both mainstream UK athletics and club sports.

"In the future we hope to broadcast some of UK's athletics including some of our outstanding club teams like the hockey team or maybe even the dodgeball team," Heilman said.

Thuringer said he was confident that enough student involvement would surface for the channel to be successful.

"Given the interest Channel 50 has

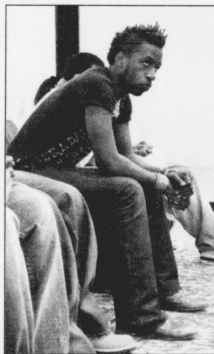
See Channel on page 3

### HEART AND SAUL



Poet Saul Williams performs in front of a packed house last night in the Student Center's Small Ballroom. People from all over the state came to see Williams recite original poems as part of a Black History Month celebration hosted by the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center. PHOTOS BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

Saul Williams waits to perform in the Small Ballroom of the Student Center last night. His performance mixed spoken word with hip hop, including excerpts from his recently-published fourth book of poetry, "The Dead Emcee Scrolls."



## Poet preaches about finding true passion

By Ellie Fairbanks and Emily Coover  
features@kykernel.com

Saul Williams didn't go to college so that he could get a job when he graduated. He went to college to learn about himself, to discover his passion and to grow up.

"I'm not doing what I went to college to do," Williams said. "But, I do think I'm doing what I'm supposed to be doing."

Williams is doing a lot of things, too. He just released "The Dead Emcee Scrolls: The Lost Teachings of Hip Hop," he's recording an album with Nine Inch Nails' Trent Reznor, and he's touring the country.

Williams came to UK last night as a stop on his tour of colleges across the country. As

a part of the Martin Luther King Cultural Center's celebration of Black History Month, five UK students performed their own poems and Williams read poetry and recited excerpts from his new book last night in the Student Center Small Ballroom.

"I pretty much go wherever people ask me to go," Williams said. "I'm especially busy from Martin Luther King Day through Black History Month. I'm on a plane-a-day diet right now."

Veleashia Smith, director of the MLKCC and an organizer of Williams' performance at UK, said she was honored to have Williams speak.

"He's one of the most prolific writers

See Williams on page 5

## Ministry: sexual orientation is a choice

By Linsen Li  
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Homosexuality is not biological and can be changed, according to speakers at the program "Truth and Tolerance" last night, sponsored by the on-campus group Open Door Ministries.

The program, which took place in a packed Center Theater in the Student Center, featured representatives from Exodus International, a global ministry dealing in homosexual issues, and encouraged homosexuals to live a straight life.

"Homosexuality is a belief, a belief that I am always different," said Mike Ensley, an Exodus International member and an ex-homosexual. "I knew I was different when out of all the superheroes, I wanted to be Wonder Woman."

Ensley said his father's needy personality caused him to turn to females for companionship as a child.

"I was very wary of his affection at a young age," Ensley said. "I walled him out. I became close to my mom and sister."

When telling a story about a childhood gay friend, Scott Davis, the director of Exodus International, attributed his friend's homosexuality to the lack of a father-figure during his childhood.

"As far as science goes, there is no proof that homosexuality is biological," Davis said.

The main issue, Davis said, is how the society treats homosexuals.

"Our society has two sides on the issue of homosexuality: the approval side, represented by the show 'Will and Grace,' and the condemning side, represented by the hateful protesters," Davis said. "Both sides' approaches are wrong, but there is no middle ground."

According to the Bible, homosexuality is wrong, and homosexuals are sinners, Davis said. However, all human beings are sinners, and a homosexual can be forgiven for his or

See Open Door on page 3

## Students invited to bowl for mentor program

By Pat Deringer  
news@kykernel.com

The 50th annual Bowling for Kids' Sake event sponsored by Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass will be held from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. today at Southland Bowling Lanes.

Teams can be made up of four or five people and free pizza, soft drinks and food from Arby's will be provided for those participating. A team can register the day of the event by picking up and filling out a donation packet located at the Student Government office in the Student Center or at Southland Bowling Lanes. All UK students are welcome to form teams.

"We want to get as many college students as we can involved," said Brandon Thomas, president of Big Brothers Big Sisters on campus. "It's a fun way to raise money for a dedicated organization committed to improving the community."

