

KENTUCKY KERNEL

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2008

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UK student in good condition after car crash

By Katie Saltz and Jill Laster
news@kykernel.com

A UK student injured in a car wreck Sunday that killed two other students was in good condition at UK Hospital Monday evening.

Freshman Ben Cooley, of Harrodsburg, Ky., was flown to the emergency room at UK Hospital Sunday afternoon after the car accident near London, Ky.

Cooley's mother, Stephanie Cooley, said her son was in good condition Monday night. He had

extensive fractures and breaks, and has undergone one surgery on his femur with another one still to go.

"He is conscious; he's doing good," she said. "I think he's broken the record for visitors."

Thomas May, a junior from Louisville, and Bradley Hall, a freshman from Rockfield, Ky., died after the accident on northbound Interstate 75, said Don Trosper, a Kentucky State Po-

lice spokesman.

All three were returning from a Baptist Campus Ministry trip in Laurel Lake, Ky.

Police were still investigating the accident as of Monday. According to Kentucky State Police, the car carrying the students lost control for an unknown reason and crossed a grass median, colliding with a tractor-trailer. The driver of the tractor-trailer, James A. Donaldson, 51, of Oregon, Ohio,

was taken to the hospital as a precaution.

Inclement weather is not believed to have been a factor, and all three students were wearing seat belts, Trosper said.

The UK Baptist Campus Ministry is planning a memorial service for May and Hall on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Calvary Baptist Church's Fellowship Hall. Doors will open at 7 p.m.

The funeral for Hall will be held Thursday at noon at Clear Fork Baptist Church in Rockfield, Ky.

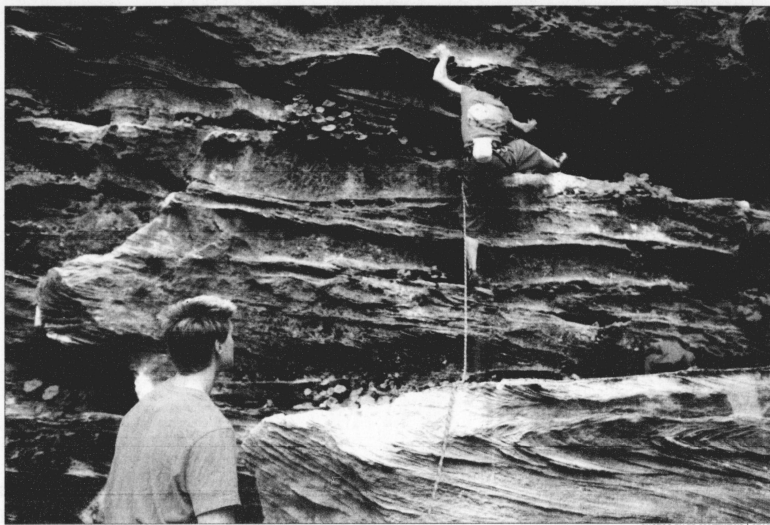
The funeral for May will be held Thursday at 10 a.m. at Kenwood Heights Christian Church in Louisville.

The UK BCM building, located on Colombia Avenue across from the W.T. Young Library, was open Monday night for prayer.

According to a Kentucky State Police news release, an estimated 22 people died in 19 separate crashes on Kentucky roadways between Nov. 3 and Sunday. About 516 people have died in car crashes on Kentucky roads this year.



Cooley



PHOTOS BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

Above: First-year medical student Thomas Cunningham, left, belays friend Elodie Saracco as she starts a climb at the Red River Gorge on Sept. 25. Below: A climbing rope runs through quickdraws, pieces of protection used to hold a fall, as Thomas Cunningham climbs a wall at the Red River Gorge on Oct. 4.

Gorge falls raise safety concerns

By Jill Laster
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Ben Strohmeyer was outgoing, smart and devoted to one of his biggest passions in life — rock climbing.

Strohmeyer was rock climbing when he and fellow climber, Laura Fletcher, fell to their deaths at Red River Gorge on Nov. 3.

The cause of death is believed by friends and officials to be related to the webbing the two 18-year-olds used. Webbing is a type of restraint run through bolted anchors at the top of a climb, and climbers feed their rope through a rapped ring tied into the webbing.

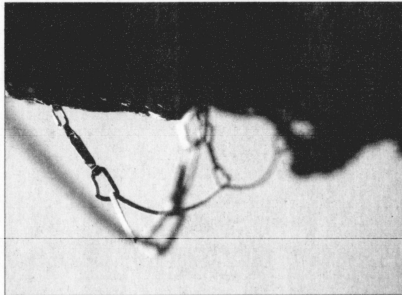
In the last week, three people

have been injured or killed at the Gorge — Strohmeyer, Fletcher and 18-year-old Brandy Timmerding, who survived a more than 70-foot fall from a cliff at the Gorge on Saturday after she walked away from her camp site near the cliff's edge, officials said.

"Every climber has gone on something that was kind of sketchy, and most of the time it's OK. This time it wasn't," said Dario Ventura, who often climbed with Strohmeyer and Fletcher and works at a pizza shop near the Gorge where Strohmeyer worked. "It's a safety check for us climbers."

