

KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 36 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

SG approves online voting from polling centers only

By Blair Thomas
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This spring's Student Government elections will use online voting, but only from designated electronic polls after the Senate passed an act last night. This is a change from October's freshman elections, when students could vote from any campus computer.

"We didn't have the best turnout in the freshman elections with allowing people to vote from any computer," at-large Sen. Jesse Parrish said. "But more importantly we are concerned with a student's right to a private ballot."

The Senate also passed the Senate-expansion amendment in the final vote last night after debating several proposals and drafts.

Under the amendment, the total number of senators elected this spring will increase by five. The College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Law will add one senator each, and the Graduate School will add three senators.

The Senate hopes additional senators will lead to better representation of the student body.

"We flew right through the second vote without much discussion," College of Law Sen. Tom Rauf said. "But this is something that we debated and amended a lot last week, so I guess everyone is finally in agreement."

The changes made to the election procedures and violations — including online voting and the Senate expansion — go into effect immediately as a result of another constitutional amendment passed last night.

The second amendment temporarily negates a portion of the SG constitution that requires changes to campaign rules to wait until the following academic term to take effect.

"If this clause was not taken out then everything we've passed over the last two weeks wouldn't be valid until next fall," said Senate President Brent Burchett.

The amendment suspends that section of the constitution until May 1, after the spring elections.

"This is something we wouldn't really want to see in real politics," Rauf said at the Jan. 24 senate meeting. "But it is necessary so that we have more specific election rules and procedures this year."

In addition, the Senate began work to simplify the SG constitution, starting with the structure of

committees.

"Our constitution is just too long," Parrish said. "It should be a skeleton that we are free to add to and make changes to as issues come about."

SG voted to keep only the Committee on Committees. All other committees were removed so the Senate could establish new ones through legislation rather than with the constitution.

"This is the best plan for the senate to be able to design what they want to see instead of just saying 'yes' or 'no' to a pre-made design," said at-large Sen. Tyler Montell.

College of Engineering Sen. Josh Odoi originally introduced a constitutional amendment that would restructure the current three standing com-

See SG on page 6

Alumni recount D.C. tales, experience

By Ashley B. Trooper
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From scandals at a fraternity house to scandals at the White House, four accomplished UK alumni offered their wisdom and experiences to journalism students yesterday evening at the fifth-annual Richard Wilson Journalism Alumni Symposium in the W.T. Young Library auditorium.

Carl West, editor of The State Journal in Frankfort; Bill Neikirk, Washington bureau chief for the Chicago Tribune; Steve Ivey, a reporter at The Anniston Star in Anniston, Ala.; and Terry Hunt, White House bureau chief for the Associated Press, served as experts to a crowd of future journalists, offering insight and advice and answering students' questions.

"It's a privilege to be asked to come to this," said Neikirk, who counted a fraternity hazing scandal he covered while at UK among his favorite stories.

"I want people, especially students, to have their eyes wide open to this business," he said.

All the panelists were connected by their experience reporting in Washington, D.C. Students received a first-hand account of what it is like to cover American politics at its helm.

Neikirk and West recounted filing stories on the Watergate scandal and the resignation of former President Richard Nixon. Hunt recalled covering President Bill Clinton's denial of sexual relations with an intern and subsequent impeachment.

Ivey, a 2005 graduate of UK, explained the importance of journalism and politics. "The two are constantly working together in a unique way," Ivey said.

The panelists admitted Washington is not the easiest place to be a journalist.

"The White House is the most frustrating place," Neikirk said. "You never feel like you can get to the bottom of things."

Hunt echoed Neikirk's frustration. "It is such a competitive atmosphere out there right now," he said. "It's a very different, competitive environment where we work (in Washington)."

However, the panelists had encouraging messages for young journalists hoping to also lead accomplished careers.

"The best way to learn is through experience," West said. "It's a new ball game out there, no doubt about it."

The panel of experts also expressed their appreciation to the school where their careers began.

"UK was so good to me," Hunt said. "I have a very fond feeling for this university."

For the panelists, sharing their experiences meant making a difference.

"I can remember when I was a student here," Ivey said. "It's important for students to realize that it is a fight to be a journalist. It is nice to provide a little encouragement."



ED MATTHEWS/STAFF
Moderator Susan Straub, left, watches as journalism alumni Terry Hunt and Bill Neikirk joke during the fifth-annual Richard Wilson Journalism Alumni Symposium last night.

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Rallying for capital in the Capitol



PHOTOS BY ALLIE GARZA/STAFF
Gov. Ernie Fletcher speaks to students from UK, the University of Louisville, Kentucky State University and other public universities yesterday afternoon at the annual Rally for Higher Education in Frankfort.

'Sort of mandatory' attendance policy for SG senators pays off

By Blair Thomas
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Senate President Brent Burchett attributed the improved attendance at yesterday's Rally for Higher Education to his declaring the event "sort of mandatory" for senators.

"I technically can't make any event like that mandatory," Burchett said. "I can say it and send out angry e-mails, but I can really only encourage the senators to come and hope that they will take me seriously."

At last year's rally, UK had the lowest representation of any school

— five students — compared to this year's 35 students. Included in this year's number were 16 of the 35 SG senators.

"I definitely think making it sort of mandatory increased the number of senators who attended," Burchett said. "I talked to every senator except a couple, and those who didn't make it either had a class they couldn't miss or work."

Several other SG members traveled along with the 16 senators, including Vice-President Mallory Jenkins, Communications Director Chris Crumrine, Press Secretary

See Senators on page 6

UK sees better representation at education-funding rally

By Blair Thomas
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FRANKFORT — Students joined Kentucky Treasurer Jonathan Miller in chanting, "The time is now, the place is here, the moment is ours," at the 2007 Rally for Higher Education in the state's Capitol yesterday.

The annual rally attracted over 150 students — 35 from UK — and hoped to show student support for higher education funding, which would lower the need for tuition increases.

"Seeing all of you here today representing your schools and your student bodies shows me that you don't like that your tuition has increased 145 percent in the last 10 years," said Gov. Ernie Fletcher. "It is important that you take part in the political process and that you are here today showing your interest in your higher education."

UK was among six state universities whose students gathered in the Capitol Rotunda to hear speeches by Miller, Fletcher and Kentucky Secretary of State Trey Grayson discussing concerns about the cost of higher education.

"This is such an important event and it is so important that we are here showing that tuition and other post-secondary education issues are something that students are concerned with and something we are going to continue to be concerned about until something is done," Student Government Sen. Brittany Langdon said.

At last year's rally, only five students represented UK; yesterday, UK's 35 students — including 16 SG senators — cheered for SG President Jonah Brown when he was introduced alongside the student body presidents from the University of Louisville, Western Kentucky University, Eastern Kentucky

See Rally on page 6

Panel: End silence about HIV/AIDS

By Linssen Li
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Lexington must start accepting and caring for people with HIV/AIDS, according to speakers at the HIV/AIDS town hall meeting Wednesday evening at Shiloh Baptist Church.

"AIDS victims are often afraid of telling their community about their condition," said Pastor John Lee of Greater Liberty Baptist Church. "And they are right. Our community is not accepting of them."

People need to realize that HIV/AIDS patients should also be treated equally, whether it's by their church or their families, Lee said.

He also urged people to talk about AIDS instead of pretending it doesn't exist.

"Some people don't want to talk about these things, especially Christians," Lee said. "But we can't just ignore it and pretend it doesn't exist. It's killing our people."

The meeting was held in recognition of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

Nationally, about 30 percent of HIV patients are black, said Merinda Brown of the Kentucky HIV/AIDS program.

"I am just shocked about how disproportional the (number of) African-American AIDS patients is," state Sen. Ernesto Scorsone, D-Lexington, said. "Even more shocking is how little care and treatment these patients receive."

The solution, Scorsone said, lies within the black community itself.

"I do believe that if the members of the African-American community unite together to raise AIDS awareness, then this virus can be contained," he said.

Currently the Bluegrass Care Clinic is offering free treatment to HIV patients without health insurance.