Each team is asked to make a minimum \$25 donation to Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass. After donating, each team member will receive a Bowl for Kids' Sake T-shirt, and for an additional \$30 donation, a member will receive UK T-shirt as well.

See Bowling on page 3

## UK, Pikeville arts program wins state honor

By Josey Montana McCoy  
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UK's Pike County Extension for the Arts recently received one of Kentucky's highest awards, the 2006 Governor's Award in the Arts.

The Governor's Awards in the Arts are given to nine recipients annually who exemplify commitment to enhancing the state's arts.

The Pike County Extension for the Arts, better known as Pike Arts, became the first program of its kind with its creation in December 2004. The UK College of Fine Arts and UK College of Agriculture created Pike Arts with a mission to enrich the quality of life of all Pike County citizens and strengthen the community through coordination, education and development of the arts.

"Dean (of fine arts) Robert Shay told me UK wasn't doing enough to get arts into rural Kentucky, and Pike County took the risk," said Stephanie Richards, Pike County Extension agent for fine arts. Richards has been the exten-

sion agent since the origin of the program.

Musicians, quilters, painters, writers and various other artists are involved in the program.

"There are no boundaries on art," Richards said.

The UK fine arts community was proud that Pike Arts was awarded such a high honor after only two years in existence, said UK Associate Dean of Fine Arts Geri Maschio.

"To see it come to life, from idea to operation, and know that it's the right thing we need to be doing was thrilling," Maschio said. "Pike County was a natural fit."

Maschio was also proud that Richards, a UK alum, was at the head of the extension service.

"When we began there was no job description for Stephanie," Maschio said. "We knew the parameters, and she has done an extraordinary job."

Vanessa Hall has been a part of Pike Arts for about a year.

Hall said the biggest impact of Pike Arts she

has seen was a weekly newspaper, Whazup?, put together by Pike Arts members.

"We needed a way to let people know what's going on, and the paper gave us a feeling of doing something, a feeling of conquering the world," Hall said.

The paper consists of a calendar of events and articles written by the artists of Pike Arts.

Whazup? has a circulation of 11,000 and is distributed to Letcher, Floyd and Pike Counties and Wise County, Va., along Route 23, the "Country Music Highway."

The economic impact of a growing art interest is needed in Pike County, Hall said.

"We are dying here," Hall said. "We cannot continue to depend on coal. We must mine other resources for income. Without UK this is not going to happen."

"We must value the resources, value the people and build new economic resources. Art is a valuable resource, and it is completely renewable."

UK's fine arts extension program will expand to Greenup County starting March 1.

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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 a 7 — The clouds are lifting, the path to your goal is getting obvious. Don't be impulsive. Follow your plan. Timing is everything.  
**Taurus (April 20 May 20)** — Today is a 7 — Obligations interfere with the festivities. It's time to stop talking about what needs to be done, and actually do it.  
**Gemini (May 21 June 21)** — Today is a 5 — You're playing in the major leagues, so don't sit around like a doofus. Absolutely play by the rules, and do it quickly.  
**Cancer (June 22 July 22)** — Today

is a 7 — You're learning about new places to go and your curiosity is piqued. Don't start out until tomorrow, however. You have other things to do first.  
**Leo (July 23 Aug. 22)** — Today is a 7 — Many of your doubts have been relieved. Although conditions are unstable, you'll be able to get a lot more done now. The power is in the knowing.  
**Virgo (Aug. 23 Sept. 22)** — Today is a 7 — Looks like somebody wants you to help them decide how to spend their money. You might not get much cash for this job, but the fringe benefits are delightful.  
**Libra (Sept. 23 Oct. 22)** — Today is a 7 — It might be wise to talk over your plans with a sensible partner. You may be doing something that isn't going to work.  
**Scorpio (Oct. 23 Nov. 21)** — Today is an 8 — There's a rush job to focus on, at least one, today and tomorrow. The money's good and this op-

portunity will not last forever! Get on it!  
**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 Dec. 21)** — Today is a 7 — Continue to express your love, and absorb the love others give you. This will not tie you down. To the contrary — it will set you free.  
**Capricorn (Dec. 22 Jan. 19)** — Today is a 6 — The more you learn, the more your previous assumptions are challenged. The next phase puts your worries to rest, as you discover a new path.  
**Aquarius (Jan. 20 Feb. 18)** — Today is a 6 — You're doing well, but the income isn't really steady. You can minimize the fluctuations by doing more study.  
**Pisces (Feb. 19 March 20)** — Today is a 9 — Think carefully before proceeding and before saying anything. You can sign the contract then, on a lucrative-for-you deal.