Shannon Stuart-Smith,

See Gorge on page 3



In this Series, the Kernel will be checking in with local officials after Election Day to find out what they plan to do during their respective terms in office.

After Election Day with Kelly Flood

By Brooke McCloud
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Kelly Flood raised more than \$10 million in a decade for various causes, was a minister for seven years and has been a mother for the past 14 years. On Nov. 4, voters in District 75 elected her as their representative to the Kentucky House of Representatives.

Winning with 65 percent of the vote, Flood will now hold the seat that represents UK. The Democratic state representative has many legislative goals, including her top priority of improving the quality and accessibility of public education in Kentucky. She is also focused on getting ex-



Flood

panded health care coverage for young adults and additional funding for the arts.

While finding the money to make higher education attainable for all Kentuckians is of great importance, Flood said, professional development of teachers is an issue that is undergoing reform.

"Kentucky has raised the standards on its students, and now we must do the same with its teachers," she said.

One of Flood's goals is to continue to progress toward UK's goal of becoming a top-20 research university. Flood said she is working with UK President Lee Todd to make UK a top research university. To find revenue to reach that goal, Flood said

she will work to increase the tobacco tax to \$1, which, on top of raising money, Flood hopes would decrease tobacco use among Kentuckians.

"The greatest impact is that it prevents young people from even starting (to smoke)," she said.

Flood supports universal health care. On the state level, along with making it easier for all children to have access to health care, Flood said she is committed to ensuring that young adults up to the age of 25 are eligible for coverage by family health insurance plans.

"By doing so, this gives the young adults who are just out of college or looking for a job more breathing room until they get on their feet," Flood said.

Although art is not a typical political issue, Flood said the arts play a critical role in building a strong

community, promoting cultural tourism, strengthening education and enhancing economic development. Flood said she has a great passion for the arts and has committed herself to advocating them in every way she can.

Flood, along with state District 13 Senator-elect Kathy Stein, is part of coordinating a team of legislators to find ways to raise money for programs in art.

With her extensive background in fundraising, Flood said she is constantly looking for sources of funding. She said she will spend her term making decisions that will affect her constituents, and with an eye to the UK community.

"I understand that in this difficult economic time that young people are more concerned than ever with their futures," Flood said.

Program explores exchange options

By Emily Gaskin
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Spending a semester in the Virgin Islands might sound like a different experience than walking the halls of the White Hall Classroom Building, but the two locations have one thing in common — they both cost the same for a UK student.

The National Student Exchange will hold a meeting Tuesday to inform students how they can study at another university within the organization for no more than the cost of UK tuition.

The NSE consists of over 200 colleges and universities that stretch across the country. Outside of the U.S. boundaries, schools in the program include campuses in Canada, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands.

Kayla Albert, a corporate communications senior, attended Ramapo College, a liberal arts college in New Jersey, last fall through the program. Albert said the semester she spent there allowed her to experience life in a new place.

"I decided to participate in the National Student Exchange because I wanted to try to do something outside of my comfort zone," Albert said. "It is an experience I would wholeheartedly recommend to everyone at UK."

Participating in the NSE would allow a student to take classes that may not be offered here at UK, said Kelly Crume, UK's NSE coordinator. Students would also have the opportunity to explore new boundaries and learn from different professors.

To be eligible for the program a student must have completed 12 hours at UK and have a cumulative GPA of 2.75. Students are also required to take a minimum of 12 hours while on exchange. Students would still receive any scholarships or financial aid that they may have while on exchange.

On average, UK has 20 to 25 students studying across the map through the program, but the program would like to see that number increase to 50 students in the near future, Crume said. This semester UK has students at schools such as the University of Washington, the University of the Virgin Islands and the University of Alaska.

"NSE is an amazing program," Crume said. "Students get so much out of the experience. It looks great on a resumé not just because it is something to list, but because it is something out of the ordinary."

The meeting will be held in 102 Miller Hall at 2 p.m. Another information session will be held at the same location on Nov. 18. Applications for the exchange for Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 are due Feb. 13. For more information contact Kelly Crume at kelly.crume@uky.edu.

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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.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is a 7 — An important person provides you with an excellent reference. You'll get more interesting assignments and perhaps even a higher wage. You're making a good impression.
Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 7 — You can't get away for long, but you can sneak out for a romantic lunch. Don't do anything shameful; you're drawing too much attention. Watch out for the tabloid photographers.
Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is a 6 — It's not exactly "creative accounting," which can be against the law, but it does look like you can find the money for household improvements. Remember not to borrow more than you can pay back.
Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 7 — When you and your partner get together, your shopping list grows. It's hard for each of you to veto something the other one wants. Talk it over and do the best you can.
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is an 8 — Keep pushing while you can. You'll break all your best times and possibly even a world record or two. You

love it when that happens.
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 9 — You're still in the mood to make secret plans, with no holds on your imagination. A person who loves you will jump at the chance to go along. Don't worry about the cost; figure that out later.
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 5 — You might be a tad short-tempered now. Don't take yourself too seriously. Things that seem impossible won't look so bad tomorrow. Set a date for them.
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 6 — You're on the trail of an elusive fact or the answer to a pet theory. You can find it, too, if you concentrate and avoid distractions. Pies don't fall into that category. Pumpkin pie can actually help.
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8 — More money's waiting to come in, so do what you need to do to make that happen. For example, sell something for what it's really worth, not what you thought you could get.

