

Kentucky Kernel

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Celebrating 35 years of independence

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First day of SG election runs smoothly

By Sean Rose
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Day one of the Student Government elections was a smooth one with little problems and no polls closing early.

"It's been going really smoothly," said Katie Collins, the chair of the Election Board of Supervisors that run and monitor the elections. "There were a few problems trying to get the computers working (in the morning) but we've been having a very good day."

Collins said the only problems she was aware of was that a booth or two might have opened five minutes

late. Approximately 1,700 students voted yesterday, Collins said, about 350 more than last year's first day.

Originally drastically short of workers for the Commons' polls, Collins said all the spots were filled for today after a poll workers meeting on Tuesday night drew many workers.

"We had a really great number show up (Tuesday night)," Collins said, adding that members of the election board have been doing an "awesome job" covering the lapses between workers.

The White Hall Classroom Building had the most booths with

five and the longest lines stretching about 30 feet at some points.

"There's been a pretty steady flux of people," said political science and sociology sophomore William Downey, who worked the polls at the Classroom Building. "It's been pretty busy."

The Classroom Building was more organized than other polls, with a worker standing at the head of the line, calling out when a booth was open and handing the voter an "I voted" sticker. Collins said the Classroom Building called for the extra organization because of the amount of people voting in

the location.

"We're extra careful — that's where we have the majority of our people coming in," Collins said.

Workers at the Commons said it was busiest around lunchtime and the longest wait was about 10 minutes.

"It's pretty much right as kids were getting out of class and coming to eat when they were coming through," said business freshman Tommy Donovan, who was working the Commons polls.

WT. Young Library also had about a 10-minute wait at times mainly because it only had one booth.

Last year several polls had reduced hours and one was closed for the entire day because of lack of workers. Collins said polls would be closed if no one was available to work them.

Collins said there were still three or four openings for tomorrow but that she thought it would be another problem-free day.

"I was really worried going into this morning," Collins said. "I didn't know what to expect. Today went extremely well. Tomorrow we're just as confident."

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POLLS: Classroom Building 9a.m.-4p.m. | W.T. Young Library 11a.m.-5p.m. | Commons 11a.m.-5p.m. | Student Center 10a.m.-4p.m. | B&E 9a.m.-3p.m. | Law 10a.m.-2p.m. | Chandler Medical Center 10a.m.-2p.m. | Ag. North 9a.m.-2p.m.

Police arrest carjack suspect

Car returned to UK student after recovery by police

By Tim Wiseman
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

A week after a UK student was a victim of a carjacking at Fayette Mall, Lexington police have made an arrest in the case.

Police arrested Robert Ray Tomlin, 36, of Lexington, yesterday morning on charges of robbery and kidnapping connected to the carjacking incident as well as burglary charges for another incident.

On March 21, Ryan Bradley, a UK psychology senior, was approached by a man with a knife in the parking lot of Fayette Mall. The suspect then forced Bradley into the passenger seat and demanded he write a check for \$20.

On the way to a bank so Bradley could cash the check, the suspect hit a small pickup truck. Since there was no damage to the truck, police were not called to the scene. But in the days since, the driver of the truck did contact police.

"That person did come forward and was able to provide information that was able to assist us in our investigation," Sgt. Peter Ford said.

Police made the arrest after an officer noticed a maroon 1998 Toyota Corolla that appeared suspicious on Lone Oak Drive on Tuesday night, Ford said. The officer ran the vehicle's plate and found it matched the car from the carjacking last week.

The officer tried to catch up, but the car got away, Ford said.

Later, the officer heard of a burglary also on Lone Oak Drive and followed up on it. Yesterday, the police found the car and the suspect at 2380 Tulsa Road and made the arrest, Ford said. There, police recovered one of the two guns and some of the jewelry that had been reported stolen from the Lone Oak Drive residence, less than two miles away.

"It's nice to think that this arrest may prevent a future crime from happening," Ford said.

He said police would be looking into open crimes to see if Tomlin may have been connected to any ongoing investigations.

Ford also said the car has been released back to Bradley.

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Kelley Yopp, a 2004 UK graduate, Stephanie Wurth, a staff member in the Office of International Affairs, and Joy Reeves, family and consumer science senior, listen to a speaker during a candlelight vigil as part of "Take Back the Night" last night in front of Memorial Hall.

A LIGHT IN THE NIGHT

By Erin Lauthner
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Women's safety isn't an issue to be kept in the dark.

Dozens of UK students and members of the Lexington community spoke out last night and more than 200 people turned out for UK's first-ever "Take Back the Night" rally. The march from Memorial Coliseum to Memorial Hall was followed up by a "Speak Out" session on the steps of Memorial Hall led by volunteers from UK's Women's Place and survivors of rape and domestic violence.

"Take Back the Night" is meant to create awareness and offer support to victims.

"The goal of this event is to bring awareness to this campus," said McKenzie Thompson, UK sophomore and organizer of this

year's rally. "I don't think many people truly understand what's going on when it comes to violence against women."

A survivor of rape, Thompson takes the rally personally and enjoys the opportunity to get involved and work at Women's Place to help others like herself.

"Our goal is to let everyone know that rape, abuse and stalking is all something that can affect anyone," she said. "Even if they are lucky enough to not become a victim of it, it will touch your life in some way or another."

Mayor Teresa Isaac spoke about her personal experiences as a professor with a student who was murdered by an abusive boyfriend. She also promised assistance to Mavericks, a student organization for men against violence towards women.

UK Police Chief McDonald

Vick also attended the rally, speaking about loss of his sister to domestic violence.

"I feel strongly about your efforts here," said Vick, in one of his first official appearances as police chief. "I want you to know I am one of your defenders, and that we will be here for you no matter what."

