

Copy 2



FEATURES

Freshman and their goody bags invade campus, as well as the latest 'Et Cetera' column. PAGE 3

THE Kentucky Kernel

Tuesday, August 30, 2005

Celebrating 34 years of independence

www.kykernel.com

Fletcher issues pardons

On eve of testimony before grand jury, Governor declares "he had never knowingly violated any laws" in office

By Troy Lyle
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

In yesterday's public address, Gov. Ernie Fletcher issued pardons to all current and former members of his administration being indicted for misdemeanor violations of the state's personnel laws regarding hiring practices.



Fletcher

Fletcher, who is scheduled to appear before a grand jury today, did not pardon himself and said he would not testify on this matter.

In his address in the Capitol Rotunda in Frankfort, Fletcher said mistakes were made, but "he had never knowingly violated any laws" while serving as governor.

"I cannot allow state government to continue to be consumed by this game of political 'gotcha,'" Fletcher said, according to a transcript of his address that pointed to Democratic Attorney General Greg Stumbo's investigation. "I cannot stand by and watch your tax dollars being wasted and lives being destroyed."

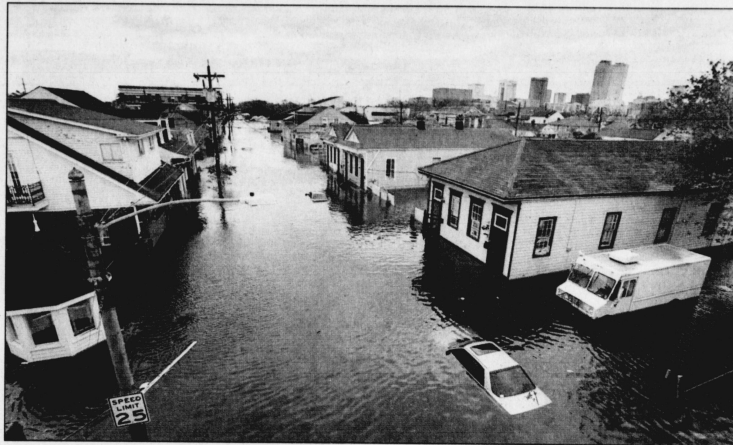
Democratic Attorney General Greg Stumbo, who is overseeing the investigation, claims Fletcher used political considerations rather than merit to hire several key employees across the state.

Sen. Ernesto Scorsone, D-Lexington, agreed, calling the state of affairs in Frankfort a situation "that has gone from bad to worse."

"The governor is using his pardon power to cover up criminal acts within his administration," he said. "If the governor thought these nine would be cleared of any wrongdoing, he wouldn't need to pardon them."

Scorsone continued by adding that the "mess in Frankfort" only draws attention from more im-

See Fletcher on page 2



The Terme area of New Orleans lies under several feet of water after Hurricane Katrina hit early yesterday. Downtown is seen in the background. The storm ripped into the Gulf Coast, battering New Orleans, swamping resort towns and lowlands with a crushing surge of seawater and stranding people on rooftops. **RICK WILKING | REUTERS**

The Big (un)Easy

After pounding New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, Hurricane Katrina moves north, still packing a punch

UPI

NEW ORLEANS (UPI) — Hurricane Katrina was downgraded to a tropical storm Monday evening as it headed north, threatening Tennessee and the Ohio Valley with heavy rains.

At 8 p.m. EDT, the storm was 30 miles northwest of Meridian, Miss., moving north-northeast at close to 21 mph with

winds at its center about 65 mph, the National Hurricane Center in Miami said.

Katrina was expected to be over west and central Tennessee by early today, picking up speed during the night.

"Although Katrina is no longer a hurricane, Katrina's winds are still capable of downing trees and creating hazardous conditions," the center warned.

A tropical storm warning for Lake Pontchartrain was expected to be lifted before midnight today.

But Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco asked refugees from the hurricane to stay away for the moment and said state police would block roads into New Orleans and

coastal areas to all but emergency vehicles.

Officials warned that those who return would find flooded streets, houses without power or telephone service and neighborhoods infested with venomous snakes and fire ants, CNN reported.

"Please, I'm begging for patience," Blanco said at an afternoon news conference.