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# CELEB FEUDS OF THE WEEK

Hulk Hogan weighs in on the latest star smackdowns

## THE DISH

By Gabe Guarente

### TARA VS. JOE

Joe Francis isn't shy about broadcasting bedroom secrets. On January 31, the *Girls Gone Wild* mogul, 33, said on Howard Stern's radio show that of all the celebs he's slept with, while Paris Hilton, 26, was "better than anyone," Tara Reid was the worst. Ouch! It's no wonder, then, that 10 days later, Francis got dished by Reid, 31, at Clive Davis' pre-Grammy party in Beverly Hills. When the actress saw Francis, she snappers: "Get away from me! Never talk to me again!" (A rep for Reid didn't return calls, while Francis tells Us, "I stand by what I said.")

**WINNER IS** Reid. Says Hogan, "Joe shouldn't kiss and tell."

### LEAH VS. SCARLETT

Another star has joined the ranks of Scarlett Johansson enemies. According to the *New York Post*, King of Queens' Leah Remini, 36, snubbed the actress, 22 (who has also drawn the ire of Lindsay Lohan and Cameron Diaz), at a pre-Super Bowl bash in Miami. After Johansson waved at Remini, "Leah gave her a nasty look and said, 'We've never met before,' and walked off," said a

witness. "She was so rude." (Reps for both didn't return calls.)

**WINNER IS** Johansson. "She was just trying to be nice," Hogan says.

### DIDDY VS. GREY'S

Diddy must not be a big Grey's Anatomy fan. At Rolling Stone's pre-Grammy bash in L.A. February 9, an eyewitness tells Us several cast members of ABC's hit medical drama were uprooted to accommodate the rapper in a VIP area. Though Diddy's rep denies an incident and event organizers had no comment, a source close to the hip-hop star tells Us, "The Grey's cast spilled over into Diddy's area, and they had to make room."

**WINNER IS** Diddy. "If it was his table, they needed to move STAT!" Hogan says.

### ELLEN VS. KATHY

No more Ms. Nice Girl! In the March issue of *W*, Ellen DeGeneres calls fellow comic Kathy Griffin "very mean" for saying she was banned from DeGeneres' daytime chaffest. Why was she persona non grata? The *My Life on the D-List* star, 46, says DeGeneres didn't want her "trashing celebrities." But

the Oscar host, 49, denies ever blacklisting Griffin: "We didn't book her... You have to be on the show to be banned." (DeGeneres' rep had no comment, while Griffin, through her rep, tells Us, "I have always been a great admirer of Ellen.")

**WINNER IS** DeGeneres. "Sounds like Kathy's imagination is running wild," Hogan says.

### DONATELLA VS. HILLARY

Forget the Republicans. Hillary Clinton's harshest critic might be designer Donatella Versace, who recently told a German newspaper that, though she "admired" Clinton, 59, she didn't love the presidential hopeful's manish wardrobe. "I understand [pants] are comfortable, but she's a woman, and she is allowed to show that," said Versace, 51. "She should not try to emulate masculinity in politics." (Versace's rep had no comment, and a Clinton spokesman didn't return calls.)

**WINNER IS** Versace. Says Hogan, "She calls 'em like she sees 'em."

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## OPEN DOOR

Continued from page 1

her sins just like any other person.

"God's call to holiness and promise of redemption is for everyone," Davis said.

Like many others, Ensley was in denial of his homosexuality at the beginning.

"I prayed to God to make it go away, and obviously nothing happened," Ensley said. "I thought that God had rejected me."

But when Ensley decided to embrace homosexuality and live a gay lifestyle, he said he found that it was still not fulfilling. He went to Exodus International and sought spiritual help.

"It wasn't like I could drop that (homosexual lifestyle) and pick up Jesus," Ensley said. "It was a slow process that took 10 years."

Ensley said he has been living a straight life for five years. He has pursued heterosexual relationships, but "it's not for everyone."

"I have felt legitimate attractions toward women," he said. "But at the same time, I still have homosexual feelings. Part of me is always going to remember my past."