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kernel POP



Madonna and A-Rod rendezvous

THE DISH
 Together again! The Yankee heads to L.A. to catch the singer on tour

Madonna and Alex Rodriguez are taking their romance on the road. The Yankee slugger, 33, was spotted driving to her Los Angeles home on Nov. 3, the day the Material Girl, 50, breezed into town — and a source tells Hot Stuff that he also planned to attend her Nov. 6 Los Angeles concert with music producer Guy Oseary (the pal who introduced them).

The Los Angeles rendezvous came less than two weeks after the couple enjoyed a hush-hush afternoon on the opposite coast at the East Hampton, New York, estate of the singer's pals Jerry and Jessica Seinfeld. (A witness tells Us that the pair took separate helicopters to the Oct. 21 visit: "A-Rod went first, and 40 minutes later, Madonna landed.")

The coast-to-coast coordination is Madonna's effort to make time for Rodriguez amid her hectic schedule, the insider says. "The Alex thing is happening when it can, but she's focused on the tour," the source continues. Also difficult? Navigating her divorce from director Guy Ritchie, 40, a battle that could get uglier with the release of her next single, "Miles Away," which the source says is about Ritchie. (Sample lyric: "You always have the biggest heart / When we're 6,000 miles apart.") Says a pal of the choice: "She's smart. She knows it's best to play off her personal drama."

Rachel and Ryan over ... again

Sorry, Notebook fans:

On-and-off couple Rachel McAdams, 32, and Ryan Gosling, 28, are off again. After reuniting in July, a source tells Us, "he dumped her."

The cause this time? Though the insider suggests "Rachel is too controlling," a different McAdams pal says it's simply bad timing: "They broke up the first time because of their busy schedules — and that's the problem again."

Jaime and Eric split

Earl's ex is now Eric's ex too. Hot Stuff has learned that My Name Is Earl star Jaime Pressly, 31, and DJ love Eric Cubiche, 34 — who have been engaged for two years — have split. "They hit a rough patch and decided to take a break," says a source close to the pair, who have son, Dezi, 18 months. Still, the insider says they haven't ruled out reconciliation: "They still love each other, and Dezi is their world, but they feel this is best right now."

Jennifer Hudson mourns her loss

Surrounded by friends and family, Jennifer Hudson said goodbye to three family members on Nov. 3 at a private Chicago funeral. (The actress' mother, Darnell Donerson, 57, and brother, Jason Hudson, 29, were found dead October 24 in their Chicago home, while the body of nephew Julian King, 7, was discovered three days later.) American Idol winner Fanta-

sia Barrino, 24, sang "Your Grace and Mercy" and joined about 200 mourners — including Oprah Winfrey, Missy Elliott, Clive Davis and Queen Latifah — to support Hudson, 27. "I'm praying for her and I love her," fellow Idol alum Jordin Sparks, 18, tells Us.

Loose talk

"I'm from the East Coast: It would have been, like, Kate and Caroline. And now I have these kind of hippie-chick names."

■ Marcia Cross, on how living in California influenced her naming her daughters Eden and Savannah.

"I probably take a good 12 to 14 showers a day. I'm not, like, a germophobe. I'll eat gum off the floor ... I just like to be clean."

■ Jimmy Kimmel "I'm definitely fearful in a very vain manner about my body aging. It's freaky-weird to look at your grandmother when she was a young woman and look at her now."

■ Jessica Biel, on getting older.

"I mean, I dabbled in high school. Who didn't?"

■ Ellen DeGeneres, on dating boys when she was a teenager.

"I think Jen and I made a mistake in that we fell in love, we were excited and maybe too accessible."

■ Ben Affleck, on media exposure ruining his relationship with Jennifer Lopez.

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Metallica show is 'the art of rock'

Once again, Metallica proved they are no fluke. The No. 1 name in metal rocked the Schottenstein Center in Columbus, Ohio, on Sunday night.



BRAD BOWLING
kernel columnist

A number of things go into making a great concert. These include sound, lighting and overall atmosphere. But the main thing that sets Metallica apart from other bands is their passion for their music. Besides the obvious talent of

vocalist/guitarist James Hetfield, guitarist Kirk Hammett, bassist Robert Trujillo and drummer Lars Ulrich, Metallica comes together as one to showcase the art of rock music. Nobody does it better.

Among the many fantastic things about Sunday's show was the stage. The lighting was spectacular, with green and red lasers flowing onto the stage as the band entered. Metallica's opening song, "That Was Just Your Life," was performed in almost complete darkness, with only one light shining down on Hetfield as he wailed away on the mic and guitar.

The rest of the lighting was also amazing. The light "towers" were actually coffins, a play off Metallica's most recent album, "Death Magnetic." These coffins moved around during some songs.

The stage itself was centered on the arena floor, which made for good visuals for everybody in the crowd. Ulrich was in the center of the stage on drums, with the other three in perpetual motion around the stage. Ulrich's drum setup was also rotated 90 degrees after every few songs.