"We are working hard to get you home, but not until it is safe."

Katrina was downgraded to a Category 1 hurricane early yesterday afternoon. The remnants of the storm are expected to reach Kentucky today.

Victims speak through actors about violence against women

Elizabeth Troutman
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Last summer, healthcare communications junior Lindsay Glaucque was sunbathing alone at her parent's house in the woods of Asheville, N.C., when she got a creepy feeling that someone was watching her.

She turned around to find a familiar face staring at her less than a yard away. It was the moment she realized she couldn't be silent about a man who had been stalking her since she was 13 years old.

"It was the first time it had really scared me," she said. "It had been six years and he just didn't quit."

She ran inside her house and called a neighbor for help. After she put clothes over her bathing suit, she approached her stalker and told him to leave. The man tried to grab her right as the neighbor drove up her gravel driveway.

"He thought I was his guardian angel," she said of the stalker, who was seven years older than she. "He thought I was someone he admired... I was un-touchable."

After that encounter, she filed a restraining order.

Glaucque wanted to speak out to students about her experience by submitting her story to Dorothy Edwards, the director of the Women's Place for "In Our Own Voices," a play performed by students to spread awareness of violence against women. The play portrays her story, and other anonymous UK students' experiences with

See Play on page 2

'In Our Own Voices'

"In Our Own Voices" will be at 8 tonight in Worsham Theater. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted.

Kentuckians watch, wait for Katrina

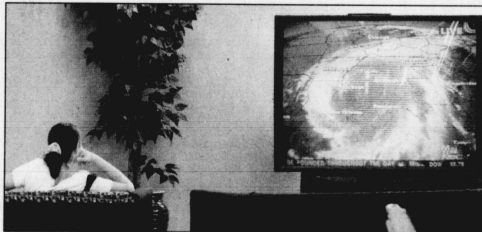
By Tim Wiseman
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

After watching Hurricane Katrina pummel the Southeast on television, Kentuckians can see the storm for themselves today. And a few UK students and faculty said everything's OK, all things considered, after watching the storm sweep through their Louisiana hometowns.

Heavy rain and strong winds should be expected today in central Kentucky, as remnants of Hurricane Katrina move into the region, said UK agricultural meteorologist Tony Priddy.

Priddy said four to six inches of rain and sustained winds of up to 20 mph are possible today. Last night, a flood watch had been issued through tomorrow.

"There is a significant concern that the remnants of this storm are so huge that there is so much moisture, that we are looking at copious amounts of rainfall," he said. "When you see rainfall amounts in



MayBeth Chrostowsky, an anthropology graduate student, watched the latest update on Hurricanes Katrina in the Student Center Food Court yesterday. **MELLY SCHIFFER | STAFF**

"...the house is probably ruined, but it's just material possessions right?"

George Caylor
mining engineering senior

could have been a lot worse. "Here, it wasn't really scary, but just not a lot of fun for a little while," Engemann said. "For the most part, we were pretty much spared as far as the flooding and major wind damage."

"Some of those old neighborhoods, it's unbelievable," he said of New Orleans. "You couldn't imagine how bad it is."

George Caylor, a mining engineering senior, has been experiencing the storm on page 2

UK changes student code to address off-campus incidents

By Troy Lyle
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

When Michigan State University won a national men's basketball title in 2001, the students celebrated by rioting, partying in the streets and nearly burning down East Lansing, Mich.

That single incident prompted several universities, including UK, to extend their authority to include off-campus activities involving students or organizations representing their institution.

Tony Blanton, associate dean of students, said prior to these changes to the student code of conduct, UK didn't have the power to address incidents that occurred off-campus.

"Take, for example, a situation where a student is sexually assaulted off-campus," said Blanton, who also served on the Stu-

dent Code Committee that drafted the new code. "Under the previous code, if he or she were to come to the administration for help, all we could do was to connect them to the necessary authorities. The new code now allows us to charge the alleged perpetrator in violation of the code of student conduct."

Susan West, assistant dean and director of fraternity and sorority affairs, said the new code was long overdue. "Students should be held accountable on and off campus," she said. "Part of our mission as a university is to make sure students learn to be responsible citizens."