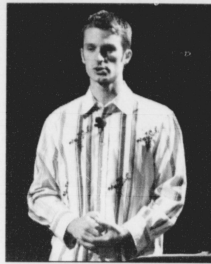
Davis said as good Christians, people should help their gay friends change their lifestyle, but in a non-confrontational way.

"You have to be careful not to be offensive, never condemn," Davis said. "At the same time, it's important to tell your friend the truth. Avoiding it will only hurt your friend."

A number of the people in the audience did not agree with the speakers.

When asked if the issue of homosexuality can be compared to that of gender equality, Davis answered that it was a question better discussed in person.

"I just wish that people would accept each other without judging, just like how



**ALLIE GARZA | STAFF**  
Scott Davis, director of student ministries for Exodus International, speaks to students yesterday evening at the Center Theater in the Student Center.

Jesus accepts everyone," said Katie Martinez, a nurse at the UK Chandler Medical Center and the mother of a lesbian.

"I don't agree with my daughter's lifestyle, but I still love her all the same," Martinez said.

Keith Luckett, a fourth-year medical student and an openly gay man, said he was appreciative of the speakers.

"I don't approve of what they say, but I accept the fact that it's their way of thinking," Luckett said. "Their presentation was not offensive to me, and I thank them for presenting their opinions."

When asked how Luckett's opinions differed from the speakers, his answer was simple.

"Accept (things) that you might not understand," Luckett said. "Don't force your beliefs upon others because of your egocentrism."

## BOWLING

Continued from page 1

Bowl for Kids' Sake is Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass' biggest event, and Lexington raised \$9,400 at the event last year. The city ranks second in the country for total money raised since the event started in 1983, said Dale Suttles, development and recruitment officer for Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass.

"It would be great to see the donations reach \$12,000 this year," Suttles said.

Door prizes will be announced every hour, and the teams with the best 1950s-style costume will win cash prizes. The UK-Louisiana State basketball game will be displayed on screens at the bowling lanes.

"Students at UK have always been committed to the Big Brothers Big Sisters program on campus and have believed in it," Suttles said. "I am extremely proud of the efforts in the past and excited to have another great year of Bowl for Kids' Sake."

Today is the only day designated for college students to participate. Community members can participate on Saturday and Sunday.

## CHANNEL

Continued from page 1

generated in its first year of existence, I definitely think it can and will survive," Thuringer said.

Those interested in creating a show or helping Channel 50 can contact Thuringer at cphur06@email.uky.edu or at (859) 257-6598. Staff meetings are on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. in the Student Organizations Center in the Student Center and are open to all students.

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## CAMPUS CALENDAR

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The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement. Registered Student Orgs and UK Depts. can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information is to appear. Call 257-8867 for more information.

Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UK Students for Life Meeting, 8:00 PM, 115 Student Center</li> <li>• Cheap Seat Tuesdays: "Bobby", 8:00 PM, Worsham Theater (Student Center)</li> <li>• YMCA Center For Achievement Tutoring, 5:00 PM, YMCA Center For Achievement</li> <li>• Students Taking Action Globally (STAG) Meeting, 5:15 PM, 211 Student Center</li> <li>• BBBS Bowl 4 Kids Sake, 9:00 PM, Southland Bowling Lanes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University Christian Fellowship, 8:00 PM, 230 Student Center</li> <li>• Comedy Caravan with Sparky Brown, 8:00 PM, Student Center Cats Den</li> <li>• Bryan Station Middle Tutoring, 4:00 PM, Bryan Station Middle School</li> <li>• I.E.C.M. Food for Body and Soul, 5:05 PM, St. A's (472 Rose Street)</li> <li>• UK Budo Karate Club, 8:00 PM, Barker Hall Dance Studio</li> <li>• Late-Night Film: "Freestyle: The Art of Rhyme", 10:00 PM, Center Theater (Student Center)</li> <li>• Evolution of Black History (from past to present), 8:30 PM, Ingles Hall</li> <li>• Helping Hands Meeting, 7:30 PM, Student Center Room 115</li> <li>• Helping Hands- Dinner at Catholic Action Center, 5:15 PM, Catholic Action Center</li> <li>• The Beatnik Ball: The Dialectics, 8:00 PM, Student Center Grand Ballroom</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Fun and Learning Nights, 4:30 PM, Carnegie Center</li> <li>• Responsibility of the Media in Time of War, 7:00 PM, Temple Adath Israel, 124 N. Ashland Ave.</li> <li>• Late-Night Film: "Do the Right Thing", 10:00 PM, Center Theater (Student Center)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Late-Night Film: "In the Heat of the Night", 10:00 PM, Worsham Theater (Student Center)</li> <li>• LSAT Prep Weekend, 6:30 PM, 208 CB</li> <li>• UK Budo Karate Club, 4:30 PM, Barker Hall Dance Studio</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saturday Morning Clinic Project Health, 9:00 AM, Dental Clinic</li> <li>• LSAT Prep Weekend, 10:00 AM, 208 CB</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UK Ultimate Frisbee Organization, 10:00 PM, Intramural Fields</li> <li>• Ignite UK, 6:30 PM, Worsham Theater</li> </ul>