"At one time our free treatment was almost shut down," said

See AIDS on page 6

Task force to examine safety at Ky. colleges

By Jill Laster
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When her son died in a dormitory fire nine years ago, Gail Minger took action.

Minger, the mother of Murray State University student Michael Minger, has worked to improve campus safety throughout Kentucky since her son's death.

"I really didn't understand the scope of the situation the first year as a hurt, grieving parent," Minger said.

After that first year, Minger said she began investigating "what happened, why it happened and how we can keep it from happening again."

Looking at inter-office memos and public documents from state universities alerted her to a problem.

"Many universities were not obeying the laws," Minger said. "Many were just not aware."

Now, she is in a position to remedy that problem at UK and at every college campus in Kentucky.

Minger was named chairwoman of the Governor's Task Force on Campus Safety last summer and is leading the 15-person task force in assessing the safety and security of public and private campuses.

The task force will review if, and then how, universities are complying with the Michael Minger Act, which passed in

2000 after lobbying by Minger. The law requires college campuses to keep a public crime log, report crime statistics each year and immediately report all fires.

Minger said when she first met UK officials in 2000 they "weren't wanting change" because of the cost and effort required.

"At first, UK was very reluctant to make changes, but then they got on board," Minger said.

She attributes the embracement of the changes to officials learning that cost would not be as great as initially expected.

The task force will also look into new policies that might be adopted to improve safety. Minger said the task force has many ideas to look into but declined to comment on specifics.

UK interim police chief Maj. Joe Monroe said he feels the task force should address UK's alcohol policy.

"I think there needs to be more education and enforcement on underage drinking," Monroe said.

The director of the Women's Place, Dorothy Edwards, said women's safety should also be a primary focus of the task force.

"My hope would be that the conversation best reflects the facts we have on violence against women," Edwards said. "I think it's arguably the biggest con-

See Task Force on page 6

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ANGELINA'S HEARTBREAK

THE DISH

With Brad Pitt and her kids by her side, the actress copes with the death of her mother, Marcheline Bertrand

For years, the staff at Raffles L'Ermitage, Beverly Hills hotel had grown accustomed to seeing Angelina Jolie on the premises. Whether she was on her own, with her three children or joined by her love, Brad Pitt, the busy actress always made time to see her beloved mom, Marcheline Bertrand, who resided in a suite. But Jolie's early morning visit January 28 marked a solemn occasion: Bertrand had passed away less than 24 hours earlier, and Jolie, 31, and Pitt, 43, were there to look after her personal effects. "They were in the room for several hours and went about their business very quietly," a hotel staffer tells Us, adding, "Angelina was actually smiling and seemed to be doing OK." Perhaps the presence of Pitt — who skipped that evening's Screen Actors Guild Awards, where he was nominated for a best screen ensemble award for *Babel* — eased her pain. "It is very, very sad," says a source. "She was extremely close to her mother. There was such a bond there." *Babel* director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, adds to Us, "It's very unfortunate."

Jolie had always considered Bertrand, who battled ovarian cancer for six years before suc-

cumbing at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in L.A. at age 56, her closest friend and biggest cheerleader. The pair formed an unusually tight connection as a result of Bertrand's bitter split from actor Jon Voight in 1976. (Jolie was 6 months old at the time and has spoken at length about her now-estranged father's infidelity.) "My father was separated from my mother when he won his Oscar," Jolie told *Inside the Actors Studio* in 2004. "He took his girlfriend. For my Oscar experience (when she won in 2000 for *Girl, Interrupted*, her date was her older brother, James Haven), I was very conscious of the fact that (my mom's) two children were sitting next to each other, and they were at a ceremony, 20 years later. . . . We called her after, and she was crying. It was her night." Jolie ultimately gave her mom her Oscar trophy.

"Marcheline was a hippie who encouraged her kids to stand apart," says a source. And the Chicago-born actress, who put her career on hold to raise Jolie and Haven, took great pride in her daughter's accomplishments. (The Voights deliberately gave their kids middle names that would work as last names so they could live anonymously.) "She loved her kids and grandkids unconditionally," says a source, noting that she loved to take Maddox out on her balcony and watch passing cars. Seconds another, "She was proud of the woman Angelina had become."

The Last Goodbye

According to a source, Jolie had been closely monitoring Bertrand's health during the past few months. "She was concerned but thought there was hope," says a source. And Jolie herself told Larry King on December 18, "She's doing good. Her spirit is unbroken." But in recent weeks, this same source says, Bertrand's condition began to deteriorate. "A few weeks ago, Angelina was told her mom was going to die soon. Her mom had rebounded before, but it looked bad." (This may explain Jolie's glum stroll down the red carpet at January 15's Golden Globe Awards, during which she curtly deflected nearly all of *El* host Ryan Seacrest's questions.)

As she and Pitt had spent an uneventful week at their new home base in New Orleans (where Pitt is shooting *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*), Jolie prepared to head to L.A. at a moment's notice, says a source. The couple got word of Bertrand's status on January 25, left Louisiana (with Maddox, 5, Zahara, 2, and Shiloh, 8 months, in tow) at 1 p.m. on January 27 and arrived at the hospital a few hours before her passing. "Everybody cried," says a Jolie friend. "Marcheline had told Angelina and Brad that she loved them. It was incredibly emotional."

— Mara Reinstein

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LIVE PATIO MUSIC **THE WORLD FAMOUS TWO KEYS** **UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP**

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 an 8 — Start counting the money but don't spend it yet. Figure out how much you need and where you're going to get it.
Taurus (April 20 – May 20) Today is a 7 — As you busily bustle about, you'll encounter people who want to help. This is good, but don't let them take control. Keep that job for yourself.
Gemini (May 21 – June 21) Today is a 7 — Although you seem to be more efficient now, do pay attention. Listen to your partner, the critics and the competition. Don't race off in the wrong direction.
Cancer (June 22 – July 22) Today

is a 6 — There's plenty of work, but the money is not great. It seems to come in dribbles. The good news is that it's steady, so keep on plugging away. The boredom will make you creative.
Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) Today is a 6 — Hide out for a while and let yourself heal. You have a few scrapes and bruises. Don't even think or talk things over. Listen and watch, at the most.
Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) Today is a 7 — Gather up all the goodies you can, and stash them in a safe place. You're just about to get interested in doing something else.
Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) Today is a 7 — You're starting to see results, and that's enormously gratifying. Don't go shouting to the hilltops yet; it's still too early.
Scorpio (Oct. 23 Nov. 21) Today is a 7 — As you wrap up this latest chore, give yourself a break. Go out and spend some of what you've just earned on somebody you love.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) Today is a 7 — Another source of funds is becoming available. This may be old debts you can collect, or an old project you can finish. It's like finding a treasure, but you still have to do the work.
Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) Today is a 7 — Your friends all want to celebrate your newly acquired wealth. You're running into friends you haven't seen in years. Some, you may suspect, you've never seen before. Take care.
Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) Today is an 8 — The more you understand, the more curious you become. Don't worry about running out of questions. There's a whole universe to explore.
Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) Today is a 6 — Stash away your surplus, and everything else you might need. It never hurts to be prepared. Get new flashlight batteries, too.

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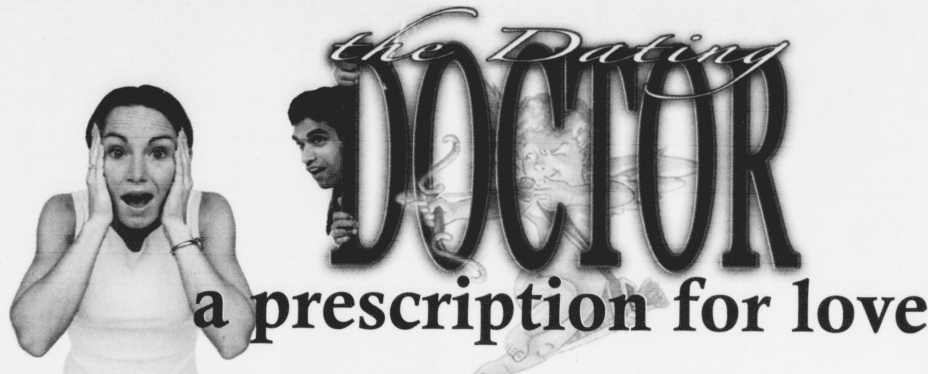
Haven't been hit by Cupid's arrow?