As a whole, Metallica is composed

of some of the best musicians in the world. In particular, Hammett is a master shredder, and Ulrich is one of the top drummers we have ever seen. What makes them even more impressive is how Hetfield and Hammett play in unison together. It's really quite amazing. These two shined during "One," a Metallica song made famous by "Guitar Hero." It is also one of their most rhythmic and bass-intensive songs.

The concert ended with the exhilarating "Enter Sandman," followed by an encore of three songs, including the finale, "Seek and Destroy."

Metallica is arguably the most talented and versatile band in the world today. Just look at their body of work; very few bands can compare. This concert proved that no one puts on as good a show as these four.

Brad Bowling is a journalism and finance senior. E-mail bbowling@kykernel.com.

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SG to hold forum about meal swipes

Staff Report

Student Government and UK Dining Services will co-host a forum Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Center food court to discuss the new meal plan system where students are limited to a certain number of swipes per week and unused swipes do not carry over into the next week.

SG President Tyler Montell said Residence Life and Dining Services were open to the forum and hearing student feedback.

"I think Residence Life

and Dining Services realized they could probably improve on (the meal plan) and that there are students who are unsatisfied with it," he said.

The forum was planned for this point in the semester intentionally, said Ben Duncan, SG communications director.

"We wanted students to have a chance to use the meal plan for a while, then get feedback so when we go to the administration we can have specific ideas," Duncan said.

Montell said SG mem-

bers and some advisory board members will attend the forum. Free Sbarro pizza will be provided.

SUCCESS to address diversity issues

The student group SUCCESS will hold a town-hall style meeting Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Small Ballroom of the Student Center. The meeting is open to anyone on campus and aims to encourage discussion about campus diversity, said Emily Brantley, a SUCCESS representative.

"We are trying to get as many students, faculty, advisers, anybody from the campus community to come," Brantley said.

The meeting will address the effigy of Barack Obama that was hung on campus a few weeks ago as well as diversity on campus.

"There have been quite a few of these so-called isolated incidents over the past few years and we want to talk about how we as a student body can combat these instances and behaviors," Brantley said.

GORGE

Continued from page 1

founder of the Red River Gorge Climbers' Coalition, said both Strohmeyer and Fletcher had been trained in traditional climbing, which does not rely on fixed metal anchors like sport climbing, she said.

Stuart-Smith said although no one can say for sure, using webbing that may have been old and frayed was most likely to blame for the fall and not technical skill.

"The best we can figure out is, despite Ben's experience, it was a lapse," Stuart-Smith said. "Should people be afraid? No. This is not a common occurrence."

For UK student climbers to avoid a potentially fatal accident while climbing, Stuart-Smith said climbers should be observant of their equipment's condition. She also said to always have a backup for equipment.

"You never trust your lives to a single piece of anything," she said. "The only single piece of equipment we ever entrust our lives to is a single piece of rope."

Overall, the best way for climbers to get experience is to train with a professional, Stuart-Smith said. Students can also use the rock-climbing wall at UK's Johnson Center, she said.

At the Johnson Center's rock climbing wall, trained workers make sure harnesses are correctly fitted on the climber and make sure belayers securing a climber at the end of the rope are in place.

UK's rock climbing wall is not the



Elodie Saracco feeds a rope through a belay device while her friend Thomas Cunningham climbs up the Red River Gorge on Oct. 4.

same as getting experience with a professional, said Mark Lattin, UK's director of outdoor pursuits. Instead, it offers students a place they can safely climb indoors, he said.

The best way to learn how to rock climb is with a guide certified with the American Mountain Guide Association, Lattin said. Climbers can also learn some basics from experienced friends and books about the sport.

"Generally, climbing is an art," Lattin said. "It takes experience to learn how to handle a situation. So getting a good guide, along with some book learning, is the best way to learn."

Lara Walker, a secondary English

education and philosophy junior, is one of the people who trains belayers at the Johnson Center. Walker has been climbing for about a year and a half, and she described the Gorge as one of the best climbing spots in the country.

Walker said hearing about the two deaths at the Gorge, especially when they were using the right equipment, was kind of scary as a climber.

One of the most important ways to prevent some kind of injury is to look at all of your equipment another time through, Walker said.

"Because we're humans we can make little mistakes," she said. "Double-check what you're doing."

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"The only single piece of equipment we ever entrust our lives to is a single piece of rope."

— Shannon Stuart-Smith, founder of the Red River Gorge Climbers' Coalition

Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement
VISIT THE WEB SITE FOR EVENT DETAILS OR TO POST YOUR OWN UK EVENT.
The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement. Registered Student Orgs. and UK Dept. can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information to appear. Call 252-8867 for more information.