## Students get chance to tell teachers 'thank you'

By Rebecca Sweeney  
news@kyk.com

Teachers stimulate thought, encourage success, challenge minds, give support and guidance, and inspire students to become who they want to be — and some UK employees are making sure those teachers are rewarded for their success.

"It's not too many times in life that we stop to say 'thank you,' but that's all a lot of people really want," said Mary Ann Vimont, director of alumni and student relations in UK's College of Education, and founder of Teachers Who Made a Difference. "This program is a pure and simple 'thank you.' For a teacher, it's very special."

The idea of the Teachers Who Made a Difference program was born in 1998 after men's basketball coach Tubby Smith told a group of inner-city school children that teachers want to help them and that teachers will make a difference in their lives.

Vimont was moved by

Smith's sincerity.

"There weren't any cameras; he was just talking to the kids," Vimont said. "It was very touching."

Vimont wanted to "create a platform for someone to say thanks for whatever reason their teacher made a difference." When Vimont asked Smith to serve as spokesman for the program, she said he quickly agreed.

The program didn't have much funding when it began, but soon grew, Vimont said. "We started out with paper certificates for our nominees, but now we have nice plaques," she said.

Funding allowed for advertising in newspapers and a ceremony that quickly outgrew the W.T. Young Library auditorium, which only holds about 150 people.

Instead of selecting winners

from a pool of nominees, the program honors the first 100 teachers officially submitted for recognition.

"We limit the honors to 100 primarily because we want to keep the ceremony on UK's campus," Vimont said.

"This program is a pure and simple 'thank you.' For a teacher, it's very special."

MARY ANN VIMONT  
director of alumni,  
UK College of Education

The College of Education has honored more than 1,000 people since the program began.

"Initially, this was a program that touched primarily Kentucky teachers, but it is slowly becoming more national," said Eric Pittman, College of Education information specialist. "In 2006, honorees represented 41 Kentucky counties and 10 states."

Beth Randolph, a teacher at the School for the Creative and Performing Arts in Lexington, was nominated by two separate students in 2006.

"I knew several people at the ceremony," Randolph said.

"Some of the teachers honored were teachers of my own, so I felt especially proud to know I was honored at the same time that my former teachers were."

The Teachers Who Made a Difference program accepts nominations of teachers, professors, principals or other educational professionals in the state who have inspired and motivated students.

"Anyone can nominate a teacher," Pittman said. "The nominees can be retired or current teachers, and there have been occasions where teachers have been recognized posthumously."

This year's program includes a recognition event and reception to be attended by both the teachers and their nominators, which will be April 28 from 9 until 11 a.m. at the Center Theater and Great Hall in the Student Center.

To nominate an educator, complete the online form by visiting the College of Education's Web site at [www.uky.edu/Education](http://www.uky.edu/Education). The nomination deadline is March 5.

## IHOP flips flapjacks for UK Children's Hospital

By Robin Pircher  
news@kyk.com

A local International House of Pancakes restaurant will be turning pancakes into charity dollars for UK HealthCare's Kentucky Children's Hospital today.

As part of National Pancake Day, IHOP works with their national charity partner, the Children's Miracle Network, to raise money for hospitals.

This is the National Pancake Day's third year, and the event is held in few select IHOP restaurants across the country. Lexington had its only IHOP built in 2006 on Palumbo Drive, and this will be the first year National Pancake Day will be held locally.