Learn a little bit more about the history of the most romantic of holidays

One legend says that in 3rd century Rome, Emperor Claudius II outlawed marriage because he thought that single men made better soldiers than married men. When Valentine, a priest, heard about this, he thought that it was unjust and began marrying lovers in secret.

Another legend says that when Valentine was in jail, he fell in love with a young girl, thought to be the jailer's daughter. Before he was killed, Valentine wrote the girl a letter and signed it "From Your Valentine," which is still used as a salutation today.

-Courtesy of The History Channel (www.history.com)



Ease romantic ills with 'Hitch'-like dating advice

By Ashley S. Westerman
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What if someone had the answer to the how to spend a perfect Valentine's Day? Or about how to spend the least amount of money on a date and still have a great time? What about how to pick between Mr. Right and Mr. Right Now?

Stephen Gray, an inspirational educator and counselor at East Carolina University, thinks he has these answers. To help UK students understand the opposite sex and to offer relationship advice, Gray will present "Creative Dating: Cure for the Common Relationship" tonight at 8 in Memorial Hall.

Gray said he specializes in the world of dating, knows his material and is not afraid to be honest with his

audiences.

"I tell it straight-forward and don't pull any punches," Gray said. "I let the people know where they stand."

Gray spent the last seven years working with Dave Coleman, who he calls "America's real-life 'Hitch.'"

Coleman is the student activities director at Xavier University in Cincinnati and the creator of several dating programs similar to Gray's.

"The movie ('Hitch') is about Dave Coleman," Gray said, adding that many of the movie's scenes are based on Coleman's advice and are part of Gray's presentation.

Because college students are one of Gray's most popular audiences, he said he enjoys the opportunity to share dating advice with this age group.

"This is an interactive and fun

show," Gray said.

During the presentation, Gray will speak about romance, long-distance relationships and pick-up lines. He said he will focus on how to plan a date involving little or no money, no alcohol, no sex and no drugs.

Gray will also answer questions such as why women want bad boys, and how men and women define romance. His presentation will have the answer to what all men and women want out of relationships, Gray promised.

Gray is so confident in his methods that he said if he was still in college, he would listen to his own lectures.

"Though it was a trial-and-error process for me in college, I would definitely have followed my own advice," Gray said.

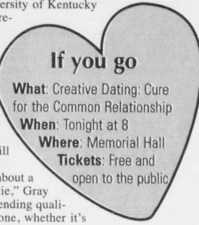
He is very excited about coming

to UK and speaking to the students, Gray said.

"Dave Coleman told me that the people at the University of Kentucky treat you with respect and are some of the most beautiful people in the entire world," He said.

Gray also guarantees that anyone who attends the lecture will have a good time.

"Dating is not about a bar or about a movie," Gray said. "It's about spending quality time with someone, whether it's a relationship before or after marriage."



If you go

What: Creative Dating: Cure for the Common Relationship
When: Tonight at 8
Where: Memorial Hall
Tickets: Free and open to the public

"Dating is not about a bar or about a movie. It's about spending quality time with someone."

— Stephen Gray, "The Dating Doctor"

Illustration by Andrea Coates

Lectures, concert showcase Latin American culture and sound

By Ellie Fairbanks
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When Jonathan Glixon realized four graduate students in the School of Music were pursuing doctorates in Latin American studies, he saw opportunity.

"We got really lucky that some people just happened to be working on somewhat of the same thing," said Glixon, a professor of musicology at UK. "We figured we could showcase the students with our lecture."

So, Glixon planned the upcoming Longyear lecture around the culture of Latin America. The School of Music hosts the lecture four times a year. The series is named for Rey Longyear, a former professor of music at UK, and his wife, who made large donations to the school.

"We have guest lecturers four times a year," Glixon said. "We sometimes have well-known people from around the area, but we also get people who aren't necessarily as famous."

The lecture, which is Friday at 3:30

p.m. in the Niles Gallery of the Little Library, will feature Dale Olsen, a music professor at Florida State University. Olsen will focus on "music and healing," Glixon said, with an emphasis on connecting the spiritual and natural worlds.

While Olsen is the distinguished lecturer, two visiting professors will also discuss research they have been conducting. A professor from Eastern Kentucky University will discuss two Bolivian songs that share the same name, but are quite different, and a former UK student will talk about the social transformation of women and children through percussion, Glixon said.

Along with the guest lecturers, four graduate students will present their dissertation research. Some of the graduate students came from Latin American areas, influencing their research fields, while others developed an interest in the region elsewhere.

"All four of the students probably came to UK for completely different reasons," Glixon said. "We're just so fortunate that they are all doing research on

Latin America, so we can have an event like this."

This is one of the largest events he's put together while at UK, Glixon said. "This is the first time we've done something with the lecture series that is on this large of a scale," Glixon said.

Friday's events will also include a concert at noon, featuring UK students and faculty. The concert will mix contemporary and classical Latin American music, Glixon said.

"The concert will definitely be challenging because we're mixing such different things," Glixon said. "But, they're short pieces, so they'll be great."

Glixon thinks that learning about new cultures is important for students and the Lexington community.

"It's always good to learn more about other cultures, especially one that's becoming so important in America," Glixon said. "Often we don't see things like this in Lexington, and it's great because this is the sampling of an entire continent."

TOP 10 radio

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Top albums of the week

1. Jason Zavala, "Laser Crust"
2. Deerhoof, "Friend Opportunity"
3. Apples in Stereo, "New Magnetic Wonder"
4. Shins, "Wincing the Night Away"
5. MV and EE with The Bummer Road, "Green Blues"
6. Mum, "The Peel Session"
7. Vietnam, "Vietnam Kemado"
8. Bird and the Bee, "Bird and the Bee"
9. The Good, The Bad and The Queen, "The Good, The Bad and The Queen"
10. She, Sir, "Who Can't Say Yes"



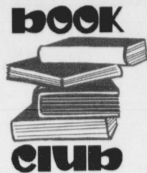
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"Their Eyes Were Watching God"

By Zora Neale Hurston



Because February is known both for lovers and black history, this classic novel about Janie Crawford and her journey into womanhood as a young, spirited black woman in the South seems extremely appropriate.

"Their Eyes Were Watching God" manages to showcase the journey of self-discovery, using love, lust and passion to take the reader on the journey.

Among the unique aspects of this book, the authentic use of regional dialect in word choice and spelling is at the forefront. Even though the novel spends time focusing on the desire for fancy, high-class things, the language used is anything but.

Hurston's book adequately captures the emotions of Janie's abusive relationship with Logan; her mostly materialistic relationship with Jody;

and finally her love, affection and friendship with Tea Cake.

"Their Eyes Were Watching God" carries the reader on one woman's journey to her one true love — but more than that — to self-satisfaction with her own identity.

Hurston wrote her inspiring story of a black woman finding her own identity in the 1930s, and her work was largely criticized and ignored until after her death. It wasn't until Alice Walker, another African-American writer, rediscovered Hurston's work in the 1960s that it gained popularity and critical success.

This inspiring story is one of the best in American literature. Janie Crawford is a relatable character, who demonstrates that when hearts fall in love, the bond of love and friendship prevail.

-Johnny Xu, *Kernel book critic*

"Anna Karenina"

By Leo Tolstoy

This book may be 800 pages long, but don't be discouraged — it is divided into a more readable eight parts. Plus, it is more of what I like to call, "Harry Potter-long." Translation: Though lengthy, it is a captivating read that most can digest in just a couple days.

Reading about Anna and all her naughty deeds reminds me of Gabrielle from "Desperate Housewives." Anna is married to a man who loves her deeply but, as great tragedies go, Anna develops a fatal attraction to a single and dashing officer named Count Vronsky.

Anna herself is rather bold and quite shameless in showing off her affair in the discreet, royal society of Russia. But Anna is also needy and whiny, and soon she even

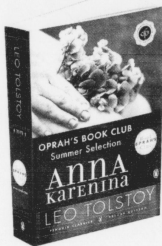
earns the ire of Vronsky.