Tuesday 11 th	Wednesday 12 th	Thursday 13 th	Friday 14 th	Saturday 15 th	Sunday 16 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League •National Student Exchange Info Session, 2:00 PM, 102 Miller Hall •Etiquette Basics, 12:00 PM, Raymond Bld, Room 248 •Honors Program Student Council Meeting, 7:30 PM, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Center 231 •Fellowship of Christian Athletes, 8:00 PM, Room 211 of the Student Center •UKCO ALL CALL, 7:00 PM, 106 Student Center •Comedy Caravan 150th Special, 8:00 PM, UK Student Center Cats Den •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> League •Campus Crusade for Christ, 7:30 PM, Center Theatre in the Student Center •[Free Movie] "PERSEPOLIS", 10:00 PM, Worsham •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum •HR & Executive Recruiter Panel, 5:30 PM, Career Center •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League

OPINIONS

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

■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

Tuition program is good deal for UK students

Most say education is the key to the future. If this is true, then UK and Bluegrass Community and Technical College have taken a step in the right direction to improve the future of many Kentucky residents who are looking to obtain a post-secondary education.

On Oct. 29, the Kernel reported that UK President Lee Todd and BCTC President Augusta Julian signed agreements to put the Blue Plus Program, a new cooperative student transfer opportunity program, into place.

The Kernel reported the program is designed to allow BCTC students take up to 12 credit hours, or approximately one semester's worth, of UK course work at the BCTC tuition rate. Students using the program are allowed to take more than 12 credit hours of coursework at UK, but additional hours will be billed at the UK tuition rate. According to the UK and BCTC Web sites, the current tuition rate for UK is \$307 per credit hour, and the tuition rate is \$121 per credit hour for BCTC students.

According to the article, the goal of the program is to enable students to take classes that will count toward their degree after they transfer to a four-year institution.

"You don't want to just take a bunch of hours if it doesn't count toward your degree," Todd said in the article.

The initiation of this program is crucial to Kentuckians who want to further their education by attending college, but who feel like they are not quite ready to dive into the demanding coursework of a four-year university.

More Kentuckians will be willing to start their college education at BCTC and transfer over to UK once they have achieved their associate's degree, knowing that they have credits that will transfer to UK if they choose to pursue a bachelor's degree.

"Students who complete their associate's degree are more likely to go on and complete a bachelor's degree," Julian said in the Oct. 29 story.

According to the Kernel article, the goal of the program is to increase the number of transfer students from BCTC to UK from 4,000 per year to more than 11,000 per year.

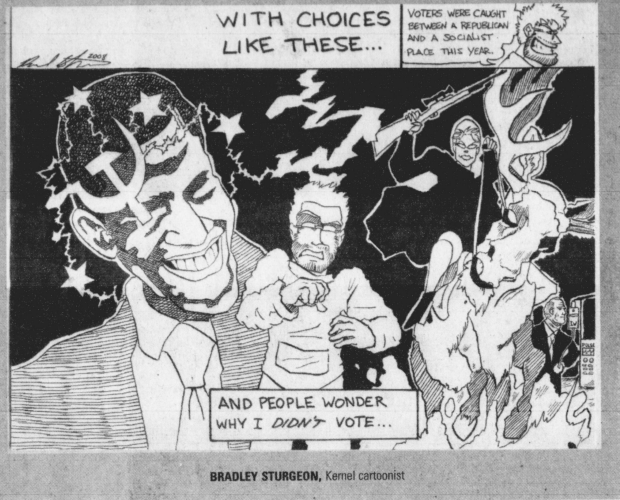
This program will, in the long run, help UK achieve a status as a top-20 research school, but only if people wishing to further their education use the program.

In states with top-20 research schools, 28 percent of the population have bachelor's degrees, Todd said. The population in Kentucky with bachelor's degrees is 20 percent.

For UK to reach the status of a top-20 research school, Kentuckians have to do their part and seize the opportunities of the Blue Plus Program.

"We need more Kentuckians competing to complete four-year programs," Todd said. "We want this to be a model that is one we can continue to invest in."

UK and BCTC have done their part. Now Kentuckians must do theirs and take advantage of this program.



■ LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Two students killed in car accident will be missed

This weekend our Baptist Campus Ministry took its annual retreat to Laurel Lake, Ky. It's always one of my favorite times of the year, and this year was no different. It was the return trip that was marred by teary phone calls and disbelieving sighs. We lost two of our brothers.

Bradley Hall was a gentle giant, deeply impacting those he came in contact with and always causing smiles with his dry humor. This weekend we laughed and swapped stories, and I am grateful for the time I got to spend with him. He spoke about his desire for leadership in the BCM, where he had found his home here at UK.

Tom May spent his time here at UK serving and living life to the

fullest. If there was fun to be had, Tom was there, ready to partake. He never hesitated to step up when a need presented itself, and he even spent his Keeneland trifecta winnings on new Ping-Pong paddles for the BCM. He was a diehard UK sports fan and loved to paint up for the games. He was a dear friend that I wish I had not taken for granted.

These men would not want us to stop grieving. They would want us to use these circumstances to point others to Christ. That is how we are making it. God's love is abounding through the examples of Hall and May. Christ was the root of who they were, and now they both are enjoying His presence. They are the lucky ones, for sure.

I ask on behalf of the BCM for prayers for the Hall and May families and friends. We, as students, have come together as a family and are celebrating lives lived intentionally. We are coping by grieving together. Thank you for the support already shown by our great campus. We all know that God is going to use Hall and May's lives to show His promise of unconditional love and His unending passion for us to surrender our lives to Him.

