

KENTUCKY KERNEL

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First VP candidate calls for focus on ag. research

By Jill Laster
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The first of four candidates for the new Vice President of Research position said taking an audit of research spending and increasing student lab fees are a few of the changes he would make at UK.

During an open forum held yesterday afternoon in the Patterson Office Tower, candidate Craig L. Nessler, of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State

University, did not want to give specific dollar amounts and percentages for potential changes he would make to research spending.

Further study and discussion with the provost would be needed before specific numbers could be stated, Nessler said.

"I would be reluctant to come in here and say, 'you do this, this and this,'" said Nessler, current director of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station and associate dean for research

of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Virginia Tech.

"It is foolish not to do an audit when you first come here," he said.

About 15 people attended the forum yesterday afternoon, and many asked questions concerning the candidate's priorities for allocating research funds. More focus should be given to agricultural research, specifically food nutrition, Nessler said.

"I would venture to say agriculture and related fields have done more to the

average citizen than biomedical research," he said.

UK's Top 20 Business Plan calls for an increase of \$500 million in research spending per year.

After four years of double-digit increases, UK's Board of Trustees voted in January to increase next year's tuition by 9 percent. The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education capped tuition increases for UK at 9 percent in November.

The tuition increase must ultimately

benefit students, Nessler said, partly by help fulfill the Business Plan goal of decreasing the faculty-to-student ratio.

"I think if we're going to start charging more for the education, we have to increase the quality," Nessler said.

"What you have to do is make sure the education is worth the extra dollars," he said.

An additional lab fee for students is

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UK narrows search with Gillispie

Donovan says he'll stay as Florida coach

By Chris Miles
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The search for the next head coach of the UK men's basketball program focused on Texas A&M head coach Billy Gillispie yesterday evening when UK received permission to speak with him.

Permission came a few hours after the search faced a setback when UK announced fan-favorite Billy Donovan had decided to remain as the head coach at Florida. A few hours later, Texas coach Rick Barnes also removed his name from the running.

"Coach Gillispie is one of the top coaches in the country, and we certainly don't want to lose him," Texas A&M Athletic Director Bill Byrne said in a statement. "At the same time, I don't want to stand in the way of any member of my department who wants to explore another option, if he or she feels that's in their best interest."

A&M was 0-16 in Big 12 Conference play the season before Gillispie arrived in 2004. Since then, he has led the Aggies on a 70-26 record in three seasons and has reached a post-season tournament every year. This past season, Gillispie earned a 27-7 record — the best in school history — and made it to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament as a No. 3 seed.

Last week, Gillispie agreed in principle to a \$1.75 million dollar contract extension, which would give him a \$500,000 raise.

Gillispie was not the top choice for many Cats fans, but hopes of Donovan filling the vacant coaching job ended with an announcement by UK Athletic Director Mitch Barnhart that the two had spoken yesterday morning and that the coach was not interested in leaving Florida.

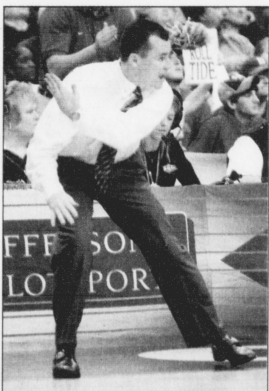
Many believed Donovan, who won his second straight national title Monday, would be the ideal successor to former head coach Tubby Smith, who left last week to be the head coach at the University of Minnesota.

In a statement released yesterday, Barnhart said he had

See Coach on page 6



Texas A&M head coach Billy Gillispie has become the focus of the search for a head basketball coach after UK received permission to speak to him yesterday evening. Hours before, Florida coach Billy Donovan and Texas coach Rick Barnes both indicated they weren't interested in the job.



Florida head coach Billy Donovan told UK yesterday morning he wasn't interested in leaving Florida despite strong support from Cats fans.

UK must find a coach to match Donovan

If you can't beat him, hire him. And if you can't hire him, you better hire someone who can beat him.

That's the task on the plate of UK athletic director Mitch Barnhart today, after Florida head coach Billy Donovan announced that he's not going anywhere.

Donovan's teams have beaten UK six consecutive times, and on Thursday, the former UK assistant won again and everyone else involved in the UK coaching search lost.