Last night's rally was surrounded by community support as many organizations, including the Hope Center, Sunflower Kids and the Bluegrass Domestic Violence Program came out to show their support and offer their services to those in need.

The Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center has always participated in "Take Back the Night" rallies and was excited about the change of venue to UK's campus from Triangle Park.

"To bring [the rally] to campus goes to show that it doesn't have to

be done in a certain way. It's whatever the community needs," said Rhonda Henry, assistant director for the Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center. "We really wanted to get people motivated to be active in the movement whether it is on campus or in a community agency."

Henry said that while rape can be an isolating event, it is important for the victims to see the numbers of people who will come out and support them.

"They may not all be survivors that are standing there, but it is someone who cares about this and is passionate about the issue," said Henry. "[Survivors] can walk around their campus or go to class and know there are other people that care and don't want to see it happen."

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Parlour Boys ringing in success

Bill Yackey
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The Parlour Boys were drinking double last night, celebrating their victory in a national independent band contest.

Contest officials announced yesterday that the local dance-rock group was selected to be the first band ever to launch its career through mobile phone media. The Parlour Boys won the "Calling All Bands" competition, sponsored by Verizon Wireless and MySpace.com.

They one-upped over 4,000 submissions from independent bands nationwide.

"We went to the Verizon Store under the pretense that all the top five bands were doing press conferences about just being in the top five," guitarist Clay Kennedy said. Instead of fielding questions, the band was surprised when the Verizon representative unveiled a Parlour Boys sign and proclaimed them the winners.

After it was announced the Parlour Boys had won, the band received a little more press coverage than they were used to.

"There were video cameras and photographers everywhere trying

to get us together for promo shots," said Matt Duncan, the Parlour Boys' bassist. "It was definitely not something we were accustomed to."

The Parlour Boys are no stranger to the Lexington music scene. They are a frequent act at The Dame and their self-titled EP has held steady on CD Central's Top 10 list for several months. Their single "Lovers" was also selected by Virgin Airlines to be played as muzak during flights.

The Parlour Boys' contest prize package will help add on to their growing publicity by offering them the opportunity to make a down-

loadable Verizon V-Cast music video. Verizon will also create a ring tone and an answer tone of "Lovers," the first song ever written by the group.

The Boys hope to use the victory to propel them into a summer tour, with shows at West Coast venues tentatively planned.

For now, the Parlour Boys are going to continue playing in Lexington. Their next show is April 7 at The Dame.

"Lexington's been great to us, but we're ready to take on the world," Duncan said.

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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 9 - You're likely to begin, and well you should be. Your instincts are honed and keen. The door that rarely opens is open now. Don't hesitate.
Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 5 - You're under more pressure in some ways. In others, the pressure is easing. You know what to do. All you have to do is to do it.
Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is an 8 - You're anxious to get going, but don't dish off to by yourself. You don't want to outrun your friends and protectors.
Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 5 - A taskmaster needs you to accomplish

big objectives. Don't be hurt by a sharp tone of voice. Focus on solving the problem.
Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 9 - Do you have any money left after buying the basics? If so, go ahead and play with it. Your luck's much better now.
Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 5 - Resources are more abundant than expected. Make the change that everybody can live with happily.
Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is an 8 - An absolutely brilliant performance by somebody else wins applause. Join in; don't be jealous.
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 5 - You're entering another very busy two-day phase. Clear everything else off your schedule. Focus on work until Friday.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 9 - Giving affection is a surefire way to get affection back. Don't wait to make a commitment? Ridiculous. Don't even worry about it.
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 5 - Dig around in your own garage, closets, attic and/or basement. You don't have to leave home to find the perfect thing - you've got it, somewhere.
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is an 8 - You're on the right track now. Do the research yourself. This is not a project you can delegate.
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 5 - Continue to stick to your schedule. Follow the rules and the routine. Gather up the rewards for your efforts, which will be abundant.
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THE DISH

Spring's Engagement Bling

Who has the biggest ring -- and what do their styles say about them?

By Aimee Agrasti

Nicollette Sheridan

Size. Approximately 5 carats

Setting. Cushion-cut diamond with side stones set in platinum

Estimated value. \$150,000

Bling details. Last year, Sheridan, 42, sported an almost-3-carat gem from ex-Niklas Soderblom, but traded up when old flame Michael Bolton, 53, proposed March 9. A Sheridan pal tells Us the star borrowed a similar ring for January's SAG Awards and bets "she told Michael that is the ring she wanted."

What it says. "There's something charming about a cushion cut," says Sally Morrison of the Diamond Information Center. "It's one of the oldest cuts, so it's a little retro."

Brittany Murphy

Size. Approximately 4 carats

Setting. Tiffany round brilliant solitaire diamond set in platinum

Estimated value. \$120,000

Bling details. "He's very romantic," Murphy, 28, tells Us of fiancé Joe Macaluso, a lighting assistant she met doing 2004's Little Black Book. And he gets the need for sparkle: "As someone who knows lighting design, the Tiffany round

brilliant is perfect for him to select," says Morrison. "It's prized for its fire and brilliance."

What it says. "This ring is a classic," Morrison says. "She's committing to this guy. It's a serious relationship, she expects it to be forever."

Neve Campbell

Size. Approximately 2-plus carats

Setting. Princess-cut diamond set in platinum

Estimated value. \$45,000

Bling details. British actor John Light, 31, dropped to one knee and recited Shakespeare when he presented Campbell, 32 - his costar in the indie romance Partition - with this princess cut, a more modern take on the classic round brilliant.

What it says. "Neve is a princess - bubbly and beautiful," says diamond expert Morrison. "This cut takes all the light, energy and life of a round brilliant and puts it in a contemporary square stone. It's fiery!"