Tolstoy tells of the illicit affair and its consequences in one section and the love affair between two supporting characters in another.

These stories all entwine with adultery, forgiveness, social consequence and family values. It's not as easy as one may think to write Anna off as an empty, unfaithful adulteress. She has her sympathetic and relatable moments that appeal to the reader.

This Russian romance is twisted with subplots, motifs and tragedy, but those bitter and jaded by love may find Anna Karenina's tale of hopeful and faithless lovers a real page-turner.

-Johnny Xu, *Kernel book critic*



MAKE YOUR VALENTINE WEEKEND PLANS

1. Kisses & Calories

Equus Run Vineyards is hosting this year's chocolate- and wine-tasting event. The open house will feature various chocolates paired with new wine releases. The Feb. 10 event will host live music beginning at 1 p.m. Wine-tasting is \$2 and includes a complementary Equus Run wineglass.

2. Valentine Workshops

If you like making a homemade valentine, art workshops and craft classes will be offered Feb. 10 at The Living Arts and Science Center, 362 N. Martin Luther King Blvd. Registration is required for any of the three classes. Go to www.lasclex.com for more information.

3. Valentine's Day Dinner

If you're out of date ideas, let the Wingspan Gallery, 191 Jefferson St., take care of dinner and entertainment for you and your date on Feb. 14. Dinner and a gallery tour are included in the \$45 ticket.

ONTAP | For the week of Feb. 8 - Feb. 14

TONIGHT

Apples in Stereo w/ Casper and The Cookies
9 p.m., *The Dame*. Tickets cost \$10.
Sounds like: Of Montreal, The Zombies

Straw Boss
9 p.m., *Southgate House, Newport*. Tickets are free.
Sounds like: Trace Adkins, Clint Black

FRIDAY, Feb. 9
Rag w/ Upshot Trio
9 p.m., *The Dame*. Tickets cost \$7.
Sounds like: Phish, Widespread Panic

Ed Petterson
9:30 p.m., *Southgate House, Newport*. Tickets cost \$5.
Sounds like: Woody Guthrie, Tom Waits

Go Go Dolls
8 p.m., *Louisville Palace, Louisville*. Tickets cost \$35.

SATURDAY, Feb. 10
Century 2007 w/ DJ Assault, Matthew Bandy, The Refinery, DJ Booth and Shawn Tye
9 p.m., *The Dame*. Tickets cost \$7.
Sounds like: DJ Funk, Thievery Corporation

Buckwheat Zydeco w/ Libertines U.S.
8:30 p.m., *Southgate House, Newport*. Tickets cost \$17-\$20.
Sounds like: Terrance Simien, Bluerunners

Split Lip Rayfield

9 p.m., *Madison Theatre, Covington*. Tickets cost \$10.
Sounds like: Bad Livers, Scud Mountain Boys

SUNDAY Feb. 11
AFI w/ Sick Of It All and The Dear and Dear
8 p.m., *Bogarts, Cincinnati*. Tickets cost \$23.
Sounds like: Love Equals Death, Pennywise

MONDAY, Feb. 12
Sweet Love, A Tribute to Oscar Treadwell
7:30 p.m., *Madison Theatre, Covington*. Tickets cost \$20.
Sounds like: Dizzy Gillespie, Buddy Rich

TUESDAY, Feb. 13
Allurion w/ Lumis and Nolido
9 p.m., *The Dame*. Tickets cost \$3.
Sounds like: Snow Patrol, Coldplay, R.E.M.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 14
Arsenic on the Rocks, All American Werewolves and Guttersluts
9 p.m., *The Dame*. Tickets cost \$3.
Sounds like: The Misfits, Dead Kennedys

Breaking Benjamin w/ LEO and Burden Brothers
7:30 p.m., *Bogarts, Cincinnati*. Tickets cost \$25.
Sounds like: Chevelle, Tool

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- Completed information sheet.

Please return the requested information via campus mail or fax to: Todd R. Cheever, MD, MN-104, Office of Student Affairs, College of Medicine, 0298, fax (859) 323-2076. Dr. Cheever's phone number is (859) 323-5261.

You may also email your application materials to Dr. Cheever at tcchee0@uky.edu as long as you include an original signature on the application form.

The Committee may contact any applicant for an interview prior to making the final selection.

NASA to review astronaut assessment procedures

By Marc Kaufman
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — NASA will immediately begin two formal reviews of its procedures for assessing the emotional and psychological well-being of astronauts in response to Monday's arrest of a member of the elite corps, Navy Capt. Lisa Nowak, on charges of attempted murder and kidnapping in connection with an apparent love triangle.

The first review will examine the extent and quality of the space agency's psychological testing and monitoring of the astronauts and will be done with the assistance of outside experts, NASA Deputy Administrator Shana Dale said Wednesday.

The second review will be conducted by managers of the Johnson Space Center to determine how and why supervisors and colleagues there failed to detect how disturbed Nowak had become.

NASA officials said that as late as Friday, Nowak, 43, had been at work in Houston preparing to serve as lead mis-

sion Control specialist in charge of communications between ground control and the crew of the next space shuttle mission.

By early Monday morning, Nowak had made a nonstop dash by car to Orlando to confront — and pepper-spray — Air Force Capt. Colleen Shipman, whom she believed was a rival for the affections of astronaut William "Billy" Oefelein.

Nowak, who approached Shipman in disguise in an airport parking lot around 3 a.m., allegedly tried to get into Shipman's car while carrying a steel mallet, a buck knife and a BB gun that resembled a real 9mm semiautomatic handgun, according to an affidavit filed by local police. They said the BB gun was loaded with pellets and was set to fire.

Nowak was released on bail late Tuesday and returned Wednesday to Houston on a commercial airline with chief astronaut Steven Lindsey, who had flown to Florida on Monday. NASA officials said that after a medical assessment Wednesday morning at the Johnson Space Center, she was with her

parents and friends. Her son and twin daughters were with her estranged husband, Richard, who works for a NASA contractor.

Oefelein, 41, who piloted the most recent shuttle mission to the International Space Station, has two children and is divorced.

Reflecting the intensely personal nature of the situation, Dale said that Johnson officials first learned of Nowak's arrest early Monday morning from Oefelein. The NASA official said the astronaut had gotten a call from Shipman after the alleged attack and quickly telephoned the director of Johnson Space Center, where the astronauts are stationed.

Nowak and Oefelein trained together as astronauts but were never on the same mission. Shipman, 30, works at Patrick Air Force Base near the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Nowak's bizarre behavior led NASA Administrator Michael Griffin to request a formal review of psychological testing and oversight procedures at Johnson Space Center. That assessment will be conducted by Center officials,

Dale said, and will look into whether there were "any areas of concern — any leading indicators we might have picked up on, based on Lisa Nowak's dealings with other astronauts or NASA employees, between the time she was detailed to us from the Navy and the present."

The second review, ordered by Griffin Wednesday, will be undertaken by NASA's chief medical officer and will include outside experts who will assess the quality and appropriateness of the agency's psychological testing and counseling. Dale said it will be completed by June.

"We were taken by surprise by events in Florida," Dale said, adding that Johnson Deputy Director Robert Cabana "did not see any indications of concern" regarding Nowak. "Having said that, we want to know if there was something we missed along the way."

She also said several times that since the astronaut corps was formed more than 50 years ago, its members have consistently performed extremely well and led admirable lives. Nowak is the first active-duty astronaut to be ac-

cused of a felony, officials have said.

Nowak, who grew up in Rockville, Md., recently separated from her husband of 19 years, her parents said in a statement. "Personally, Lisa is an extremely caring and dedicated mother to her three children," the statement read. "Considering both her personal and professional life, these alleged events are completely out of character and have come as a tremendous shock to our family."

Dale said that Nowak, who could be imprisoned for years if she is found guilty, has been taken off "flight status" and put on a 30-day leave. She said that Oefelein remained on active flight status.

NASA officials worked hard Wednesday to keep its astronauts and workforce focused on their missions — including a space shuttle flight scheduled for next month, Johnson Director Michael Coats called an unusual meeting with the entire astronaut team.