All guests can enjoy one free short stack of three pancakes for dine-in only while supplies last from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. While receiving a plate, guests are encouraged to make a donation. All donations and funds collected at the IHOP Lexington store will benefit the Children's Miracle Network program at UK HealthCare's Kentucky Children's Hospital.

"The great thing about it is the money goes back into the same community it came from," said Aimee Baston, manager of annual giving and stewardship at the Kentucky Children's Hospital.

The Children's Miracle Network partners children's hospitals around the country with national business sponsors. There

are 170 Children's Miracle Network hospitals nationwide.

In 2006, National Pancake Day raised a total of more than \$340,000 for charity, and their goal for this year is \$500,000. Baston said there wasn't a set goal for the Lexington IHOP since it is the store's first year participating.

"Our main goal is to get the word out to see how many we can get into the store that day," Baston said. "We just need people to come out and support the kids."

Some of the other businesses in support of the Children's Miracle Network are Speedway, Kmart and Wal-Mart, all of which display red and yellow balloons that can be purchased for extra support.

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## WILLIAMS

Continued from page 1

and entertainers ever," Smith said. "If you have any creative juices within you, you should want to come (hear him perform)."

Williams' performance covered all topics, both close to him and slightly further away — from the death of his father, to school, to his love life, religion, war and race.

"We're (all) Americans, and we're all here together," he said.

Williams, who performs mostly spoken word mixed with hip hop, was raised by his school-teacher mother who was on a constant quest to make Martin Luther King Day a national holiday.

"My mom was always a fighter, trying to get Black History Month to happen," Williams said. "I always had to participate in the things that she was planning to get the word out. It's kind of crazy that I'm still participating."

Williams has been published in The New York Times, Details, Esquire, Bomb Magazine and African Voices. His first book of poetry, "The Seventh Octave," was published by Moore Black Press in 1997.

He has written three other books of poetry, including "S/he" and "I," said the shotgun to the head.

Williams just finished his fourth book of

poetry, "The Dead Emcee Scrolls," which he refers to as an "autobiomythography" and "metafiction."

"I make stuff up that becomes true," Williams said. "It's amazing how you can say something, and then it's called into existence."

Williams began writing poetry when he was in graduate school at New York University. In the three-year acting program, all students were required to keep a journal. Teachers didn't grade it, they just wanted to know that students were keeping up with it and getting in touch with their feelings, Williams said.

"I realized when writing wasn't an assignment, I wrote in fragments," Williams said. "And, when a teacher wasn't checking my work, I didn't always want to dot my I's."

"I write to fill the void between what I'm hearing and what I'm doing."

Poetry, Williams said, is the essence of our culture. Our culture today is on a constant quest for power, Williams said.

"Any time there's been a movement of people against the government, it started with young kids getting involved with poetry," Williams said. "Without poetry, there would have been no hippie movement, no black power movement, no civil rights movement."

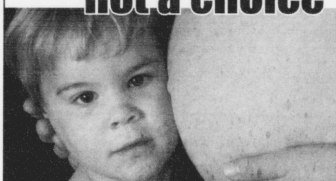
Williams said he thinks he is lucky that he's found his passion in life.

"We all have to get our priorities straight," Williams said. "We need to get a generation of kids that decide to do what they want to do based on passion. Whatever you're looking for in life, it's looking for you, too."

“I write to fill the void between what I'm hearing and what I'm doing.”

— Saul Williams, poet and artist

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## THEATER REVIEW

### Evil outshines good in UK's modernized 'Titus Andronicus'

By Melissa Smith Mallory  
mallory@kykernel.com

UK's production of Shakespeare's most violent play, "Titus Andronicus," borders on ridiculous — but in an entertaining and fun way.

"Titus" has everything that a Shakespearean tragedy should have — a vengeful queen, her lustful sons and a manipulative lover. In true scandalous form, all of these characters have their sights set on one thing — the daughter of the target of the queen's vengeance.

Mix in modern weaponry with all of the drama, and the ridiculousness takes on a whole new meaning.

In every story, the evil characters are inevitably more interesting than the good. They may not be as well liked, but as the fundamentally evil characters, they don't tend to care about popularity contests. The characters in "Titus" are no exception.

Regardless of how hard the good characters try, their misfortune is never more interesting than the spectacle put on by those who cause the tragedy.