Nicole Kidman

Size. About 6 carats

Setting. Three oval-cut stones set in platinum

Estimated value. \$150,000

Bling details. Kidman, 38, began sporting this sparkler from country crooner beau Keith Urban, also 38, in November, but the tight-lipped pair still haven't officially acknowledged they're engaged.

What it says. "The three-stone ring is a very romantic new classic: It stands for the past, present and future," says Morrison. "But the oval shape is a twist - it stands out. We would expect this of Nicole: She is a fashion icon."

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- Closed Mondays, Tuesdays and Easter Sunday, April 16.
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April 7-28
 GetReady

THURSDAY,
March 30,
2006

PAGE 3

WARNING:
Your weekly dose
of entertainment,
pop culture and fun is
now in your hands

kernel POP

COMING ATTRACTIONS

'I Wish I Could Quit You'

The Oscar-nominated film
Brokeback Mountain,
featuring Heath Ledger
and Jake Gyllenhaal,
hits DVD on April 4



'I'm Not Dead'

Pink's fourth album
hits stores Tues-
day, and her new
single "Stupid
Girls" is already
available



'The Da Vinci Code'

Dan Brown's lawsuit-friendly thriller appeared
in paperback this week and is now much
more affordable — and just as readable.
More than 5 million copies went on sale
Monday.

Features births new section

Kernel Pop to add flavor to
your life every Thursday

By Doug Scott and Ian Conley
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Hello, and welcome to Kernel Pop, the new features supplement to The Kentucky Kernel. Each week, you will see a long-form features story that is otherwise much too interesting, in-depth and out-there for the traditional format of the paper.

Within this column will be a triumphant return of *Left of Center*, a collection of humorous quips assembled by your fearless features editors, that once upon a time was a Kernel staple. Below, you will find a WRFL Top-10 list, as well as the top five activities for your weekend (you can thank us for saving you from the doldrums of boredom later).

With the addition of this new section, we've had to do some rearranging as well. Kenny Moyer's "What's The Deal?" column will be moved to Tuesdays, and Kernel Pop will take the place of the Thursday Features page.

We're pulling out those dusty, worn-out party boots that were long forgotten in the closet of the Kernel to inject some light-hearted fun in our admittedly sometimes too-serious pages. Granted, your kind editors will be developing a barbiturate narcotics habit due to this new responsibility, but rest assured that it's all in the altruistic but Quixotic quest to keep readers on-thrilled.

E-mail
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TRICIA SPAULDING | STAFF
Features editor Doug Scott (left) and assistant features editor Ian Conley proudly hold the first Kernel Pop. The new addition will appear each Thursday.

WRFL - FM, 88.1

TOP 10
radio

MOST-PLAYED SONGS
OF THE WEEK

- The Brokedown**, "Down in the Valley"
- Calexico**, "Letter to Bowie Knife"
- I love you but I've chosen darkness**, "The Ghost"
- Bob Dylan**, "Masters of War"
- Elbow**, "Station Approach"
- Magneto**, "Touch and Go"
- Hair Police**, "Drawn Dead"
- The Go Team**, "Bottle Rocket"
- Blackalicious**, "Rock the Spot"
- Neko Case**, "The Needle Has Landed"

A Lexington Pub remains a campus staple



PHOTOS BY AMANDA FINNEY | STAFF

Lynagh's Irish Pub, located in University Plaza on Woodland Avenue, has attracted college students and other regulars alike for more than 25 years.

By Ian Conley
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The neon lights bleed into the air, barely illuminating the photos that line the wall like a series of memories that gently explode inside your head. Smokers sneak puffs in dark corners amid a hail of darts — a risky endeavor indeed. A forest of bicycles dangles overhead providing infinite conversation pieces during those awkward pauses.

For the regulars, Lynagh's Irish Pub is essentially holy ground, a way station on the road of life that keeps one from insanity.

The pub, which celebrated its 25th anniversary earlier this month on St. Patrick's Day, has moved locations, felt the sting of the Lexington smoking ban and, most recently, undergone a transition of ownership, but through it all has maintained the indelible charm and home-away-from-home feel that made it so popular and comfortable so long ago.

Upon a few inquiries one is led back into a dark, secret place known only to a select few. The office, neatly hidden in a cubbyhole, is a mish-mash of old and new, of comfort and cramped space.

Jason Presser, bartender and soon-to-be owner, speaks about the pub as if he were showing off a girlfriend or first-born child with a plethora of anecdotes ignited by photographs that never seem to end. And, indeed, it would seem



A plethora of regalia and memorabilia fills the pub, including a veritable forest of bicycles that hang from the ceiling.

that Lynagh's is a person in and of itself, with a neurotic, fiery charisma that black words on white paper really don't do justice.

"The whole country is so homogenized now," Presser said. "Everywhere you go just looks like another exit in New Jersey. This place is different."

Twenty-five years ago the Lexington cityscape was a completely different world. A few bars were scattered here and there downtown and Hamburg Pavilion was

hardly a twinkle in the eye of its developers. Founder John Lynagh, a former UK theater professor, placed his Irish flag on the corner of Woodland and Euclid with hopes of instilling in Lexington the tradition of neighborhood pubs found in his hometown of Madison, Wis. The Walrus and the Carpenter, a bar that occupied the space now consumed by The Fishtank, had a "For Sale" sign in the window.

"John just walked in, asked

how much and wrote a check," said Gina Scott-Lynagh, John's wife and business partner for the last 25 years.

The pub's name, lacking a letter from Lynagh's own name, is a dedication to his grandfather who emigrated from County Mayo in Ireland to the United States in 1886. Like many immigrants in the 19th century, the family altered the spelling of its last name in a bid to Americanize and be more easily assimilated into the culture.