"We have humans in space right now," said Johnson deputy director Cabana. "We have a real challenge here with the missions in front of us."

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RALLY

Continued from page 1

tucky University, Morehead State University and Kentucky State University.

"I'm pleased that it is as successful as it has been today," Brown said. "These are issues that every student deals with and thinks about and it is important that we are here to represent UK students."

Fletcher presented his plans to help reduce tuition taxes and fund more capital projects.

"I plan to put an increase of \$25 million into our fund for tuition support," Fletcher said. "I want to make sure every student in Kentucky who is willing to work hard can be guaranteed financial barriers won't prevent them from getting a higher education."

State Sen. Ernesto Scorsone, who represents the Lexington area, watched the rally

from the back of the crowd and was pleased by the student turnout.

"This type of rally is the only event where all students get together and really have an impact here in Frankfort," Scorsone said. "It serves to keep the issue alive and to encourage students to continue to pursue these issues by following up with their representatives. Their real impact is with their representatives."

Matt Ballard, Student Lobbyist Corps chairman, said the most important thing students can take away from an event like this is the motivation to continue pursuing higher education issues in politics.

"I'm excited about the number of students who are here today, but it is important that after this event, students continue to find these issues important," Ballard said. "This should not end today."

"Without the possibility of higher education," Fletcher said after his speech, "it is impossible for you to be all that you can be."

SENATORS

Continued from page 1

Corey Kline and Cabinet Secretary Nick Phelps.

"I think Brent did a good job spreading the word and really encouraging everyone to make an effort to come," said At-Large Sen. Tyler Montell. "There are always going to be the senators who don't come; the senators who aren't going to be a part of SG next year and don't see the importance in these events."

UK provided buses for students for the ride to Frankfort, but the cheerleaders and the mascot did not go as was originally planned.

"I'm not sure what happened with that," Burchett said. "Last I heard they were on board. I was really disappointed not to see them here today."

SG

Continued from page 1

mittees to eight new committees, each with a specific focus.

"I feel that the structure we have now is serving us well, but we can do way better to reach out and serve the students," Odoi said. "I will introduce these same eight committees next week at O and E (Operations and Evaluations committee meeting) because I think this is the best plan for us."

Other senators, including Parrish, plan to introduce committee structures of their own.

"This is more akin to what real legislatures do," Rauf said. "It allows them freedom to organize their committees to what they need."

The Senate also unanimously passed a resolution in support of The University Leadership Summit's proposal for a campus memorial for students, faculty and staff who have died while at UK.

"We're still working on the plans for who will design it and where it will be placed, so we invite all of your input," executive cabinet member Richie Holmes said. "This is something that I think is very important, and I don't want this idea to still only be an idea when I graduate."

TASK FORCE

Continued from page 1

cern."

The task force will meet at least twice a month. The next meeting is this morning from 9 to 12:30 in room 110 of the state Capitol in Frankfort. UK students and other members of the community can attend the meeting.

"We always encourage people to come and participate and offer comments," said Travis Manley, UK's representative on the task force and emergency management specialist at UK.

Manley also said the university has al-

ready begun working on safety regulations, including compliance with the Minger Act.

"I think we're quite a bit ahead of the curve at UK," Manley said.

Minger agreed that UK is taking positive steps toward improving on-campus safety but emphasized that it isn't limited to just school officials do.

"They do have a job," Minger said. "But the students also have just as much responsibility to act responsibly."

"It goes hand in hand. You need both," Minger, whose permanent residence is in Florida, said it has been hard being away from her family, but said the mission was worth the effort.

"We're all willing to sacrifice," Minger said. "What's life all about if it's not about helping each other?"

AIDS

Continued from page 1

Dr. Alice Thorton of Bluegrass Care Clinic. "Luckily, we were given a grant that allowed us enough funding to keep it going."

Not only did the grant save the free treatment program, it allowed the clinic to expand its treatment, Thorton said.

"I am proud to say that we now have eliminated our patient waiting list," Thorton said. "Currently our clinic is treating about

650 HIV patients."

The panelists also expressed special concern for college students.

Some college kids participate in high-risk activities like promiscuity and drug use, Brown said. The state HIV/AIDS awareness program is educating college students through class and Greek-associated activities.

"This silence needs to be stopped," said Aminata Cairo, a UK anthropology professor. "HIV patients should not have to fear being ostracized by their community. Only when we accept the facts can we put a stop to the spread of this epidemic."

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Apple's Jobs wants to get rid of music copying laws

By Michelle Quinn, Alana Samuels and Dawn C. Chmielewski
Los Angeles Times

Apple Inc. Chief Executive Steve Jobs endorsed a radical proposal Tuesday to do away with the restrictions over what people can do with the music they buy online.

The plan could allow music fans to buy songs from Apple and play them on rivals' music players, or vice versa — something they often can't do because of electronic locks imposed by the recording industry.

The record labels have long resisted this move. No one knows whether the elimination of copying protections that Jobs recommended would boost the industry's sales by letting customers do more with their music purchases, or open record labels to the kind of rampant piracy that plagued them earlier in the decade.

The record labels had little to say about Jobs' proposal, which he issued in an unusual 1,800-word essay posted on Apple's Web site. But one of the music industry's most outspoken critics against piracy suggested that the labels may have to give up control to keep music customers happy.

"For the labels, it feels like jumping off a cliff," said Hilary Rosen, former head of the Recording Industry Assn. of America, the U.S. recording industry's trade group. "But at this point they have little choice because this is where the market is going."

As the man whose company's iPod became the cornerstone of digital music, Jobs' words carry a lot of weight. But Apple, too, would be taking a risk by promoting such unfettered commerce. The

company has become the dominant force in online music by closely tying its online store with its devices, so songs purchased at iTunes rivals won't play on any of the 90 million iPods that Apple has sold.

But Jobs said anti-piracy protections were restricting customers' ability to burn songs onto CDs as often as they like and play them on unlimited computers, but were not stopping determined pirates from illegally swapping songs.

Eliminating such restrictions "is clearly the best alternative for consumers, and Apple would embrace it in a heartbeat," he said.

The letter from Jobs was a challenge to Universal Music Group, Sony BMG Music Entertainment, Warner Music Group and EMI Group — the four Apple partners that together control more than 70 percent of the world's music.

"This is good for the consumer, and it's ultimately good for everyone," Aram Sinnreich, a managing partner at Radar Research in Los Angeles. "It's been one major stumbling block in the transition of the digital economy into the 21st century."

Some record labels countered that they have been working to give consumers more freedom to use music as they like while protecting the rights of its artists.

"The lack of operability between a lot of different devices and digital platforms is becoming more and more of an issue for music consumers," EMI spokeswoman Jeanne Meyer said. "We've been out there engaging with various partners to come up with a solution. The consumer response has been enthusiastic."

This is a future Oscar winner?

By Greg Braxton and Robert W. Welkos
Los Angeles Times

HOLLYWOOD — Eddie Murphy's on the verge of an awards season trifecta — his charismatic portrayal of a tragic R&B singer in "Dreamgirls" already has nabbed him a Screen Actors Guild award and a Golden Globe, and he's considered a front-runner for a best supporting Oscar.

But the most high-profile image of Murphy these days — while Oscar ballots are still out — is on billboards and in movie trailers wearing a fat suit, garish eye shadow and little else.

The tagline for his new comedy, "Norbit," poses the ques-

tion: "Have you ever made a really big mistake?"

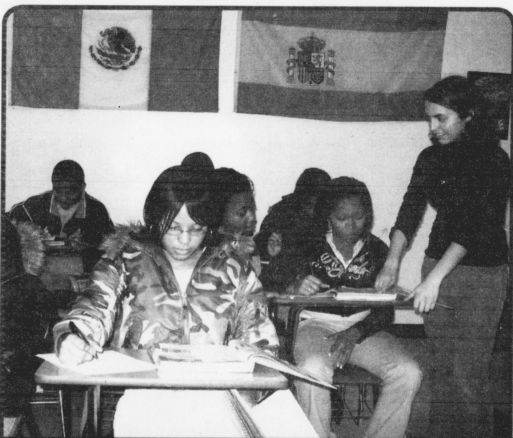
Some Oscar observers are questioning the timing of the movie's Friday arrival, and whether it may unintentionally put off potential academy voters, while some black activists are taking Murphy to task for engaging in what they say are demeaning racial stereotypes.