In announcing that he will remain in Gainesville, Donovan did the right thing. He'll get to continue coaching an elite program that he built on his own, will be compensa-

ted handsomely in his new contract and will not have to uproot his young family.

Donovan also avoided the grinding pressure of the UK job, which must be intimidating for a candidate who is established and secure at a major program, as Donovan is at Florida. In short, there was a shortage of compelling reasons for Donovan to change jobs. In making the choice, he continued his two-year long string of victories.

But Donovan also made everyone else a loser. The Big Blue Nation lost its savior. Barnhart lost his Golden Ticket to Bluegrass immortality and whatever poor soul gets the job lost any semblance of patience from the fan base.

And that's the direction in which all the talk will now turn. As draining as the Billy D watch was, it's over, and it's time to move on. It will be shocking if Barnhart (and the search firm he hired) doesn't have

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CHRIS DELOTTELL
Kernel columnist

consecutive times, and on Thursday, the former UK assistant won again and everyone else involved in the UK coaching search lost.

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Grad programs rise in rankings

By Erica Mitchell
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Several UK graduate programs are recognized in the latest issue of U.S. News & World Report magazine, which features the report, "America's Best Graduate Schools 2008."

The UK College of Law has advanced by five rankings to 60th place in all universities and 31st place among public law schools.

The UK College of Nursing also advanced three rankings to 26th place and 18th place among public universities.

"We work very hard — faculty, staff, and students — to make this college stand apart from the ordinary," said Jane Marie Kirschling, College of Nursing dean.

She said the College of Nursing is pleased that the latest U.S. News & World Report rankings put the college within the top-20 public graduate nursing programs in the nation.

However, Kirschling made it clear that rankings aren't the final goal of the program.

"We don't do this for rankings, we do it to educate the very best nurses, future faculty, nurse researchers and health care leaders that this nation needs now and for the future," Kirschling said.

Despite the positive moves by the law program, College of Law Dean Allan Vestal was skeptical about the rankings, saying they did not accurately represent the quality of law schools.

"The U.S. News rankings are so poorly conceived that they say very little about the quality of the College of Law or UK's top 20 aspirations," Vestal said.

When asked if he was surprised with the improvement in rankings, Vestal again doubted the accuracy of the report.

"I was not particularly surprised by the change in the ranking because I don't believe it to be a good indicator of quality," he said. "Such rapid

See Rankings on page 6

Alum tells stories from examining over 500 bodies

By Jossey Montana McCoy
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UK alum Bill Bass worked with 114 dead bodies last year at the "Body Farm."

"(That number is) going up about twenty a year," Bass said.

Bass, professor emeritus at the University of Tennessee, founded the Body Farm in 1972 as the Forensic Anthropology Research Center at UT. The Body Farm hosts studies how human bodies decay under certain conditions such as weather, insects and light.

Bass opened up a slideshow presentation of his fieldwork — an assortment of dead bodies months and years old — to the

public last night in Memorial Hall.

"Are you all up for death and destruction tonight?" Bass joked as he began.

Bass explained the Body Farm receives its research subjects in three ways: bodies unclaimed through the medical examiners system, bodies of those who donated themselves to science and bodies donated to the research project directly.

Those who want their bodies given specifically to the Body Farm after death are usually more educated persons, Bass said. Teachers often contribute.

"I hate death," Bass said. "But it is interesting what your mind can do and what

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Bass

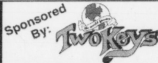
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The tent is down... Let the Patio Party Begin



Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

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

Aries (March 21 - April 19) Today is a 7 — It's OK to feel like you can have anything you want. Don't act like that now, however, or you'll create just the opposite.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 6 — Let the argument rage on without you. You already know which side you're on. Pretty soon they'll get tired of annoying you, and go on to another topic.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is a 6 — Provide the very best product and/or service that you can. Do it for love, not money, and you'll be a lot better satisfied.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today

is an 8 — Resist the temptation to ignore the task that needs to be finished now. Plan to work late and over the weekend, too. You'll be in the mood for it then.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 6 — Slowly, you're feeling better. Don't even think about it. Soon you'll forget your worries and get involved in a favorite game. After tough competition, you'll win. Tough it out.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is a 7 — You can provide the path to success for the person you most support. Work out the details for somebody who's too busy with other things.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is an 8 — You're very imaginative in your work. You're setting a new style. It's bringing in the money, too. Don't tell anyone how you do it.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is an 8 — You're getting even stronger as the day goes on. The support you're getting from loved