Due to a change in ownership of the building and the ensuing building code inspections, Lynagh decided to move a stone's throw away into his bar's current location in Aug. 1986.

Lynagh's Music Emporium, which occupied the space now home to the High Life Lounge, worked as critical stop for national touring acts for years. Lynagh added the section in 1980 and it worked as the catalyst and engine that kept the Lexington music scene running until it closed in 2002.

Presser said the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 were a direct hit below the belt to the music emporium as well.

"The exact next day, people just stopped coming out," Presser lamented. "I love music and I don't think this town really has a showcase for local acts anymore."

Along with that abrupt shift in consumer spending habits, however, the music club was simply a

See Lynagh's on page 4

TUFF & THINGS

Five ways to make your weekend wonderful

1. **Beaux Arts Ball**

If you don't make it out to this event, you're going to be labeled as, well, a boring person. Think your birthday, Christmas and Halloween all rolled into one night of savagery.

Saturday, 8 p.m., Tattersall's on South Broadway. Masquerade attire is a must. Advance tickets are \$20, on

sale at Third Street Stuff and CD Central.

2. **KRS-One**

Hip-hop legend and political powerhouse KRS-One will perform at the Dame tomorrow at 10 p.m. Tickets cost \$15.

3. **Hip Hop / R&B Gathering**

The first annual mid-South Hip Hop and R&B music conference runs from 7 to 11 p.m. Sat-

urday at the Singletary Center — with an after-party at Club Z1.

4. **UK Opera's Carouse!**

A great choice for a hot date with a nice young lady. Tomorrow and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m., all at the Lexington Opera House.

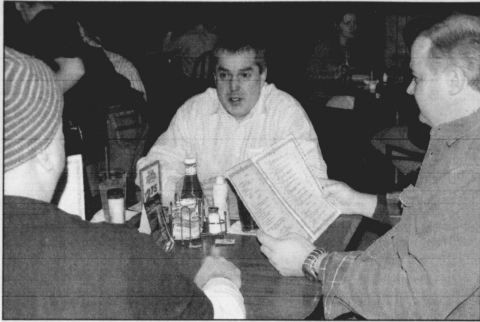
5. **The movie 'Slither'**

Seriously, kids. A nonsensical and deplorable gory B-movie? It's going to rule.



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

This year's annual night of decadence — better known as the Beaux Arts Ball — happens Saturday night.



AMANDA FINNEY | STAFF
David McIntosh, a UK alumnus, Pat Wylie and Grady Johnson, also a UK alum, prepare for a hearty lunch at Lynagh's.

Lynagh's

Continued from page 3

hard and expensive endeavor. "The music business is even harder than the restaurant business," Scott-Lynagh joked.

So, in the spirit of revival, Presser has been bringing live music back to the pub, albeit on a smaller scale than the original club. The Swells, a local act that plays jazz, performs every Thursday to a bussing crowd hungry for more than muzak. Other acts, such as the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Singsong, have become Lynagh's regulars.

Music and booze aren't the only elements of the pub that have left their mark on Lexington.

The O'Round, Lynagh's signature behemoth burger, will satiate even the biggest of gentlemen. Large, hulking, almost pulsating with deliciousness, the O'Round made Lynagh's a Lexington staple even for non-drinkers.

"The lunch menu really put us on the map," Presser said. "People want a place they can go to get a drink that will knock them down and a burger that will give them a heart attack."

Presser takes no credit for the success of the pub. "John (Lynagh) made it what it is," Presser said. "It's the staff that's still carrying on and still doing it."

What Lynagh made the pub is a central core of community for a demographic so wide that to define it as one group is foolhardy.

"A lot of bars are really fickle," Presser said. "They might be hip right now, but once they're not the place to be, what happens to their regulars? You've gotta keep it real or you're gonna be done for in this business."

"I like making money as much as anyone else, but there are right ways and wrong ways to go about doing it," he said.

The Lynagh's crowds here have never been quintessentially college, either, Presser says.

"I really wouldn't consider us as a 'college bar,'" Presser said. "We get more professors than students, I think. And we don't really get a lot of sororities or fraternities coming by either. It's more the artsy, older crowd."

Scott-Lynagh said the strength of the pub has been its loyal patrons.

"We're able to cater to everyone - the late night crowds, the music crowd, the student crowd. And yet still have those regulars," Lynagh said. "It's a very eclectic clientele."

Indeed, the pub is often a magnet for UK alumni. Tom Callahan, a 2002 alumnus now residing in Chicago, said he makes it a point to visit Lynagh's every time he's traveling through or even near Lexington.



"Everywhere you go just looks like another exit in New Jersey. This place is different."

While waiting for a drink, one is inundated with history exuding from the wall behind the bar. Of particular interest, though poorly lit and somewhat hidden, is an aerial photograph of University Plaza during the 1989 NCAA Championship basketball game. In two words, the photo is pure chaos.

"In '88 we had to close at 11 - people were hanging from the bikes, there was a trash pile as high as my waist. We got the soda guys to spray the crowd out," Presser recalled.

But the insanity didn't end there.

"There was a guy who climbed up on the light pole out there; he had all this really nice climbing equipment. He was stuck there until 4 a.m. waiting on the crowd to disperse so we could get a fire truck to bring him down," Presser said.

Some would say insanity of another variety took hold in the Lexington bar scene when the smoking ban was enacted in 2002. As with most drinking establishments, Lynagh's took

a great hit. "Business dropped 25 percent with the smoking ban," Presser said. "We're just now coming out of that hole."

"You're damned if you follow it and you're damned if you don't," Presser said.