"Every time I pass that billboard, it makes me sick," said one veteran Oscar consultant, who declined to be identified and is not involved in a rival campaign. "I think his performance in 'Dreamgirls' is so fabulous" and deserves to win the Academy Award. But, he added, Murphy's latest comedy offering "doesn't help."

Award season aside, Murphy

and "Norbit" are under fire from some black activists who say the film is just the latest to build a movie around a black man dressing up as an unsophisticated, overweight black woman. Adding fuel to their anger is the movie's release during Black History Month.

"For Eddie to follow what he did with 'Dreamgirls' with this just doesn't make sense," said Robert M. Entman, author of "The Black Image in the White Mind: Media and Race in America." "There's no excuse for him to lend his prestige to something like this... There has to be a point where African-American stars of his stature have to take some responsibility for their actions and just say no."



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SPORTS

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UK 95, SOUTH CAROLINA 89

One down, No. 1 to go

Four Cats score in double-digits to beat S. Carolina

By Jonathan Smith
jsmith@kykernel.com

The UK men's basketball team slid past South Carolina last night, their second win against the Gamecocks this season.

Now they can completely focus in on the nation's No. 1.

With Florida looming, the Cats took care of the final step between them and redemption with a 95-89 win over USC in front of 23,653 fans at Rupp Arena.

On Saturday, the Cats will have a chance to end their four-game losing streak to Florida. But before the mighty reptiles visit, the Cats had to dispatch of a mightily out-manned Gamecock squad.

No. 18 UK (18-5, 7-2 Southeastern Conference) jumped out to an 18-5 lead and didn't have any problem retaining it throughout the game.

Using a pressing defense in both the full and half courts, the Cats held USC (12-10, 2-7) to 37.5 percent from the field en route to a 50-28 halftime lead.

On top of dictating the ball tempo on defense, the Cats looked to force the ball up the court on offense.

Four UK players — junior guard Joe Crawford, junior center Randolph Morris, junior guard Ramel Bradley and senior forward Bobby Perry — all scored in double digits.

The surprise of the night came when Smith started Lukasz Orbutz in favor of Morris. Smith said he benched Morris for a team violation.

The 6-foot-11 center didn't seem to like his new role, scoring 17 points in his first reserve appearance of the season and displayed a fire that the usually-placid Morris doesn't often exhibit. Morris threw down two thunderous dunks in the first half.

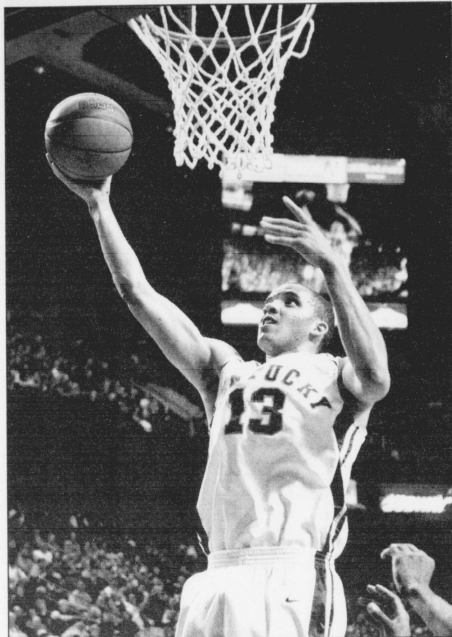
"I think he was disappointed, and he probably should be for kind of letting himself and his teammates down," Smith said. "I think he's trying to show that he's a leader on this team."

For the Gamecocks, it was obvious who their leader was.

Like the first matchup this season, Tre Kelley had 36 points — many of which were on contested shots — while shooting 13 of 25.

UK extended its lead to 63-35 with 16:23 left in the game before USC went on a 25-9 run to cut the lead to 72-60.

Kelley led the charge — scoring 22 points in the second half — after getting some advice from USC head coach, Dave Odom. "He said to me at halftime 'Coach what do you want me to do?'" and I said



Junior center Randolph Morris shoots a jump shot over South Carolina guard Brandis Railey-Ross during last night's 95-89 win in Rupp Arena. Morris was one of four UK players in double-digit scoring.

"Just take the game on, you take it on, I'll get the others to follow." Odom said. "That's what he did, he took it on."

UK quickly built back its lead by as many as 20 points, but South Carolina rallied again with six points in less than 20 seconds after Kelley hit a layup and Brandon Wallace had two dunks on two steals to cut the lead to ten. A Kelley 3-pointer with 13 seconds left got USC to within five points, but it was too late.

The Cats had trouble playing strong for the full 40 minutes, which could have contributed to USC's comeback, Smith said.

"Well, it was again a 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde' type performance," Smith said. "It's something that we've dealt with regularly. "I'm hoping we can put together a com-

plete game."

The team is hoping their play on Saturday will be enough to upset the No. 1 Gators.

"It's definitely a game that everyone circles on their calendar," Crawford said about the Florida game. "We're looking forward to playing them guys."

The Gators have been on the Cats' radar since they swept last season's series between the two, and went on to win the school's first national championship. "It's a team that we haven't been able to beat three or four times since I've been here," Morris said. "I'm looking at it as a chance to come out and play a great team and test ourselves and how great we can play against a great team."

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With glitches solved, Cats move on to a bigger problem...Florida

This is why Tubby Smith is one of the best. Smith had two problems heading in to this game. The first was the issue of Randolph Morris' unmotivated post defense at Arkansas on Sunday. The second was concern that the Cats would look past South Carolina — which they beat 87-49 last month — and ahead to Saturday's game against top-ranked Florida.

So Smith benched Morris. After the game, Smith said Morris was "sat down because of a team violation." Some would contend that Morris' defense in Fayetteville was a violation.

Whatever the reason for the lineup change, it was a risky one. But when Morris — coming off the bench — gave UK a 43-19 lead by ripping down an offensive rebound and stuffing a one-handed dunk with 4:31 left in the first half, it was apparent that Smith was right on.

Message sent. Problems solved. In that one move, Smith sent a message to Morris that lack-advised defense is unacceptable and a message to his players that, even though the Cats have won 13 of their last 15 games, complacency wasn't an option.

In a game where extreme lack of focus was the only chance for a loss, the Cats came out as sharply as they have all year. UK scored on its first six possessions and on seven out of its first eight trips down the floor. The Cats built a 20-5 lead in the first seven minutes of the game and led by double digits for the rest of the game, until South Carolina's late rally.

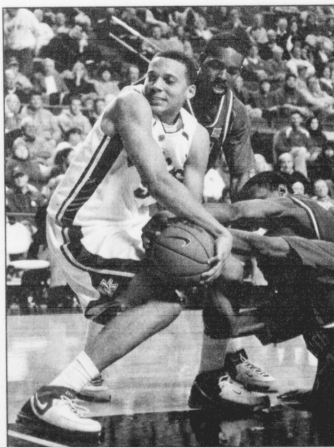
"They took our breath away early," South Carolina coach Dave Odom said. "Whatever confidence we had defensively going into the game was just shredded. ... I thought we were fortunate to be within the same county at halftime."

Aside from USC's late charge, it was the kind of night you want heading into the biggest game of the season.

And you can attribute that charge to one thing: Number one. "I don't know where (our focus) went," Smith said, "but it wasn't on the game in the second half."

It might not have been on the game, it might have been on The Game.

You may have heard something about Saturday's game. All kinds of crazy t-shirt-driven activities are planned, from white-outs to patterned C-A-T-S shirts around Rupp Arena's lower bowl. I



Freshman point guard Derrick Jasper wrestles the ball away from a group of South Carolina players last night in Rupp Arena. In UK's last meeting with the Gamecocks, it beat them by 38 points.

don't know if any of that fanfare will be enough to catapult UK to a signature win/ upset, but I do know the Cats enter that game with two fewer problems than they had before last night. Now, about Joakim Noah...