ones makes all the difference. Let them know.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 6 — Listen very carefully to your family's concerns. You don't have to fix anything; just let them know you heard. That'll free them up to fix the problems themselves.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is a 6 — Make sure everybody is clear on his or her assignment. Then retire to your sanctum sanctorum for a ponder.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is an 8 — The good news is that you're making good money. The bad news is: you want to spend it. Be very careful the next few weeks, or you'll end up in the hole.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 9 — Assume responsibility in a way that works for you. Definitely keep controlling interest in your own participation. If this means going freelance, so be it. You can prosper.

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THE DISH

Season two of the hit MTV show ends with a moving truck — and lots of burning questions

The season two finale of MTV's *The Hills* aired on April 2, with star Lauren Conrad getting a new roommate: Pal Aurdina. Partridge moves into the Los Angeles apartment, while former BFF Heidi Montag moves out — so she can live with controversial boyfriend Spencer Pratt. Meanwhile, Conrad's coworker Whitney Port is waiting to hear if she has graduated from intern to fashion contributor at *Teen Vogue*. Got all that? Conrad, 21, discusses the juicy stuff you didn't see this season with *Us* reporter Leslie Bruce.

Secret #1

If Spencer and Heidi break up, could you be friends again? Of course, I love Heidi. I was in a similar situation with her last year when I moved out with my boyfriend [Jason Wahler]. Heidi and I barely talked, but as soon as we broke up, she was there for me and it only made our friendship stronger. I'm the last person who should criticize someone for making a poor decision when it comes to guys. Poor decisions are all I make with guys.

Secret #2

Does anyone like Spencer? I have yet to meet a person who has something nice to say

about him. It was like that before we were even on TV.

Secret #3

Are you still close with former fling Brody Jenner? Not really. Brody and I say hello when we see each other, but we don't hang out just the two of us.

Secret #4

Your childhood friend Jen Bunney hooked up with Brody. Will you ever reconcile with her?

I didn't think so. I gave her a chance to share her side of the story, and she didn't tell me anything real. They didn't show this on TV, but she put me on speakerphone in front of everybody, including Brody. This wasn't a fight about a guy. This was about her trying to make me look like an idiot and being a really bad friend.

Secret #5

Were you surprised by anything that aired?

I didn't know that Heidi had anything to do with Jen and Brody's hookup [until I saw it on TV]. She said, "It was all Jen," and I believed her. Everything we're doing is recorded by cameras, so we get caught. I was so angry after I watched that episode. I was shaking.

Secret #6

Is it difficult to be taped while fighting with your friends?

It's hard to make out with your boyfriend, but not to fight with your friends. I'm not going

SECRETS OF THE HILLS

to hold back in front of the camera. I have nothing to hide. And I don't think I get mad at people for bad reasons.

Secret #7

Why do we rarely see Whitney outside of working with you at *Teen Vogue*?

Whitney has a full schedule at the University of Southern California, and she has a boyfriend who didn't want to be filmed. Fortunately, she's graduating very soon, so she may be seeing more of her in the next season!

Secret #8

Is your boss Lisa Love really that scary?

She's serious about her job and can definitely be scary, but she's a really nice woman. She has daughters who are about my age, so she understands us. And she does joke around with us sometimes, like at the Oscars shoot when she was throwing shoes at me.

Secret #9

What's next for you and new BFF Aurdina?

We've done the speed-dating thing where you go out with guys and don't call them, and now we're both ready to start seriously dating. It will be good to have a roommate who's always around again. We're going to have a lot of fun living together. It doesn't matter where we are, we always have fun.

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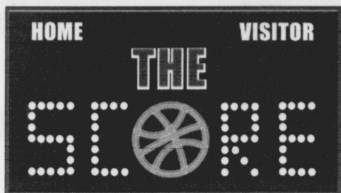
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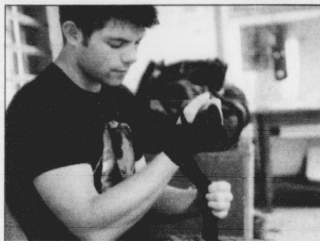
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April 6,
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Chris Miles
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“ Kids don't stay long enough when they have a lot of success. Twenty years ago they'd all be coming back. The whole thing would start: can you three-peat? ”

— Florida head coach Billy Donovan talking about his championship lineup who deciding to go pro.