The new code of student conduct was unanimously passed by the board of trustees this past June. The old code was developed in the late 1960s. It has existed

See Code on page 2

Changes to the student code

The new student code expands UK authority in off-campus student conduct that falls into these categories:

- conduct associated with an activity sponsored by UK or a student organization
- conduct that threatens the safety, security or well-being of a member of UK
- conduct that involves academic work or misuse of UK documents or records
- conduct that is disorderly or causes substantial destruction to property

Some see 'upward trend' in storms

By Miguel Bustillo
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Although most mainstream hurricane scientists continue to be skeptical of any link between global warming and heightened storm activity, the growing intensity of hurricanes coupled with the continuing frequency of large storms is leading some to rethink long-held views.

Most hurricane scientists continue to maintain that linking global warming to more frequent severe storms, such as Hurricane Katrina, is premature at best. Though warmer sea surface temperatures caused by climate

change theoretically could boost the frequency and potency of hurricanes, they assert that the 150-year record of Atlantic storms shows ample precedent for the spate of recent events.

But a paper published last month in the journal *Nature* by meteorologist Kerry Emanuel of Massachusetts Institute of Technology is part of an emerging body of research that has begun to challenge the prevailing view.

It concluded that the destructive power of hurricanes and tropical cyclones, the name for the same storms in the Pacific Ocean, had increased 50 percent over the last half-century, and that

a rise in surface temperatures linked to global warming was at least partly responsible.

"I was one of those skeptics myself — a year ago," Emanuel said. "But after examining airplane monitoring data on tropical cyclones in the Pacific Ocean as well as hurricanes in the Atlantic, he said, "I was startled to see this upward trend" in the duration as well as the top wind speeds of the storms. "People are beginning to seriously wonder whether there is a (global warming) signal there. I think you are going to see a lot more of a focus on this in coming years."

Fletcher

Continued from page 1

portant issues, like higher education.

"We need a governor who's focused more on higher education than pardoning members of his administration," he said, pointing to the close relationship between the state universities' funding and state politics.

James Taylor, a history and political science junior, said he doesn't think the governor's actions will directly affect the university, but warned "they will likely affect the state for years to come."

"It makes Kentucky look bad," Taylor

said. "And in the eyes of the nation we already look bad enough."

Ernie Yanarella, a political science professor, said, "Like any citizen of the United States, he has the right to plead the Fifth Amendment."

"He possibly shouldn't because of the political implications it places on his administration," he said.

Al Cross, interim director of the Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues at UK and former reporter and political writer for *The Courier-Journal*, said he doesn't think the governor's decision will have much influence on the university.

It may inadvertently allow the administration to focus more on issues concerning education, such as UK's budget requests, he said.

In response to the governor's unwillingness to testify tomorrow, Cross said, "I think when you don't testify it makes you look more culpable."

Rep. Stan Lee, R-Lexington, disagreed. "I think it's the most courageous thing the governor could have done in this situation," he said. "If he didn't make this decision the state would have been dealing with this for years to come."

Lee continued by adding that he didn't think that the merit system's statutes, for which Fletcher was being criticized for ignoring, were constitutional in the first place, adding "they are vague at best."

"I'm proud of the governor," he said. "And I'm glad this state can finally move forward."

E-mail thyle@kykernel.com

Storm

Continued from page 1

enancing a problem common to those dialing New Orleans area codes: his calls can't go through.

"There's no service," said Taylor, a New Orleans native. "They were supposed to have pretty bad wind, so the house is probably ruined, but it's just

material possessions, right?"

Edward Jennings, a UK professor and director of the Martin School, had five siblings safely evacuate the New Orleans area.

"I was relieved to see that it wouldn't be a direct hit on the city and get the catastrophic results that it could have," said Jennings, who earned degrees from the University of New Orleans. He estimated that this was the most wind damage New Orleans had ever seen in a hurricane.

"There's lots of wind damage, so it'll be a pretty long clean-up."

Louisiana residents may be used to such damage from tropical storms, but Priddy said it's not often that they have such an impact on the Bluegrass. The remnants of Hurricane Katrina could even have a positive effect, he said.

"We need this rain," Priddy said. "The impact is, this might move us out of this drought."

"(Today) will be very interesting," he said.

E-mail twiseman@kykernel.com

Editor Adam Sichko contributed to this report.