As for the future, Lynagh's is in the midst of a veritable renaissance with a gradual transition of ownership moving into the hands of Presser.

"Jason is running the pub and doing well and I'm sure he'll add his own charm and ideas," Scott-Lynagh said. "It needed fresh, young blood."

John Bethuren, a three-year employee at the pub and long-time patron, said despite the changing face of Lynagh's, its basic core that John Lynagh laid out is holding true. "Jason's the new,"

Bethuren said. "Everything else is still the same."

That might not be entirely accurate - the pub is receiving a long-overdue technological facelift. A large, plasma-screen TV illuminates the once dark, shaded corner in the back and the tech savvy can now peruse the Internet using a wireless connection. And the once-essentially Irish pub game of darts is returning with a vengeance at the bar with two new boards and improved lighting.

The pub is no stranger to the game. Directly behind the dartboards hangs a massive portrait of 1983 Bluegrass Dart League champions which, appropriately enough, features founder John Lynagh, among others.

Lynagh's is one of the last outposts of a bygone era of neighborhood pubs where, forgive me for this one, everybody knows your name. Though similar establishments have gone the way of the buffalo, running from an invasion of dressed-up fast food restaurants that Americans seem to love so much, this pub has been an anchor for its patrons.

"We're into the second generation with this. I've spoken to people who tell me 'Oh yeah, my parents used to come here all the time when they were in school,'" Scott-Lynagh said. "It's still a tradition."

If only these walls could talk. Actually, if you imbibe enough of Lynagh's famously strong cocktails, they just might start.

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TV JUMBLE by David L. Hoyt

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SECTOL Clue: Inevitable's end
TEHREHA Clue: Thomas' plant
GNCNIAD Clue: Start TV action
WFUNULLA Clue: Regal

Answer: _____

It's not surprising he grew up to be an actor.

40-2-2
2-2-2-2

Clue: This actor, and his baseball fan, had \$70,000 worth of baseball cards stolen in NYC in 1998.

Then arrange the stolen letters to form the answer, as suggested by the above definition.

Answers to 10/23/05: JIMMIES: WARRIOR PRACTICE HEADLINE BROTHERS
Bonus: The actor, who appeared on a popular TV show from 1989 to 1996, was born in San Francisco on May 31, 1960.
The top-rated Channel 1, Host of 31, Hollywood.com, CLAY EASTWOOD

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IN OUR OPINION

Task force needs input from black faculty

One occasional problem with bureaucracies and administrations is that task forces are formed to delve into issues and help solve problems, but nothing really ever gets done.

Over the summer, this was the case with the President's Commission on Diversity — which didn't meet for more than four months because it lacked a leader, putting important diversity recommendations on hold.

Thankfully, UK's Task Force on Racial Diversity and Equality has advanced closer toward its goals with each meeting. The task force had — and its forthcoming survey with black faculty is an excellent idea.

At its meeting last week, the group members started the process of reviewing a list of interview questions to ask black faculty on campus to help gauge campus diversity and what UK can do to improve its campus culture and student body.

"The bottom issue is, how does the environment feel here?" said task force chairman William Turner. "We need a picture of where UK is in terms of their faculty members, where people are and where people aren't."

He's exactly right. Professors are an excellent place to start in the process of trying to improve campus diversity, and a survey is the best way to collect their opinions and ideas.

UK has recently seen success with such tactics. The administra-

tion tried to contact every black student who decided to matriculate at another college to find out the top reasons why they spurned UK. Their responses — including a notable lack of scholarships — offered key insights that the administration must take to heart when it makes change in the near future.

The same must happen with a survey of professors. In 2004-05 data, the latest data available, UK employed only 61 full-time black professors: 15 full professors, 28 associate professors and 18 assistant professors.

The task force must make every possible effort to interview all 61 next month when the interview process starts up.

These one-on-one interviews are critical for both the task force and for UK as a whole. It's essential that these black professors are interviewed in a welcoming environment, and they must be honest and open with the task force. Otherwise, progress toward UK's diversity goals will be slowed and hampered.

On the other end, the task force must take the professors' responses to heart. What these faculty members say should be a major factor in future decisions about what areas UK needs to focus on when looking at campus diversity. There's no better way to get a read on the current situation than from the people who deal with it (and deal with students) each and every day.

Surveying black professors will help UK administrators know how to improve the campus environment

SG candidates should avoid a repeat of past debacles

The tension between The Kernel Editorial Board and Student Government is hardly a secret — in fact, we're pretty transparent when SG invokes our ire.

But in all honesty, we'd like to laud the student organization a lot more than we lambaste it on this page.

Praise, however, requires exemplary conduct — something we haven't seen a whole lot in the Becky Ellingsworth administration. Of course, having a student body president side into power by way of a lawsuit against the university doesn't exactly inspire confidence.

That's why we sincerely hope the winners — and losers — in this SG election accept the results in a

mature manner, without legal shenanigans. It's imperative that the elected representatives take their position seriously and get back to the organization's true purpose: to embody the voice of students.

And in order to properly perform its job, SG must regain the university community's trust; it's the only way the organization will ever help truly make a difference on this campus. Five-month-long legal battles won't accomplish that at all.

We implore SG to recognize the futility of petty politics at the collegiate level and become a decisive, integral student-run organization that students — and this editorial board — are proud to support.



CHRIS STEWART, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Media bias is a two-sided phenomenon

When the Washington Post added a "Red America" blog to its Web site —

written by Ben Domenech, a young conservative (and, as it turns out, plagiarist) — it opened up one of the major fault lines in U.S. politics: Are national media outlets biased toward a certain party or ideology?