The Goth Queen Tamora, played by Dara Tiller, and Aaron, played by Brandon Hagan, are

excellent at inducing tragedy. The best part: they make it look fun.

Tiller is conniving and bitter, as the wronged queen who is the impetus for almost everything that happens in the entire play.

Hagan somehow makes the horrifying acts he creates and his overall lack of remorse normal and compelling — well, maybe not normal.

Conrad Newman and Ryan Hastings play Queen Tamora's sons Demetrius and Chiron. Like their mother, they are also fun to watch. Evil people usually know that they are evil and relish in their evilness, and Newman and Hastings effectively demonstrate this.

Unfortunately for people seeking good in "Titus," the evil steals the show.

Nathan Wagner, who plays the title character Titus, tries to tip the scales for the good guys, but even Titus's own controlled insanity can't beat the spread. By the end of the show, it's hard to tell if Wagner's Titus is sane, insane or just insanely angry.

Lavinia, Titus's daughter and subject of Tamora's revenge, is rendered handless, tongueless and therefore useless early in the plot. Ashley Smith makes

Lavinia truly tragic in the beginning, yet the tragedy slowly erodes until Lavinia discovers a way to name her attackers.

Most everything about the UK Theatre department's current feature is slightly unconventional, with a mishmash of old and new. Rather than updating the play completely, as is common with Shakespeare, UK Theatre has opted to mix elements of both ancient and modern Rome.

Unfortunately, the few instances of old weapons or dress look anachronistic, due to an imbalance between the old and new aspects.

As is par for UK productions, the lighting design is interesting and bold. The set, while useful in creating levels and separate spaces with endless possibilities, tends to feel more like a jungle gym instead of a battlefield, sitting room or crypt, as it should.

At the very least, "Titus Andronicus" is dramatic and bloody. It's that push to the edge of ridiculous that makes it fun to watch.

"Titus Andronicus" runs Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the Guignol Theatre. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$10 for faculty and staff, and \$15 for general admission.

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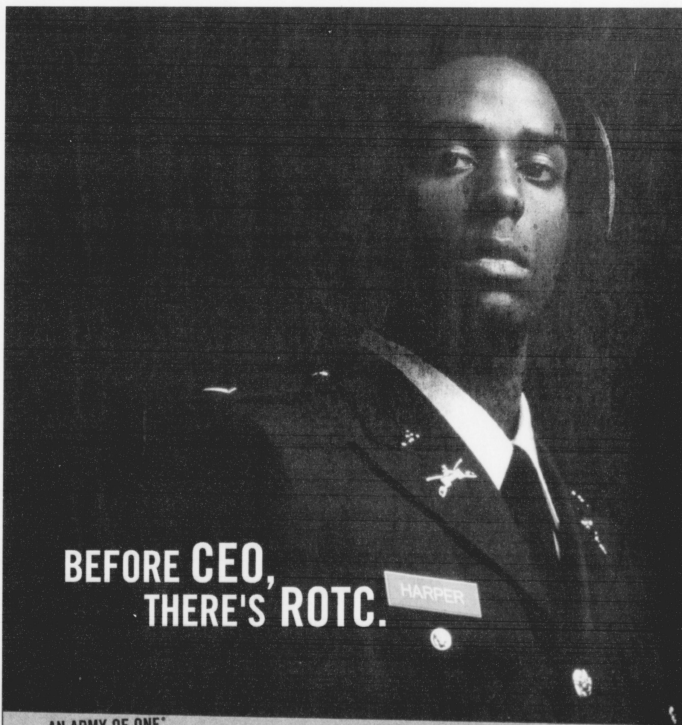
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# SPORTS

Jonathan Smith  
Sports Editor  
Phone: 252-1815  
E-mail: jsmith@kentner.com

## Cats want to see more out of Morris

Travis Waldron  
twaldron@kyke.net

Despite knowing that UK would need a big game from its leading scorer on both ends of the court, center Randolph Morris said he wasn't ready for Alabama on Saturday.

"I wasn't executing, personally," Morris said. "My head wasn't in the game, obviously, from the way I started early. It was a tough day because I didn't get myself ready to play."

Morris was a factor on the defensive end in the first half, limiting Alabama's interior offense, but he went to the locker room at halftime with only six points and his team trailing 30-22.