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Newberry speech showed grasp of city's current needs

Mayor Jim Newberry's first annual State of the Merged Government address Jan. 30 wasn't very upbeat.

"I cannot in good conscience tell you that the state of our merged government is strong," Newberry said, according to his prepared remarks. The comment came at the end of a speech that focused largely on Lexington's environmental, legal, infrastructural and fiscal problems.

We may not like hearing about all the city's troubles, but Newberry was right not to gloss over them in the address. As he said, "the first step in addressing problems is acknowledging that they exist."

Newberry's focus on infrastructural issues was especially warranted. As anyone who lives or drives in the city knows, Lexington is in dire need of structural overhauls. Traffic near downtown and campus is unacceptably congested during peak times, and getting around is often just inconvenient. Newberry acknowledged these problems in his promise to work on accomplishing a New Circle Road overhaul and the Newtown Pike Extension.

All too often, these infrastructural changes are not the subject of public demand or debate. But they are the most important issues local government has to deal with.

Newberry could have gained easy praise for being "positive" and focusing on less important issues. Instead, he asked Lexington residents to think about the difficult problems we face.

His attitude is in stark contrast to that of the previous mayoral administration. Former mayor Teresa Isaac's State of the Merged Govern-

KERNEL EDITORIAL

ment addresses were absurdly self-congratulatory and lacking in substance, especially when most city residents — judging by the wide margin of preference for Newberry over Isaac in the November election — knew that her administration was doing a pitiful job.

The main disappointment in Newberry's address was that he failed to talk about public safety, which has been a growing concern for local residents, especially near campus.

Adding more officers to the ranks of Lexington police and scheduling more patrols are crucial for increasing safety around UK. As the Kernel reported in December, there has been a marked increase of crime on University Avenue — an area that is not under the jurisdiction of UK police.

We hope Newberry's failure to mention Lexington's safety problems was a mere oversight. In a meeting with the editorial board prior to the election, he assured us that getting more police officers on the street was a priority of his. If that has changed, Newberry needs to explain why — and listen closely to students who have been affected by crime.

Other than that omission, however, Newberry's address demonstrated that he has the right priorities for the city and a realistic vision of how to achieve them — two things that could not have been said of the Isaac administration.

Now it's time for Newberry to start taking action, so that future addresses need not sound so down-trodden.

State, universities right to emphasize affordable higher ed in the state

It's a good thing that UK has created new scholarships to help students unable to bear the burden of rising college tuitions come to get a college education.

It's a better thing still that the state government understands why UK is giving away the scholarships and praises them for the endeavor.

On Wednesday night's State of the Commonwealth address, Governor Ernie Fletcher outlined some of the accomplishments and obstacles facing Kentucky. One of those obstacles was the cost of college tuition and the inability for poorer people in the state to afford it. Fletcher said that, because of the dilemma with paying rising tuitions, many low-income families often turn their shoulder on higher education.

"There are low income students in middle school and high school that give up on the hope of attending college because of the financial barriers," Fletcher said in his speech.

The scholarships, though, will help combat this problem, Fletcher said.

KERNEL EDITORIAL

"Higher education means higher earnings," Fletcher said. "In thirty years, a person with a professional degree makes 2.3 million dollars more than a high school graduate."

In his speech, Fletcher thanked the universities around the state that had focused on these need-based tuition scholarships.

Fletcher also proposed spending another \$20 million dollars on these need-based scholarships through the College Access Program and the Kentucky Tuition Grant program.

"These funds will reduce the waiting list and result in more Kentuckians going to college providing financial aid to an additional 11,800 Kentuckians, about 2,400 of whom would not have enrolled otherwise," Fletcher said.

As outlined in his speech, the scholarships will be a great tool for lower-income students and, as the government views its significance, will only become more important.



BRIAN GOODLEY, Kernel cartoonist

To be cliché, to have friends, you have to be one first

Friends can help you through anything, and everyone should be one. I figure I should take some time to explain a few things.



DARIUSH SHAFIQ
Kernel columnist

A few people have grumpily commented that my recent writings sound an awful lot like a lovesick fop spouting on and on about how he just can't seem to make things work. It's a part of life, and I'm convinced that sooner or later, things will work out. I'm in no hurry.

That fact doesn't change that I'm a card-carrying member of the hopeless romantics club. The things I've written about are parts of my life that are a bit personal and sometimes extremely painful.

Friends are the ones we call when we think it can't get any worse. They're the ones we want with us when things can't get any better. We celebrate with them and we mourn

with them. We'd trust them with our wallet, house key, worldly possessions and most importantly, the things we can't trust anyone else with: our secrets.

Sometimes it helps to stop thinking of a friend as a separate person, as you might have seen in some of my previous columns. I've said it before and I'll say it again, our friends make up the best parts of us, the parts we want to see in ourselves, the people we want to become more like.

It's important to remember that the people we care about are just like us. They're not perfect, they make mistakes, they think and feel and breathe and dream and laugh and cry.

It's one thing to think the world out of someone. It's another to expect it out of them. Sooner or later, our friends are going to let us down. Sooner or later, we are going to let our friends down. This is the nature of being human and there's absolutely no way to avoid it. I wish there was, but wishing does not make it so.

Friendship has its battles, but we should always keep our friends on the same side as us. It doesn't do any good to fight with someone who makes our best ally. Instead, we

should be with them, fighting the problem.

Fighting with a friend is like hitting yourself in the head with a rock. It hurts a lot and you're going to do yourself harm that you can't ever undo. It also makes you look dumb and act even dumber.

The saying goes that "The love you take is equal to the love you make." That's kind of like saying, "If you want to have friends, be one."

The love that friends share is worth more than gold or diamonds or all the sushi in Japan. Why? It's because you can't buy love (and don't listen to the people who'll tell you you're simply in the wrong part of town).

People are constantly wondering how they can make a difference in the world, but making a difference is sometimes a whole lot easier than people would make it seem. Being there for a single person doesn't mean you're having any less of an impact. In fact, from their perspective, you're probably making all the difference in the world.

Darius Shafiq is an English and Journalism senior. E-mail: opinions@kykernel.com

NBA age limit ushers in new era in college basketball

As the month of March slowly creeps into focus and college basketball takes center stage in the sports world, it becomes more and more obvious that the 2006 freshman class has made an immediate impact.

Being one of the deepest classes in recent memory and the first under the new age limit imposed by NBA



CHRIS McGRATH
Guest columnist

Commissioner David Stern, this year's freshman class has seen an influx of talent that has not only raised competition and attracted more fans, but has made this year's version of college basketball much more exciting.

The new NBA rule, requiring athletes to be at least 19 years of age and one year removed from high school, has denied high school stars the opportunity to make the jump from amateur to professional status; thus recruiting them to the college ranks.

The move seems beneficial for all parties involved, as universities would receive increasing yields of talent and the NBA would reap the benefits of more mature, developed basketball players that have honed their skills. However, rather than helping the college game, the age limit has deprived players the ability to seek employment, put college coaches in a recruiting predicament and made a mockery of academia.

There is no argument that super

freshmen such as Kevin Durant of Texas, Chase Budinger of Arizona and Greg Oden of Ohio State have captivated sports fans across the country with unparalleled athleticism and the knack for performing in big games, but did Stern think about the ramifications of his actions and the welfare of these athletes?

Why is an 18-year-old with superior athletic talent not permitted to cash in on his talents while his high school counterpart can apply for a job after high school graduation? Of course a professional basketball player would make more than the average employee with a high school education, but submitting an application to the local Wendy's is equivalent to entering the NBA Draft.

Just as Wendy's can pass over a person's application, NBA franchises can do the same with prospective athletes by letting them go undrafted. Sending an athlete to college for at least one year presents the possibility of injury and the potential of never hearing his name on draft day. This is surely not in the best interest for the athlete, especially when they have the talent to play professionally right away.

And it is just not the athletes that get the raw end of the bargain; universities face problems too. Before the age limit, college coaches had a good understanding as to which athletes were most likely to make the jump to the NBA. Coveted players such as LeBron James and Dwight Howard were seldom recruited, as their likelihood of attending college was slim to none. Now college coaches are faced with a new chal-

lenge; deciding on whether to add high-caliber athletes that will bolt after one year, or signing players with less stature that are intent at receiving a college degree.