Liberalism pointed to the hiring of Domenech as yet another example of the media pulling its weight for the right wing, while conservatives saw it as one small step toward balance in an industry dominated by the left. (Of course, almost all of Domenech's defenders abandoned him when online activists discovered that he was a serial plagiarist. But I digress.)

For all the smoke and mirrors thrown up by both sides, I think they're talking past each other when it comes to media bias. Contrary to popular opinion, the media is neither all liberal all the time nor a right-wing monolith. Its biases are highly situation-dependent — media outlets swing different ways for different issues.

Most of the "liberal bias" comes into the picture on social issues: gay marriage, flag burning, abortion, stem-cell research, the (non)existent "war on Christmas," ad nauseam. Journalists who work

for the national media — based almost entirely out of New York and Washington — are far more likely to have spent four years at an Ivy League school than one Sunday morning at an evangelical church, and that undoubtedly affects their worldview.

That's not to say, as some conservatives do, that these journalists have a secret agenda that they're purposely pushing on the country. But national media figures' secular cosmopolitan upbringings could subconsciously affect things like story selection and word choice. The media isn't trying to spit on religious, rural conservatives; it just doesn't understand them or their concerns.

On the other hand, social issues aren't the only ones — by a long shot. On economics and foreign policy the "liberal" media turns decidedly conservative. Or to put it more accurately, it tends to favor the people at the top — the ones in power.

To wit: Turn to the business section in today's Lexington Herald-Leader or New York Times, or turn on CNBC or CNN, and hear about what workers are concerned with and how they're doing.

Oh, wait, that doesn't happen. The only paper I've ever read with a labor-focused business page is Socialist Worker. Major media figures speak lushly of companies' profit margins going up, but they don't ask whether the additional money is being passed on to workers. And unionization efforts, such as the one going on at UK right now, are viewed from the standpoint of be-

ing problems for management, rather than as opportunities for employees.

It's no surprise, of course, that national media outlets have a pro-corporate bent — they're all owned by the country's largest corporations. Again, that's not to say journalists and editors are purposely pushing pro-management ideology, but I doubt that "How does this affect the working class?" even enters their minds — nor are their corporate higher-ups pushing them on it.

And foreign policy reporting suffers from an information problem: The only way to have any clue what's going on during a war is to ask the government, which has no real incentive to tell the truth. The other option is to report from the ground and risk getting killed.

The expense (in both money and risk) of trying to report fairly during war means that a good deal of foreign-policy coverage will have a pro-administration bent. This doesn't cut neatly one direction: Gulf War coverage favored George H. W. Bush, Bosnia and Kosovo coverage favored Bill Clinton, Iraq War coverage (especially during Shock and Awe and the rest of the pre-occupation period) favored George W. Bush, and so on.

In other words, media bias isn't a simple left-right issue — and by talking about it as such, we're hindering progress toward actually improving journalism in this country.

Brenton Kenkel is a philosophy and political science sophomore. E-mail: bkenkel@kyker.net.com.

College Dems endorse Bates

Like many UK students, I am frustrated by the lack of leadership and productivity exhibited by Student Government administrations both past and present. Year after year, tuition rises and student welfare decreases. Classes are larger, textbooks are more expensive, parking lots are smaller, and the campus community in general is less safe. Many promises for a better "UK experience" remain empty while student money is squandered on frivolous street parties and poorly organized initiatives which do not appeal to or involve the majority of UK's student body. Simply put, Student Government has not had a central figure in the last four years — and possibly longer — who has confronted the administration and the city of Lexington on issues that directly affect the student body at UK.

At a College Democrats meeting a few weeks ago, those present were fortunate enough to hear from Andy Bates, a candidate for SG president. Bates spoke with us for over an hour, soliciting our opinions as well as giving his own positions on a number of issues including campus safety, diversity, rising tuition costs (and SG's role in halting that steep rise in costs) and rising textbook prices. Needless to say, these were all issues that concerned us and a number of other UK students. After an informal roll call of all present members, and citing his impressive and persuasive positions on the issues of this election, the UK College Democrats unanimously endorsed Andy Bates, his running mate Senator Will Fuller, and the entire Bates-Fuller '06 ticket for Student Government offices.

Andy Bates is truly dedicated to the UK student body. In the midst of organizing and leading a full campaign ticket, Andy finds time to volunteer with and visit several student organizations, including the UK Women's Place and Campus Crusade — he actively engages himself in the community life and prosperity of UK. The UK College

Democrats endorse the Bates-Fuller '06 ticket and encourage members of the student body to vote in the elections today. I encourage everyone to visit www.batesfuller.com for detailed information about the Bates-Fuller platform. If actions speak louder than words, then the members of the Bates-Fuller team, with Bates in the lead, are shouting — and you should listen. Additionally, our organization supports the renewable energy referendum put forth by the environmental organization Greenthumb. Essentially, the proposal asks students whether they would support a maximum \$8 increase in student fees to support renewable energy initiatives that would decrease the air pollution of the campus and Fayette County. Currently, Fayette County ranks in the top 80th percentile nationally in air pollution. Not only is Greenthumb following a nationwide university trend in creating the plan, but the group also seeks to find alternative energy sources that would preserve the Eastern Kentucky communities affected by current mountaintop removal issues.

In the end, no matter which candidate you choose, please get out and vote in the election. Voting is quick, simple and empowering. Don't let a small group of people decide what is right for you.

KRISTA KING
UK College Democrats President
English and American culture junior

EDITOR'S NOTE: Since March 1, The Kernel has not received letters from supporters of the other candidates.