Bradley and Tom, we'll see you on the flip side.

Ashlyn Bruce
telecommunications senior
vice president, Baptist Campus Ministry

When picking your music, look at the body of work

As a fan of music I have a lot of different tastes. For the most part, I like singles or tracks that are released individually. I generally do not buy music because the industry is so bad and right now an album with five good tracks out of 17 generally gets high praise from critics.



WESLEY ROBINSON
Kernel
columnist

Every now and then there will be an album by an artist I like that I have to buy because I support his or her music and understand that their livelihood depends on people like me purchasing that product.

And unless it's System of a Down telling me to "Steal This Album," I am sure they would rather I buy a decent album than keep my money in my pocket. On some level, I condone not wasting money on an album when I will only like 20 percent of its tracks. But, on another level, I am playing into the music industry that is based solely on numbers.

One particular statement by the great Jay-Z characterizes the musical climate we are living in today. He said, "men lie, women lie, numbers don't." Now I love Jay-Z as much as the next fan, but that statement is the main reason why music, specifically hip-hop, is in shambles.

What's wrong with this statement? Well for one, people don't really buy music these days except for major artists like Jay-Z, OutKast, Kanye West, T.I., Lil' Wayne, etc. After the first week, their sales decrease dramatically until the whole album buying world has purchased the album. Look at Kanye and 50 Cent's first-day album beef last year. "Graduation" sold almost half of the total sales in the first week, with "Curtis" seeing a similar percentage depending on how you look at worldwide sales.

Numbers also lie and make Jay-Z look bad in other ways. Jay-Z is widely considered to be the best rapper alive, but artists like 50 Cent, Eminem and OutKast are right there, if not above him in sales, and Kanye has proved that he will be in the discussion among big sales. You could argue all day who is better out of that whole group, but at the end of the day, numbers definitely don't tell you anything other than it's really close.

Not to mention an artist like 50 Cent will manipulate the numbers and say worldwide he has sold more albums.

Jay-Z is fast approaching his goal of being the first billionaire rapper, but numbers suggest that his success is being threatened by the likes of 50 Cent, who was the top rapper earner, bringing in \$150 million to Jay-Z's \$82 million last year, according to forbes.com. 50 Cent has only been in the game for five years and is about halfway to the billion-dollar mark himself compared to Jay-Z, who has been on the scene as his own entity since 1996.

I say all this to support music based on quality and not the hype and the numbers behind it. I think Jay-Z is one of the innovators and leaders of a new hip-hop movement. But I also recognize that there is plenty of talent that isn't as marketable and doesn't have the statistical backing to support the case. Additionally, you can manipulate numbers, and superficial numbers make things look good. For example, "Reasonable Doubt" is a platinum album, but it took six years to reach that status. The album, which is arguably Jay-Z's best, didn't get any better over that span of time, but as the hype around Jay-Z grew the numbers started to change.

At the end of the day, it's all about quality. Numbers may say that 50 Cent is on the path to being more successful than Jay-Z, but I don't know anyone that would dare speak blasphemy against Jay-Z and say that 50 Cent is better.

I also don't know anyone who knows music who doesn't take into account the differences in their music. One definitely has more lyrical content and a traditional East Coast sound, while the other produces club bangers and street anthems that are easier to listen to. I didn't even mention Nas, who befriended Jay-Z earlier in this decade. He is also high up on the list of best rappers alive, and he does not compare in any of the numbers mentioned.

So what's the overall message here? Take the time to find out quality for yourself. Don't let hot singles or chart-topping hits dictate what you listen to and who you believe is good. I cannot count how many arguments that end up in numbers and neglect to analyze what is really going on. Maybe as a whole, society should stop using metaphorical numbers to represent success.

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Something good can always be taken from any situation

There are few things on earth more frustrating than being stuck in traffic. One short slowdown can easily make someone believe they are the only competent driver left on earth. Luckily, these "maddening instances do have a silver lining. A gridlocked street forces a driver to stop the endless grind of their day.



TIM RILEY
Contributing
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As a result, they can be alone with just their thoughts. And for that reason, these normally miserable experiences can become the most important part of one's day.

One of the most common causes of traffic slowdown is when local schools let out for the day. Nothing is quite as fun as a gaggle of buses clogging two-lane roads while small children ramble about everywhere. For the frustrated driver though, there is much to learn from observing this chaos.

As a kid, life is very easily compartmentalized. The distinction between work and play can be very neatly drawn. There is predictable balance to how one spends his or her time. All responsibility is carefully delegated out in manageable portions. The hyperactive kid annoying the traffic worker knows that when he gets home, the only thing standing between him and Guitar Hero is his math homework and some vacuuming.

By the time one has become a seasoned college student though, these demarcations have completely fallen apart. While one's freedom has obviously increased exponentially, the innumerable problems of the world have accompanied it. Attempting to properly categorize one's time in an average day into clear groupings becomes laughable. While the old worries about tests and quizzes still remain, it sometimes barely even registers compared to the other confounding issues of the day.