Ian Hanley, a computer engineering freshman, tapes his hands before boxing practice Wednesday.

ELLIOTT HESS
STAFF

BOXING IN SHADOWS

UK boxing team largely unknown despite success



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

Jamyle Cannon, right, a journalism freshman, trains with other members of the UK Boxing Club in the basement of the Alumni Gym during practice Tuesday. The club operates in relative obscurity on campus, despite its success lately, with five of its 13 members advancing to the National Collegiate Boxing Championships in Reno, Nev., on April 12.

By J.D. Williams
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The UK boxing team knows about being underappreciated.

With only 13 members, the team converges in the basement of 83 year-old Alumni Gym practicing jabs, hooks and mastering slipping from punches. Their presence is hardly noticed around campus.

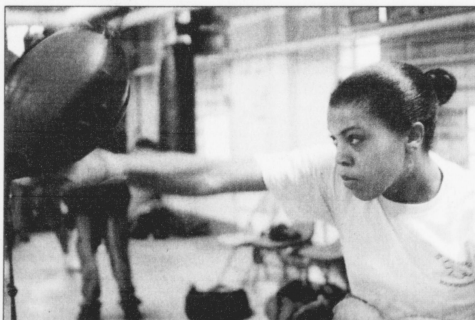
“There are club sports that get (more) recognition than us,” said freshman boxer Jamyle Cannon, who competes in the 139-pound division. “People go to hockey matches to see a fight when they can easily see us fight. We're underappreciated.”

Although the team is in the shadows of more popular UK sports, boxing head coach George “Doc” Ginter has built confidence within the team with the hopes of creating a positive attitude despite playing in a difficult Midwest region with little support.

“It's hard work,” Ginter said. “Boxing is as hard if not harder than any of the scholarship sports. I've had guys off the football team and they say this is just as hard.”

The boxers on the team are equal in work ethic, but not all are stereotypical burly, bruising men.

In the training room, Jayme Hawthorne's vibrant pink boxing gloves stand out from the traditional red gloves while they hang on the rope during a breather from the punching bag. She is one of two female boxers on the team



ELLIOTT HESS | STAFF

Jayme Hawthorne, a freshman geology major, is one of two women in the UK Boxing Club, and believes female boxers should be more common. “People see me and don't believe I'm a boxer,” she said.

and says she wouldn't mind seeing an increase in the number of women in the ring at UK.

“People see me and don't believe I'm a boxer,” said Hawthorne, a freshman geology major who works as a women's make-up artist

when she's not boxing.

“I think we're overlooked because people don't realize we have a boxing team,” senior boxer Meredith DellaGiustina said.

Though most of the student body might

not have noticed, the team was within sight of qualifying for the National Collegiate Boxing Championships, which start April 12 in Reno, Nev. And of the 13 boxers on the team, five advanced as individuals to the championship.

Tyler Sexton, who competes in the 119-pound division, and Josh Gyukery, who competes in the 147-pound division, both received automatic bids to the nationals by winning the Midwest Regional championship. Cannon, Levi Anderson and Alex Thomas received at-large bids.

“I'm excited, this year I'm ready to take it all,” Sexton said.

Sexton won back-to-back regional titles after distributing a technical knock out (TKO) against Tyler Tidwell of boxing powerhouse Navy Academy.

“I was shocked — my girl friend said I looked shocked,” he said. “You don't see many knock outs in my division. I didn't know I had the power to do it.”

Along with Sexton, Gyukery is looking forward to a strong finish in Reno.

“Confident” and “unstoppable” were the words Gyukery used to describe himself heading into nationals after being undefeated in bouts this year with a 6-0 record after going winless last year.

“I don't even consider last year a part of my record,” Gyukery said. “I trained hard; me and Tyler shaved weight in the summer and expected nothing less than winning regional this year.”

UK baseball might lose former star for the season

By Eric Lindsey
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A familiar face from last year's 2006 Southeastern Conference championship baseball team could be back in the UK outfield as soon as next weekend.

Preseason All-American outfielder Collin Cowgill is not expected to see action tonight against Tennessee, but could be available for next weekend's series against Vanderbilt, head coach John Cohen said.