Code

Continued from page 1

for about 40 years without any significant changes.

Will Nash, acting Student Government president, said he doesn't think university officials are interested in

pursuing every noise violation or incidence of public intoxication. If they did, "it would consume all of their time," he said.

"The university's main concern is student-to-student relations," Nash said. "They want to make sure every student is protected under the new code."

Nash, who gave feedback and offered suggestions during the drafting of the new code, said the new code is a step in the right direction, but worries some of

the wording is open to many interpretations.

"It doesn't define some things," he said. "Like for example, if someone distributes alcohol to a minor, does it affect the university's well-being, as defined by the new code?"

"I just want to make sure students' rights aren't being lost in this process," he said.

E-mail thyle@kykernel.com

Play

Continued from page 1

rape, stalking and violence through a series of original monologues.

Giaque, who saw the play when it was performed for new students at Kentucky Welcome earlier this month, was pleased with the way the performers told her story. The final show is at 8 p.m. tonight at the Worsham Theatre in the Student Center and is open to all students and faculty members.

Edwards wants to use the play as a way to show students the reality of violence against women on campus. A study conducted by the Center for Violence

Against Women showed that over 35 percent of women on UK's campus have experience some form of violence.

"There's always a bunch of statistics about violence on campus," she said. "I thought it was very important that we put a voice to these."

English junior Ashley Rouser, who is the undergraduate representative for the Women's Safety Advisory Council, co-directs and performs a monologue in the play. Rouser thinks it is important to educate male students on ways to prevent acts of violence against women.

"They (men) play a pivotal role in ending violence against women," she said. "These stories tell them and relate to them in ways they can understand. It really brings it into their life."

Rouser said her role is important because it tells a story of triumph and

hope for a woman victimized by acts of violence.

"The story I am portraying wraps up the entire production with a statement saying although this woman had been victimized, she won't bow down," she said. "She was victim of rape, and her submission is her acclimation of being a survivor."

Emily Forester, a Spanish education sophomore and co-director of the production, performs the monologue of Holly Dunn, a UK student who was raped and beaten on railroad tracks near campus in 2003.

"It's not for entertainment," she said. "It is definitely to peak interest and make people aware and say, 'yes, this is a problem.'"

E-mail etroutman@kykernel.com

New Donors Can Earn \$65 This Week!

Donate & play our great new Break-Time! Contest- starts Now!

5 weeks of Amazing Prizes
Gas Scooter Grand Prize!!!

817 Winchester Rd. #300
Lexington, KY 40508
859-233-9296

1840 Oxford Circle
Lexington, KY 40504
859-254-8047

ZLB Plasma Services
Good for You, Great for Life.
www.zlbplasma.com

RAMSEYS

School-Work & Fun?

It is possible at Ramsey's. We will commit to scheduling around your academic schedule. Now taking applications for servers. Full time - part time. Relaxed casual atmosphere. Walking distance from campus. Apply 3-5 Mon-Friday at: 496 East High St. (corner of Woodland and High St.)

Win \$25,000 for grad school!

LAW • BUSINESS • GRADUATE • MEDICAL • DENTAL

Enter to win the Kaplan Gets You In... And Pays Your Way Sweepstakes!

One lucky person will win \$25,000 toward the first year of law, business, graduate, medical or dental school. To enter, visit kaptest.com/25k by October 31, 2005.

KAPLAN
Test Prep and Admissions
1-800-KAP-TEST
kaptest.com/25k

UPS

This job is great.

It lets me work the part-time hours that work for me!

Part-Time Package Handlers

- \$8.50 an hour, with increases of 50¢ after 90 days & 50¢ at one year
- Benefits (Health, 401K & Paid Vacations)
- Weekly Paychecks
- Weekends & Holidays Off
- Consistent Work Schedule
- 3-1/2 to 5 Hour Shifts

Available Shifts:
Night - 11pm-4am
Preload - 4am-9am
Day - 11am-4pm
Twilight - 5pm-10pm

Night Sort Tuition Reimbursement Plan - get up to \$2,000/year!

Apply online at: www.upsjobs.com

Equal Opportunity Employer

GREEK LIFE
in the kernel • SEPTEMBER 19TH

Now open at 7:00 a.m.!