Growing up, kids will hear a speech about being responsible approximately 4 million times; however, the quality of one's responsibility at this age is often judged based on stringent requirements such as, "make your bed." Despite never quite mastering

this, as one edges closer to the end of their collegiate experience, the number and difficulty of things asked of a person continues to expand. Ignoring the demands of class, life becomes about jobs to work, meetings to attend and bills to pay. One begins to understand why everyone is told growing up to enjoy your childhood.

The sacrifices required of a sixth grader usually amount to not getting to play football in the backyard on a weekday because they need to read Harry Potter for class. What one surrenders as they get older is not nearly so simple. There is often enough to be done that a person could work 24 hours, seven days a week and still feel they are falling behind. So in order to just tread water, one must sacrifice legitimate amounts of time with his or her friends, family and hobbies to the monster that is responsibility. When time spent cursing Lexington city planning is the most relaxing moment of the day, one wonders if it has all gone too far.

In that moment though, remembering how those very same kids spend their time can salvage a sufferable life. They have no choice but to spend their day at school, so they make the best of it. They embrace the people around them in class, sneak in fun whenever they can and talk to their friends even when it means they may get in trouble. Kids learn to deal with the extreme, monotonous boredom of the average school day through many years of exposure to it. With that in mind, what seems insurmountable to-day may simply be something that just needs some adjustment time.

The journey through college changes people. Because of the choices people make and the duties they must perform, it is impossible for them to just hold fast. Whatever place a person reaches during their time at school, they create a unique situation that they alone must deal with. By taking the lessons of the school kids though, it is clear that these new burdens of life do not have to consume your existence.

Life only devolves into an endless march from task to task if one refuses to find enjoyment while engaged in them. While a traffic jam may seem to ruin one's day, sometimes a person gets lucky and it becomes vastly more important than the very reason they are traveling to begin with.

Tim Riley is a mechanical engineering senior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.



PHOTO BY EMILY COOVERT | STAFF

Senior running back Tony Dixon breaks a tackle during UK's 42-38 loss to Georgia on Saturday at Commonwealth Stadium. Dixon is one of 21 football players that will celebrate Senior Day this Saturday.

Seniors look to write their own history

By Bobby Reagan
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They never had the hype of the previous teams, but that never bothered the seniors of the 2008 UK football team. Playing with a chip on their shoulder this year, the 21 players who will be celebrating Senior Day this Saturday against Vanderbilt have tried to continue to build on past legacies by carving their own niche.

This year's senior class, spearheaded by the likes of linebacker Braxton Kelley, running back Tony Dixon, safety Marcus McClinton and defensive lineman Myron Pryor, have helped turn the program around from a 3-8 record their freshman season in 2005 to what could be a third consecutive bowl trip.

"We've come a long way as a football program here at UK," Kelley said. "It will mean a lot if I can get eight wins and better what we did last year."

Kelley played a key role in turning the program around with a simple tackle. Last season against then-No. 1 Louisiana State, Kelley made a fourth down stop in triple-overtime to preserve the 43-37 victory. It's a memory that Kelley said he'll never be able to get out of his mind.

"The Georgia game from two years ago and the LSU games are things I'll never forget," Kelley said. "Before those games, guys didn't really come into games thinking we were going to win. But after winning those, guys expect to come in and win every game. That really turned the UK program around."

UK head coach Rich Brooks said the graduating class has brought credibility back to UK football. With a season that has teetered on being successful and heartbreaking, the seniors have continued to lead and still have the potential to do big things, Brooks said.

"They can certainly extend the legacy by going to a third consecutive bowl game," Brooks said. "They can come out of the shadow by winning the next two games and doing something the past two teams couldn't do."

Junior offensive tackle Justin Jeffries said while this team doesn't have past stars like Andre Woodson, Jacob Tamme, Keenan Burton or Wesley Woodyard, this year's seniors have taught the team toughness.

"With every year comes a new legacy," Jeffries said. "We have great athletes but we don't have one main guy. The way those guys have battled this season just says a lot about who they are."

In addition to the seniors who will be honored on the field during Saturday's game, junior wide receiver DeMoreo Ford will also be included in the ceremonies. Ford decided to give up football this week after suffering through multiple concussions during his career.

Junior defensive end Jeremy Jarmon said this year's graduating seniors have played with a chip on their shoulder because people told them they couldn't be successful. Jarmon used Kelley as an example, because coaches from around the country said the linebacker couldn't play at their program due to various reasons — yet, Kelley has thrived for the Cats.

"That's been the case for a lot of us and over the last few years we have proved we can play with anyone on any given day," Jarmon said.

Jarmon said with all the emotion surrounding Senior Day, he will remember the times on and off the field with his fellow teammates.

"These guys are guys I'll never forget and will be in contact with for the rest of my life," Jarmon said. "They are great individuals."

Jarmon also said this group should be remembered with those of years past due to their contributions.

"Anyone who doesn't think these guys shouldn't be remembered as last year's or any other years aren't a fan," Jarmon said. "It's been an insane four years and insane to see how many different battles these guys have overcome."

Claire, Barcelona push to bring big-league soccer back to Miami

By Michelle Kaufman
McClintock Newspapers

MIAMI — Don't tell Marcelo Claire he can't sell professional soccer in Miami.