“We really need him back,” Cohen said. “I'm amazed at our offense

without Collin, but he would bring up a presence from the right side, which is what we need.”

Cowgill, a junior from Lexington, has missed the entire season so far with a hand injury. He underwent hand surgery on March 15 to repair tissue in his hand.

Although Cohen plans for Cowgill to return this year, there is a possibility he still might not play.

“If we can't use Cowgill against Vanderbilt, we'll have to look into redshirt options,” Cohen said.

During the Cats historic title run last year, Cowgill batted .298 with 16

home runs and 61 RBI. He also added three outfield assists en route to being named the best defensive arm in the SEC during the preseason.

The No. 11 ranked Cats (24-4-1, 4-4-1 SEC) face off against Tennessee (18-12, 4-5 SEC) tonight at 6:30 for the first of a three-game series.

The Cats — who haven't played since losing to Mississippi State on Sunday — take on a UT squad that is fresh off a 13-6 win over Eastern Tennessee State.

“They're a very good club,” Cohen said. “Their Friday night pitcher

is as good as anyone in the league. They are a team that's just going to erupt at some point, and we just hope it doesn't happen this weekend against us.”

For the game, Cohen will likely use an unusual lineup that he has benefited from lately, featuring two players at the top of the lineup who are both capable of leading off.

For the past six games, Cohen has led off with junior center fielder Antone DeJesus, followed by senior utility player Mike Brown.

DeJesus' production has been no surprise. He is a typical leadoff hitter

with lightning-quick speed and a knack for getting on base.

The surprise has been the emergence of Brown, who has led an explosive offensive display from the Cats in recent weeks.

Brown leads the Cats in batting average (.459), runs (42), stolen bases (12) and on-base percentage (.577).

The combination of the two has provided the Cats with speed and allows Cohen to mix up his lineups.

“Mike Brown is an under-skilled, overachiever type of player,” Cohen said. “He's darn near inspirational.”

OPINIONS

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Birth control price increases are a necessary burden

UK students learned this week that the prices of birth control pills sold by University Health Services are doubling and tripling.

Because of a deficit-reduction bill that Congress passed in 2005, UHS can't receive the oral contraceptives from pharmaceutical drug companies at a discounted rate. The 25 different brands of pills were being sold to students for \$10 a month.

Now, the UHS pharmacy sells more than half of its birth control pills at full price, which is generally about \$30 a month.

This is unfortunate for students, but it shouldn't change much.

Students will likely continue to buy the products because of how easy and effective birth control pills are.

But, if students are concerned with the price increase, there are alternatives to the pill.

Condoms, diaphragms, the patch, the ring and the birth control shot are other ways to prevent pregnancy, but they aren't as effective as the pill.

The story that ran in the Kernel on Monday said that condoms are 85 percent effective, and diaphragms are 79 percent effective. And although the ring and the shot are equally effective as the pill, they cost just as much and sometimes more.

Even with those safety measures, abstinence is still the only way to completely prevent preg-

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nancy. Students should always consider that first as the only guaranteed way to prevent pregnancy.

It seems like colleges were an unfortunate oversight in an otherwise relatively normal congressional bill.

It's obviously not UK's fault, since the drug companies aren't allowed to give UK a discount anymore. And certainly, UHS isn't going to sell the pills at a loss.

So now, either students are going to have to budget an additional \$20 a month, or UHS is going to have to find some way to subsidize the cost of birth control for UK students.

But with the latter unlikely, students will be forced to find a way to pay the additional charge.

If the pills are really that important to the students, they will still likely find a way to pay for the pills. Dr. Greg Moore, UHS health director, compared the increase in the cost of pills to the increase in the cost of gas prices.

"You just deal with it," he said. It is unfortunate that the burden is going to be falling on college students for the price increases, but it might be worth the cost if students can avoid unwanted pregnancies.

The price increase might be a pain for many students, but it's not nearly the burden that having an unplanned child would be.

Study area unique, innovative — but TVs are overkill

One of the newest jewels in the already lavish W.T. Young library is The Hub at WT's. Located in the basement of the library, The Hub is a new study area that's a bit different from other campus offerings.

New study cubbies with movable walls allow students to make study space bigger, to hold more people, or smaller, for more privacy. A new snack bar with coffee, soda, sandwich and candy machines lets people eat in designated areas while studying, something the security guards at the library frown on anywhere else, and can spot from a mile away when snuck in.