Fazoli's® now offers a better way to start your day!

Now you can stop by for hot Cinnamon Breadsticks, Muffins and a variety of beverages featuring Seattle's Best Coffee®.

We offer all your favorites including Espresso, Cappuccino, Caffé Latte, Caffé Mocha, Caramel Macchiato, White Chocolate Mocha, Brewed Hot Coffee, Hot Chocolate and more!

proudly serving

FAZOLI'S
faster. fresher. better

SEATTLE'S BEST COFFEE

ON CAMPUS: 130 Winslow Street (off Euclid)

ETCETERA |

The Poore Philosophy

We've all been the victims of one big practical joke. No, no, wait. The joke isn't this column, although my editor may argue otherwise.



Derek Poore
KERNEL COLUMNIST

Last week, thousands of creatures began sloshing around UK's campus. To many these beings are known as freshmen. They're easy to pick out because they all have 'fresh' tattooed to their face in the form of "Class of '05" T-shirts and plenty of questions, like, "Where is P.O.T.?" when they're standing in front of P.O.T.

Freshmen also tromped through campus with a very special box of corporate practical jokes tucked under their arms.

Yes, I'm talking about gaudy boxes given out in front of bookstores and in dorm rooms.

They're obviously complimentary kits full of everything you need to survive college life.

All the distinct differences between men and women are also evident in these packs.

There's a box for the ladies and a box for the men. It's third grade all over again. Remember the kid's meal toys you used to get way back last Thursday? Well they always asked if the meal was for a boy or girl in order to pick the appropriate toy. Boys got something that exploded or lit their little sister's hair on fire and girls got something pink. It didn't matter if it was a hunk of peat moss, as long as it was pink, the little princess was happy. And as long as G.I. Joe had something he could break or chew on, he was cool with it.

The girl versions of these care packs had body lotion, massage oils, chewing gum and shampoo and other fruity, giggly stuff, which apparently means all women at UK stink.

Gals also get coffee-lip-gloss-wimmer-glitter which can also be used for most oil paintings.

The guys' boxes were filled with a seventeen-blade razor and one microscopic drop of cologne, which evaporated long before it left the factory.

All the care packages contained gnanomorph college

clichés in the form of a slab of Ramen noodles and America Online CDs worth six million free hours on the Internet. Which makes no sense because I can pick up one free campus wireless network or another just by being awake.

Rounding out the box is one ray pack of sample toothpaste. I'm serious — it's naughty. It looked like a condom wrapper, small and square, foiled, complete with a picture of a steamy couple in a sultry embrace on the front. But it's only toothpaste. How excited am I supposed to get about cinnamon toothpaste? Enough to have sex, apparently.

But perhaps the funniest item in these packs was the combination National Guard advertisement and iTunes music store certificate. Apparently you get three free music downloads for joining the National Guard. Seems like an even trade for me. Go through hell in boot camp, live in the mud, serve America in a foreign war zone, while jamming to your iPod.

Well kids, I better get started on my Ramen noodles. Then I'll shave, wash and condition my hair, dab on some sample cologne, tear open that toothpaste wrapper and chase a few cute freshmen ceds. They stand out.

E-mail

dpore@kykernel.com

THE BLACK MARKET

SHOE STORE OPENS 8.20.05

shop clothing gifts candles incense silver jewelry

THE LITTLE BOUTIQUE WITH A LOT OF FLAIR

MON-SAT 11-6 859.281.1421
516 EAST HIGH STREET

Richmond Lakes

HUGE 2 BR Apts.

- Ideal for college students
- Close to UK, LCC
- Laundry care centers
- Sparkling Pool
- Fitness Center

888-495-9275
Open 7 Days a Week!

UK Theatre introduces new season

By Melissa Smith Maltery
KERNEL THEATRE CRITIC

In an effort to attract new students to the theatre, the UK Theatre Department is cutting ticket prices and introducing an exciting lineup for this season.

Last season, students coughed up \$8 for tickets to UK Theatre productions. Students will be able to attend this season's shows for \$5 when they present a valid student ID. Season-long subscriptions are also available for all four shows at the price of \$15.