Vote yes on Greenthumb referendum

In today's Student Government elections, students have the opportunity to vote on whether they would like \$6 to \$8 of their student fees to be allocated for Renewable Energy initiatives on UK's campus. Ken-

tucky leads the southeastern United States in its coal-consumption (more than 90 percent of our electricity is generated by coal-burning power plants), and UK alone utilizes two power plants to provide for our energy needs. Because of many factors, some of which include mountaintop removal, harmful pollution that comes from burning fossil fuels and simply the depletion of non-renewable resources, coal use is an option that will not be available to us forever.

The money from student fees would not be used by Greenthumb Environmental Club, but would instead be appropriated by a committee consisting of students and administrative authorities that support these bold ecological initiatives. If 26,439 students paid less than \$8, the university would have roughly \$423,000 per year to apply toward renewable energy, some of which might include installation of solar panels, solar hot-water heaters, motion-sensor lighting that would automatically turn off lights in unoccupied rooms, the purchase of green-tag wind energy and a long list of other ideas. If we revamped our increasingly antiquated systems, we would save energy, which would mean saving money for UK that we suggest be directly used for other sustainability issues on campus.

The purpose of our universities is to prepare the youth of today to be the leading citizens of tomorrow, and because of their important role, they serve as standard-setters for many of society's practices. Considering the impending (and possibly catastrophic) shortage of our current energy resources, Greenthumb believes that it is UK's responsibility, as an influential institution, to contribute as much as we can to the use of technology currently available to us to create sustainable forms of energy.

The student body of the 2005-06 school year has the power to make an important change that will benefit the environment of our commonwealth and will help UK continue on the path to becoming a top-20 institution. Greenthumb asks that, if students do

nothing else today, they please take a moment to offer their opinions about this referendum by voting.

EMILY FOERSTER
English and Spanish sophomore

Protect coal; vote against Greenthumb

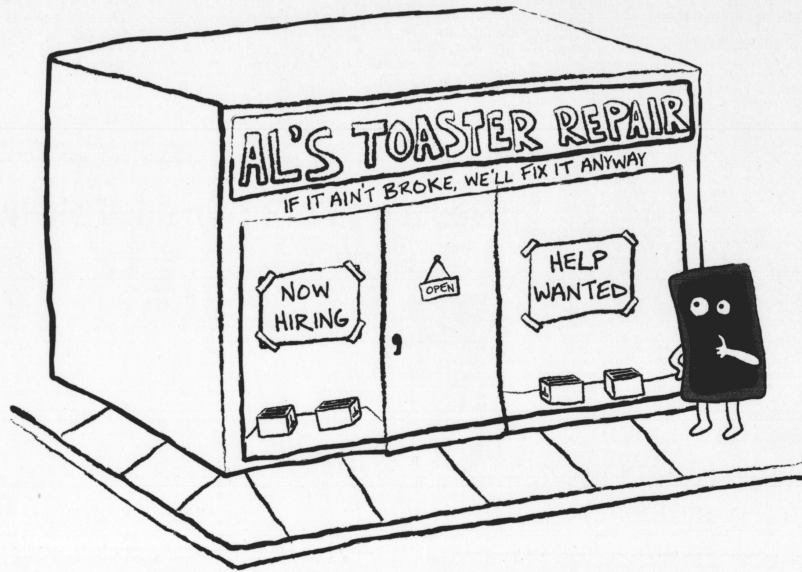
Environmentalists in Kentucky believe they're doing society a favor by opposing the coal industry. They get together with their clever slogans and protest development in the name of Mother Earth. The same liberals who are quick to blame President Bush for any lag in the economy are the very people who insist on inhibiting growth in rural areas. Here at UK, these environmentalists have begun their assault on coal communities in the form of an anti-coal ballot referendum. Greenthumb is proposing that \$6 to \$8 in additional student fees go toward alternative energy. I implore everyone reading this to first consider the impact such a measure would have on thousands of hard-working families in Kentucky.

President Bush spoke of America's Middle Eastern oil addiction in his recent State of the Union. The problem with oil isn't that we need and use it — it's the fact that it often comes from an unstable part of the world. Coal is an abundant, vital resource that is predominantly mined in and around Eastern Kentucky. The fact that America needs coal is actually good for our state, because coal profits benefit our own communities in the form of jobs, roads, school projects, and other areas of investment.

As an Eastern Kentuckian, Greenthumb is asking me for \$6 to \$8 worth of coal money to invest in something other than coal. This is why I cannot support its upcoming ballot referendum. UK gets plenty of our money, but if Greenthumb has its way, many more dollars will be at someone else's discretion. If, like me, you find this unacceptable, then join me in voting "no" on the referendum. Otherwise, someone will have a lot of work to do — it'll be hard to get all the coal dust off my student fee dollar bills.

CODY D. BELCHER
communications junior

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12:00 AM

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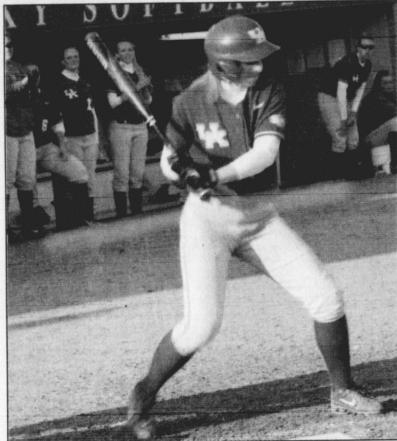
WT Young Library Auditorium

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SOFTBALL DOUBLEHEADER UT 8, UK 0 | UT 4, UK 0



Softball drops double-dip

Third baseman Meghan Cooper watches a pitch go by during the second game of yesterday's double-header against No. 2 Tennessee. UK fell 8-0 in the first game and 4-0 in the second.

ANDREW HUGHES | STAFF

Moss joins football team

By Chris Johnson
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK enjoyed its best recruiting class in recent memory this off-season, garnering top-40 national status and adding depth to many positions that were in need last season.