After all, that is the purpose of attending a university, to attain a higher education. With the arrival of highly talented athletes that have no intention of staying past their freshman year, the title of student-athlete begins to hold little legitimacy. Coaches now have to weigh the pros and cons of adding a "one and done" player to their roster and whether a deep run in March is worth the possible retributions from the NCAA when graduation rates fall below par.

Just like coaches, schools are put to the test with the new breed of athletes as university presidents are forced to sit back and watch 18-year-olds make the college institution merely a stepping-stone to fame and riches in the NBA. At least the NFL's policy, being three years removed from high school before entering the draft, gives kids the opportunity to obtain a degree in three years.

With the age limit in effect, college basketball fans have witnessed special athletes on the campus hard-wood. And although the rule is well intentioned, it has no place in the basketball community, as it is not up to the commissioner to decide what's best for each athlete coming out of high school. But if rules are rules, we must abide by them and enjoy watching, what is now, a new era of college basketball.

Chris McGrath is a broadcast journalism freshman. E-mail: opinions@kykernel.com.

Submissions

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

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Weekly Poll Question

Did UK make the right decision in eliminating trans fat from most campus dining facilities?

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Brooks draws recruits from across state, South

Travis Waldron
sports@kykernel.com

UK signee Moncell Allen is from New Orleans.

After playing three seasons at Holy Cross alongside current UK wide receiver Dicky Lyons Jr., the running back's family lost its home to Hurricane Katrina.

Allen then moved to South Carolina for his final year of high school and had originally signed with UK. But instead, he decided to go to Fort Union Military Preparatory Academy to attend to his grades.

Now, one year later during the NCAA National Signing Day, UK head coach Rich Brooks said his new recruit had endured an "odyssey" to get to UK.

And Brooks is glad Allen has finally arrived in Lexington.

"He's one of those unusual backs that ... when you look at him walk through the door you think, 'Now, how can he play?'" UK head coach Rich Brooks said. "He's what I call a bowling ball. He's a little short guy, but he can break tackles and get the ball down the field."

Brooks thinks Allen will complement the rest of his 28 recruits — three of whom are from LaGrange (Ga.) High School.

UK's roster already featured three LaGrange graduates — wide receiver DeMoro Ford and linebackers Wesley Woodyard and Braxton Kelley.

LaGrange defensive lineman D.J. Stafford and defensive backs Mychal Bailey and Randall Burden all earned All-State honors their senior season and have signed with UK.

Woodyard, Kelley and Ford all had indirect influence on the LaGrange players, Brooks said.

"They played key roles for us this past year, and those young men at LaGrange High School could see that," Brooks said at a Wednesday press conference. "They know those guys are comfortable here, they know they've been successful and treated well."

Stafford, one of eight Georgians that signed with UK yesterday, tallied 72 tackles and four sacks his senior season. His performance earned him a four-star rating from several recruiting analysts, making him the highest-rated player UK has signed.

UK recruited Bailey as a defensive back, but his physical nature may land him at linebacker once he gets here, Brooks said.

"He will knock you into next week," Brooks said.

Burden, who was second team all state at LaGrange, had narrowed his picks to Tulane, Eastern Carolina and South Carolina before joining the Cats.

The LaGrange players weren't the only highlights of the class of 2007.

UK signed seven offensive linemen, including Kentucky natives Stuart Hines, Brad Durham, Phillip Hibbard and Billy Joe Murphy.

"If there's (offensive) linemen in this state that have that kind of size and athletic ability. We need to do everything we can to get them to come to Kentucky," Brooks said. "Offensive linemen of that stature are hard to come by."

UK landed a surprise commitment on Tuesday from Kyrus Lanxter, a wide receiver from Tennessee that switched to UK after committing to West Virginia.

Lanxter averaged 32.9 yards per catch his senior season. Though he caught only 27 passes, 16 were touchdowns.

"(Lanxter is) an extremely talented young man," Brooks said. "He's very similar, in my mind, to Keenan Burton, just a very gifted athlete with good speed and play-making ability."

UK also signed Chris Drayton, another player who, like Moncell, committed to the Cats last year. Drayton graduated from high school in 2006 but chose to play football at a preparatory academy before coming to UK.

Brooks expects eight or nine of the players that signed Wednesday to compete for major playing time next season, he said.



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Women prep for Ole Miss

Cats begin tough three-game stretch, look to boost resume for NCAA tourney

By Matthew George
mgeorge@kykernal.com

The women's basketball team sees tonight as a chance for revenge and retribution.

Last month, Ole Miss defeated UK 67-65 in overtime. UK held a 59-55 lead in the overtime before Ole Miss went on a 9-0 run to take the game.

Tonight, UK (15-9, 4-5 Southeastern Conference) seeks to avenge that loss against the Rebels (18-6, 7-2 SEC) in Oxford, Miss. "Whenever you lose, payback is always definitely a thought," junior center Sarah Elliott said. "Ole Miss beat us here in overtime. We are going down there thinking we are going to pay them back."

But the Cats owe Ole Miss more than a payback the one-game loss. Their overtime defeat began a woeful six-game stretch during which the Cats compiled a 1-5 record against SEC opponents.

The skid, which has left UK's postseason fate uncertain at this point in the season, prompted the team to take the final month of the season to start over. The team is treating February like a new season and head coach Mickie DeMoss said she has been happy with the way the Cats have responded.

"I have been pleased with our effort, attitude and spirit," DeMoss said. "It has been a year where we have been challenged with so many close games. We have been challenged with our resolve. We have to keep wanting to get better, not drop our heads, and just keep believing, and I

think we've done that."

Elliott thinks UK's 84-74 win over Florida on Sunday has given the team momentum heading into tonight's game.

"It has definitely given us a little extra boost that we need right now," Elliott said. "We have to go out there with confidence and still believe in ourselves."

"We just need to get over that hump."

That hump may resemble more of a mountain. Tonight, UK begins a three-game stretch where it will face Ole Miss, Tennessee and Georgia, three of the four top-ranked teams in the SEC.

DeMoss said the Cats have yet to play to their full potential.

"I don't think this team has been real consistent," DeMoss said. "As far as having all of our players really clicking on the same day and on the same page, I don't know if we have had that yet."

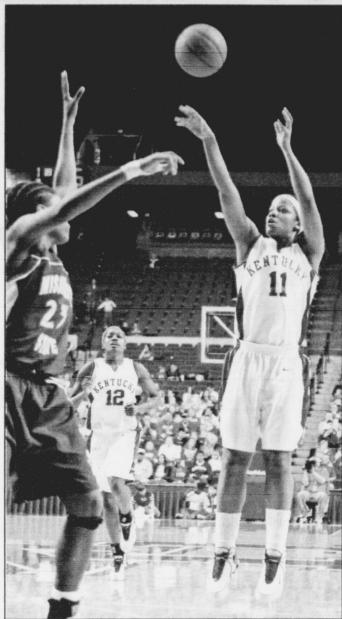
"It seems like we typically have two (players play well) and then two others not contributing like we want them to."

With only five games left before the SEC Tournament begins, DeMoss emphasized that every game is equally important.

"We have to stay in the moment and stay in the present," DeMoss said. "We aren't good enough to focus two or three games down the road."

"Right now we really have to focus on taking it one game at a time and one possession at a time."

DeMoss said the Cats are focused solely on Ole Miss.



ELLIOTT HESS/STAFF
Junior guard Samantha Mahoney shoots over Mississippi State forward Tysheka Grimes on Jan. 7.

With a win, UK seeks to not only avenge last month's overtime loss, but to secure a quality win that will help boost its resume during the NCAA Tournament selection process.

Ole Miss ranks fourth nationally in scoring offense with 79.5 points per game and boasts wins over nationally-ranked Vanderbilt and

Louisiana State University. The Rebels' 7-2 record in SEC play leaves ties them with LSU for second place in the conference, behind 8-0 Tennessee.


"I think Ole Miss is one of the surprise teams in the league this year," DeMoss said. "We are certainly going to have our hands full."

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