After halftime, the junior center picked up his offense, scoring nine points, but faltered on defense, allowing counterpart Richard Hendrix to score 11 points.

Morris's lack of focus was especially harmful to the Cats late in the game.

With the Cats down 67-61 with only 57 seconds to play, junior guard Rameel Bradley appeared to make a basket that cut the deficit to four. But Morris, moving toward the basket, bumped the ball back up through the net. The referees called Morris for basket interference and the basket was not allowed.

"I wasn't even trying to tip it," said Morris, who appeared to be positioning himself for a rebound. "The ball was halfway down anyway ... I just hit the net inadvertently."

Morris said he had never seen that call happen.

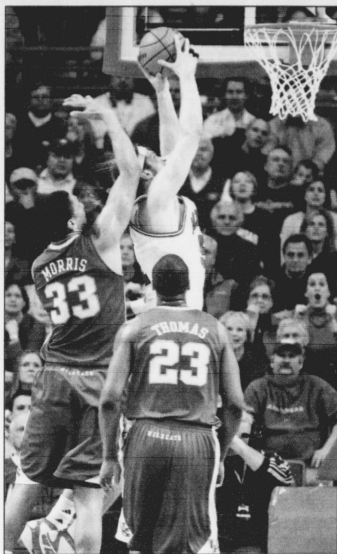
"I didn't even know that call was possible," he said.

Morris entered the game averaging 15.6 points and 7.6 rebounds per game and finished right on those averages, with 15 points and seven rebounds.

But he also had eight of UK's 17 turnovers, due in part to the defense of Alabama big men Hendrix and Jermaeo Davidson.

After the game, UK head coach Tubby Smith said he wasn't pleased with Morris, especially with his candid post-game comment.

"What can you say?" Smith said. "I don't know how your head cannot be in the game."



BRAD LUTTRELL | STAFF  
Arkansas center Steven Hill shoots against UK center Randolph Morris in the Cats' 82-74 win over the Razorbacks in Fayetteville, Ark. on Feb. 3. Hill and other big men in the SEC have found success against Morris lately.

### Bradley defends to the end

Rameel Bradley had seen enough.

With less than 10 seconds to go in the game against Alabama, and his team down by an insurmountable 10 points, Alabama guard Brandon Hollinger was dribbling for an exclamation point slam dunk to end the game. Instead, Bradley pulled Hollinger down and was called for an intentional foul.

Even though it was a hard foul, Bradley said there was no malice intended.

"I just didn't want to give up a layup," Bradley said. "It looked like they were trying to get a little fancy on the break and I just didn't want to get too much more embarrassing."

"I just wanted to stop the guy, and I didn't mean to foul him as hard as I did."

Hollinger made one of two free throw attempts to finish the game.

### Rare SEC West loss for UK

Despite the loss against Alabama, UK has still won 33 of its past 36 games against the six teams in the SEC Western Division.

The Cats are 4-1 against the West this season and 80-20 since the conference split into divisions prior to the 1991-92 season. The Cats can keep up their streak of dominance tonight when they play Louisiana State at 9 at Rupp Arena.

### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### Kipnis named national freshman of week

UK outfielder Jason Kipnis was named national and Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Week yesterday after his performance this weekend against Furman.

Kipnis was 5-for-9 with two home runs and four RBIs. He also scored seven runs.

Kipnis, a 5-foot-11, 175-pound Northbrook, Ill. native, also hit three times and had 13 total

bases to help the Cats to a three-game sweep.

"Jason Kipnis came through for us in a big way this weekend," UK head coach John Cohen said in a news release. "We really needed some people to step up and he was definitely one of those guys. For a kid who is playing his first weekend of college baseball, he couldn't have had a better weekend."

The Cats play Murray State tomorrow at 4 p.m. at Hagan Stadium.

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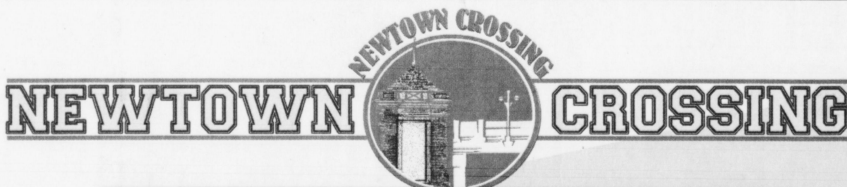
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