One of the slimmest positions on the depth chart, wide receiver, added what could be the cherry on the top yesterday at the team's first spring practice forms. UK men's basketball guard Ravi Moss.

Moss, who has one season of eligibility left for football after completing his four years of basketball at UK, joined the team yesterday. Offensive coordinator Joker Phillips termed it as a "trial deal" after meeting with the coaching staff and the wide receiver corps earlier in the week.

"We have to see how comfortable he is with us, and how comfortable we are with him," Phillips said.

Phillips said Moss's



Moss

"That's a big-time," Phillips said. "You always see in recruiting how a guy adjusts to a deep ball."

Head coach Rich Brooks was excited about his newest wideout.

"He has the ability to come out and help us," Brooks said. "We had to sell him. He's an athlete, he's got size."

Moss has one year of organized gridiron experience. That was in the sixth grade.

"The learning curve is going to be fast," Brooks said with a laugh.

Picking up the intricacies of his new sport and his new position should be

biggest play yesterday was a completion on a deep route that forced the Hopkinsville native to change his path to the ball.

less of a problem for Moss than most athletes who haven't played a sport in a decade.

The former 3-point threat showed his intelligence by answering every question correctly when quizzed by the other wideouts after one meeting.

"It's definitely tough. It's different," Moss said. "I'm really behind on a lot of stuff. I'm taking it one day at a time right now."

Division-1 players have five years of eligibility from when they enter campus their freshman years, athletics spokesman Tony Newely said. Four of those seasons can be used in one sport.

Brooks noted that the former basketball walk-on would have a solid chance at playing time.

"I don't think he would've agreed to it if he wouldn't come out and play more than a minor role," Brooks said.

E-mail

johnson@kykernel.com

Cats thump overmatched Morehead

By Ryan Mabry
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The UK baseball team taught the Morehead State Eagles how to fly last night.

The No. 20 Cats (21-5, 4-2 SEC) amassed four home runs and twelve hits on their way to a 16-4 blowout victory at Cliff Hagan Stadium.

"Morehead really played well against us last year (when) they beat us," head coach John Cohen said. "They played very well against Tennessee, so I expected it to be more of a competitive game, but I like the way our kids competed."

The team notched its 38th homerun of the year, only one less than their to-

tal for all of last season.

Chris Rusin (3-0) started and pitched five shutout innings, striking out five and walking none.

First baseman Ryan Strieby provided a large chunk of that run support, going 3-for-4 with two home runs and a double. He collected four RBIs and scored four runs. Strieby's second homer landed in the netting above the 35-foot-tall scoreboard in right field, about 335 feet away.

"In batting practice, I usually hit my home runs either into center or to left, but that one landed on top of the scoreboard," Strieby said.

Balls hit off of the scoreboard that return to the playing field are in play.

E-mail

sports@kykernel.com

Classifieds continued from pg 7

THE MOUNTAIN GOURMET Food & Specialty shop now accepting applications. Please apply within. 859-269-2958.

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VOLUNTEERS PAID to participate in studies concerning the effects of alcohol and other drugs on behavioral and mental performance. Looking for Male/Female 21-30 years of age social drinkers. Call 257-5794

WANTED: LAP ASST. FT, 20-30 hrs/wk. Flex. Sched. Some overtime hrs. required. Responsibilities are majorly simple prep. Analysis and maintaining clean lab environment. Attention to details is a must. Previous lab exp. preferred. Fax resume to 859-254-2550 or email: davidweb97@yahoo.com.

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ROOMMATE WANTED

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campus. W/D, D/W, \$330/mo. 330-575-6709

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2 FEMALE ROOMMATES Wanted May-Aug. \$290/mo. includes furn, h2o, cable, w/c, internet. Please call 859-899-6374.

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FEMALE ROOMMATE WANTED to share 2BR, 2BA house with Male. Camden Ave. Male gone 85% of the time. \$250/mo. 859-552-8663.

NEED ROOMMATE: 1 FEMALE for summer subclass. Private Large 800/8A at Newtown Crossings. Call 502-558-6347.

ROOMMATE WANTED MAY-AUG. Walk to campus, water, w/c. Call Lucinda. 859-229-2853.

ROOMMATES WANTED to share 3 BR house. Male non-smoking. \$35/mo. 5-10 min. from campus. 859-433-9335.

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earthdays
in the bluegrass
April 2006

check out this week's activities:

March 31st: Critical Mass bike ride, meet at Woodland Park, 5pm
Bike Film Fest, Thomas-Hunt Morgan House, 6pm

April 1st: Mountain Witness Tour, contact Dave Newton at dave_hn@yahoo.com

April 2nd: Adopt-A-Highway, Student Center parking lot, 2pm

April 3rd: Holmes Hall is going GREEN!, local pork BBQ dinner, North Campus Courtyard, 6pm

April 4th: Winged Migration film, Student Center Room 228, 7pm

April 5th: Silent Spring book reading, Student Center Patio, 10am-8pm

and lot of other exciting events! check out our website for a complete calendar and more details on every event
www.uky.edu/studentaffairs/recycling/earthdays
resliferecycling@lsv.uky.edu

VOTE TODAY!

Vote for your President, Vice President, Senators-at-Large, and College Senators TODAY at these locations:

Agriculture 9am-2pm
B & E 9am-3pm
Commons 11am-5pm (2 booths)
Classroom Bldg. 9am-4pm (5 booths)
Law 10am-3pm
Medical Center 10am-2pm
Student Center 10am-4pm (2 booths)
WTY Library 11am-5pm

*If you've lost your student ID, you must vote in the Student Center.