This is a guy who 11 years ago was peddling cellphones out of car trunks and now owns Brightstar Communications, the \$5 billion Miami-based cellphone distribution empire. It's the largest company of its kind in the world and largest Hispanic-owned business in the United States, spanning 54 countries on six continents. One of every 15 cellphones sold worldwide went through Brightstar.

The company is ranked No. 108 on the Forbes 500 list of America's Largest Private Companies. Claire was invited this year to rub elbows with the mightiest of the mighty at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

And he is not even 40 years old.

Those who know him best say the 37-year-old Bolivian native and South Beach resident has an uncanny knack for

poouncing opportunities at just the right time and the ingenuity to carry out his ideas.

While a student at Bentley College in Boston, he ran a lucrative frequent-flyer trading business out of his dorm room.

He also has the guts to take risks, wisdom to surround himself with the right partners, and a personality as large as his 6-foot-6 frame. In other words, business associates say, the perfect person to bring Major League Soccer back to Miami.

MLS had a team in South Florida from 1998-2001, and that team, the Miami Fusion, also was financed by a cellphone magnate, Cellular One founder Ken Horowitz. But the club immediately ran into a giant hurdle. Unable to work out a stadium deal at its intended home, the Orange Bowl, in the heart of soccer-crazed immigrant neighborhoods, Horowitz took the team to Fort Lauderdale's Lockhart Stadium. The Fusion played there four years before folding.

Attendance grew from 7,460 per game to 11,177 that

final season, but Horowitz was losing too much money and couldn't hang on.

Claire has taken note of the Fusion's mistakes, and vows not to repeat them. For one, he is well-connected in soccer circles and understands the sport better than the well-intentioned but inexperienced Horowitz. Claire is a former goalkeeper and was business manager of the 1994 Bolivian national team, which qualified for the World Cup. He is co-owner and chairman of FC Bolivar, the best-known soccer team in his native country. And he has the ear of FC Barcelona President Joan LaPorta, which is why the Spanish league giant decided to partner with Claire for the Miami MLS bid.

Claire, FC Barcelona and their investment group are putting up \$40 million to bring professional soccer back to South Florida. Miami is one of seven cities bidding for two expansion teams. The others are Atlanta; Portland, Ore.; Vancouver, Montreal; St. Louis, and Ottawa.

Cats ride unbeaten streak, 2006 snub into tourney

By Clark Brooks
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The parallels are eerily similar. After finishing the year strong and making a respectable run during the Conference USA Tournament, the UK men's soccer team sat waiting to receive a bid to the 2006 NCAA Tournament. Despite being ranked in the top 25, that bid never came.

Two years later, the situation is nearly the same. UK is riding a school-best seven-game unbeaten streak, knocking off higher ranked opponents left and right, but the Cats are still unsure of their postseason fate.

"As of now, I'm not sure if we will make the tournament," junior midfielder Jason Griffiths said. "Some experts have us in, but the coaches are skeptical to these projections. Personally, I think one win will get us into the tournament."

Winning this week's C-USA Tournament, which starts Wednesday in Dallas, would secure an automatic bid for UK in the NCAA Tournament. But even if the Cats come up short of a title, Griffiths feels like UK won't be left on the sideline once again.

"Since we have gained a national ranking in the past week or so, it definitely helps our chances getting into the (NCAA) Tournament," Griffiths said.

Winning the C-USA Tournament won't be easy. Tulsa, South Carolina and Southern Methodist are all currently ranked or have been

ranked at various times throughout the season.

"The C-USA reminds me of the SEC in football," UK head coach Ian Collins said. "Anyone can win on any given day. Most of the time, there is no clear favorite. The conference tournament is wide open, and we have to take advantage of that."

The Cats (10-4-4) have defeated then-No. 13 Michigan, then-No. 18 South Carolina and then-No. 22 SMU, along with tying then-No. 14 Indiana in Bloomington, Ind., this season. Of the team's four losses, three of the defeats were to ranked opponents, then-No. 7 UC-Santa Barbara, then-No. 24 Cal Poly and then-No. 14 Tulsa.

"This team is stronger mentally than the '06 team," junior defender Barry Rice said. "All the guys want to win and succeed. You can tell they love this game when they play." The NCAA Tournament consists of 48 teams, 22 of which receive automatic bids as conference champion. The Cats have not been in the national tournament since 2003, where they lost to archrival Indiana 2-1 in overtime. In 2001, the Cats had their best finish in school history when they reached the Sweet 16. The second-seeded Cats open the C-USA Tournament against seventh-seeded Marshall on Wednesday.

"This team is put together differently than other teams I have coached in the past," Collins said. "They never seem to panic and everyone pulls their own weight. I feel good about this team's chances."

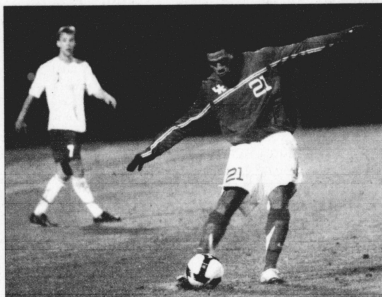


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