The Hub should prove to be a valuable, unique study space on campus.

But the multiple flat screen TV screens are one of the concerns with The Hub. The TVs, each costing thousands of dollars, seem to be a waste in an area where stu-

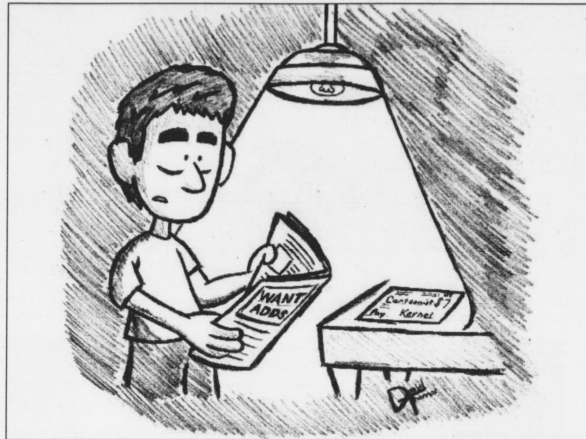
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dents go to study and to try and get away from distractions.

One of the TVs hangs from the wall in the entrance to The Hub, greeting visitors with library announcements. While that information is certainly important to many students, there is surely a way to communicate it that doesn't involve expensive TVs.

The Hub was renovated using a \$95,000 grant from Today's Campus Improvement fund, and while the TV's might cost relatively little compared to the overall budget, every dollar should count, especially when dozens of other campus departments would have liked any funding at all for renovations.

Though The Hub is innovative, money could have been spent on things that the library was already in need of.



DANIEL THOMAS, Kernel cartoonist

Presidential candidates might consider 'Idol' for real exposure

I've decided to quit college and go into television production. My first series will be called American President (no, this is not based off the movie with Michael Douglas).

If American Idol can produce millions and millions of viewers each week, and can foster hundreds of articles, thousands of blogs and the love of America, I have decided that

I can do the same with my new television show. Instead of focusing on musical talent, I'll be auditioning for the next president.

OK, so I'm not quitting college. I haven't spent the last three years working to give it up now. The point I'm trying to make is that America has seemingly abandoned the presidential race for American Idol.

While I was wandering around on the Internet, I came across a clip of a story that ABC News had run on

Good Morning America. They had one of their reporters go out onto the streets of New York and test the citizens to see if they knew more about American Idol or the candidates for president.

Not surprisingly, the majority could name every contestant on Idol, but almost no candidates for president.

It's not a shock that America focuses more on pop culture and less on politics. Government hasn't been the best lately; it's been unsatisfying to many. And pop culture is always entertaining, while politics can seem more of a duty than a right.

So can you blame those our age for not caring? The voter turnout for college students and recent graduates is abysmally low, so politicians have spent less time caring what we think.

If we aren't going to vote, then why spend money and time convincing you to vote for them?

Politics will never be as appealing as American Idol. It's not necessarily the responsibility of government to be entertaining; it's their responsibility to do their job. But that doesn't mean that politics can never appeal to the younger generations.

It has to work both ways, though. With the presidential election around the corner, pay attention to who's running. Maybe if candidates saw they could get votes from us, they would tone down their dry speeches and be genuinely interesting to students who may not be political junkies.

I'm not asking for the future president to have a Howard Dean moment and show so much enthusiasm that it's frightening, but it shouldn't be too much to ask to have them care about what matters to us now, not what we may eventually be concerned about.

American President probably won't be a hit television show, because no candidate can cause the kind of media attention that American Idol contestant Sanjaya Malakar has garnered.

But let's face it: Politics doesn't have to be dull all the time. It's time for Washington, D.C., to turn to the younger generations and show them that they matter and that they are willing to listen to us and show us that politics can be appealing to all ages.

Megan Vazmina is a journalism junior. E-mail: opinions@kykernel.com.



MEGAN VAZMINA
Kernel columnist

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SG should leave coach search to Bamhart

The first half of the April 5 article regarding SG's demand for Athletics Director Mitch Bamhart to "pay top dollar" for Billy Donovan "seemed like almost a joke when I first read it."

I agree with the anonymous senator quoted in the article: "Is this real?" I am aware that there is probably a certain amount of money is UK's budget that is allotted to only go toward athletics, so the money paid to Donovan wouldn't otherwise go to education or any other element of the university's well being to begin with.

But it is frankly idiotic that SG had nothing better to do with their time but to try to help usher in a new coach — at any cost, that is — when a lot of the students who return to UK for non-medical graduate studies do it because they couldn't get into anywhere better.

This is probably also one of the reasons nobody who isn't a candidate ever thinks about Student Government. I am an athlete and a sports fan, and I know this is a basketball school. But this "resolution," more specifically its honest and official nature, is one of the many reasons I think UK will not become a top-20 university in the next century, much less the next 20 years, unless tidal waves destroy both the East and West coasts.

Paulo Stochaj
English and biology junior

Kernel must uphold high standard with sports

I am writing to encourage the Kernel to continue its excellent coverage of UK sports, especially the nationally ranked UK baseball team.

The Kernel does a fabulous job of covering all of UK's 22 sports. I enjoy reading about how the non-mainstream sports are competing. These articles are very entertaining and make me feel good about UK athletics. Many of these events would not have any press unless

the Kernel was there. I applaud you all on that part of your paper.

I know that most of UK lives and dies for basketball season, but there are other sporting events that continue after the basketball season. I genuinely appreciate the coverage that Eric Lindsey provides on the UK baseball team.

However, I was very astonished to find in the March 19 issue, the article on UK's Southeastern Conference opening series was cut mid-quote at the end of the article. I am certain that this was not the beat writer's mistake but an error by the sports editors of the paper.

As a newspaper committed to furthering the journalistic education of its writer's, this was simply unacceptable. I hold the Kernel, obviously the premier student paper on campus, to a higher standard than to cut an article in the middle of a quotation.

The Kentucky baseball team is in the midst of a meteoric rise onto the national college baseball scene. The amazing efforts provided by the coaching staff and its student-athletes at Cliff Hagan Stadium deserve top-shelf coverage.

For this team to win the first SEC Championship in the school's 102-year history says a lot about the progress and positive direction of the program.

I hope that the Kernel will take a genuine interest in presenting the success of the program and be more detail oriented when editing stories, whether they are on baseball or any other sport. Keep up the excellent coverage of UK Athletics. I hope that other local and regional media outlets follow the lead of the Kernel and show more of an interest in the other sports on campus.

Kris Kendrick
Biology senior

Buy American, buy environmentally-friendly

I enjoyed reading Robert Kahn's April 3 column, "Support workers, human rights by buying American-made goods," and I wholeheartedly agree with his support for American-made goods

and clothing.

However, I was disappointed that he failed to mention purchasing clothing made of hemp, soy cotton or organic cotton as a way to be a conscious consumer.

What a product is made of is equally as important an issue as where it is made. The clothing industry is second only to the oil industry in the enormous amount of pollutants it produces.

Clothing made from hemp, soy cotton or organic cotton does not produce as many pollutants and is often more durable than other fabrics, allowing the consumer to purchase fewer clothes while supporting companies that use environmentally friendly materials.

Mark Wetherington
Journalism sophomore

Take Back the Night got people's attention

In defense of the men and women who attended Take Back the Night and had the courage to tell their stories — several for the first time — I am offended that Wade Wachs reduced the event to waving signs and chanting, although that is a part of what we did.

Waving signs and chanting certainly helped grab people's attention, but what raised awareness were the speakouts that evening. Wachs used the example of the Grayhawks protest. Well, it grabbed your attention, didn't it? And you know they are mad about something.

So, no, I can't think of many better ways to get someone's attention than marching through a campus with several hundred people, signs and a couple megaphones, and all of us chanting that women should be safer on campus.

Yes, this campus has quite a way to go; our society has quite a way to go to end violence. But I believe that in the two short years that the Women's Place has been here, we have had one heck of a good start.

Kristen Lambert
Sociology sophomore

Note to Readers

Unsigned editorials reflect the views of the Kernel Editorial Board. They are written independently of the Kernel's news coverage. Columns, letters and cartoons reflect the views of their authors.

Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Wes Bleivins. Please limit letters to 350 words or fewer. Be sure to include your full name, class and major with all submissions.

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

Weekly Poll Question

Did the use of laptops instead of traditional polling machines improve the voting process in last week's Student Government elections?

Vote online at www.kykernel.com