After hearing complaints about the ticket price last year, Theatre Department Chair Nelson Fields said he decided it was time to cut the price by three bucks to usher in a new group of students to the theatre.

Fields is also excited about the upcoming season, packed with four plays, all in the historic Guignol Theatre, he said.

"We have four plays that continue with the idea of different voices in the theatre,"

said Fields. "We start the season hearing from classic playwright Tennessee Williams and Kentucky author Silas House. In the spring, we hear the voices of two women — an African-American and a female playwright from 1709 in 'The Busy Body.'"

The season kicks off in October, with Tennessee Williams' classic, "The Glass Menagerie." A memory play based loosely on Williams' own life, it portrays a mother and her two children, each of whom have their own brand of dysfunction and ways of coping.

In December, UK presents the world premiere of Kentucky author Silas House's "The Hurting Part." House has published three novels based in Kentucky and is celebrated throughout the nation. His new play deals with the drama that inevitably arises during the holidays, particularly at Christmas.

The spring semester gets started with "Intimate Apparel." This show begins in

February to celebrate Black History Month. The play revolves around Esther Mills, a spinster and seamstress who crafts extraordinary undergarments for her clientele in turn-of-the-century New York City. "Intimate Apparel" has won five national awards for best play and is a lauded new American drama that relates to modern women.

To close the season in April, UK presents "The Busy Body" by Susanna Centlivre. When the play premiered in London in 1709, it was an instant success and was very popular for the next century and a half.

"It is a pleasure to offer, for the first time in several years, an affordable, convenient season subscription," Fields said.

E-mail

features@kykernel.com

For more information about UK's theatre department, subscriptions and this season, visit:

www.uky.edu/theatre/theatre

8 BALL TOURNAMENT

THURSDAY Sept. 1st

7 PM in the CATS DEN

(UK Student Center)

Free Pizza and Drinks
For All Participants

Prizes for Finalists

Event Sponsored by Student Center
no entry fee

Bring your own cue or cues provided at tournament


KENTUCKY WOMEN'S SOCCER

Wednesday - 7-30

UK vs. Eastern Kentucky

Free T-shirts for the first 100 students!

Free Admission with all UK IDs!



Sophomore
Caille Lanphere

FOOTBALL PREVIEW

September 2 • In The Kernel



LEXINGTON'S NEWEST COMIC & GAMING STORE
BEST SELECTION OF GAMING MINIATURES
IN LEXINGTON!

HEROES REALM

IN-STORE GAMING TUESDAY - SUNDAY
(call for information)

BUY DC COMICS HERE!

New Comics • Silver Age
Backstock Comics
Graphic Novels & Gaming Supplies
Magic • Heroclix
Manga/Anime

*SHOW STUDENT ID FOR 10% DISCOUNT

859-268-0087
3192 Richmond Road
Located in the Weinart Shopping Center
(Next to Southern Kay's Training)

HOURS
Closed Monday
Tuesday - Friday, 10-8pm
Saturday, 10-6pm
Sunday, 10am-6pm

Open a **Big Blue e53 Checking Account** and receive a

FREE Chair!

Fifth Third is an official Wildcat sponsor and the only bank with the **Big Blue e53 Checking Account**. Show your pride for UK and enjoy all of these benefits:

- Big Blue e53 Checking with interest, no monthly fees and no minimum balance.**
- Unlimited free use of all Fifth Third Jeanie ATMs.
- Free Internet banking and bill payment.
- Debit card with rewards.***
- 12 Lexington Banking Centers
- Big Blue e53 Checking, featuring custom University of Kentucky checks.






Stop by our campus location on Euclid Avenue or call 335-0703.

*While supplies last.
**Customer purchases checks. Accounts closed within 180 days of account opening will be charged \$25.
***Upon request and qualification. \$19 annual fee required to join some Fifth Third Rewards programs.
Returned check fees or overdraft fees apply to all checking accounts. \$50 minimum deposit required to open account.
Fifth Third and Fifth Third Bank are registered service marks of Fifth Third Bancorp. Member FDIC.

IN OUR OPINION

Local smoking ban needs sharper teeth

Some smokers are still whining over the smoke-free ordinance passed by the Urban County Council in May 2004, causing some sympathetic bar owners to turn their heads while customers light up.

With cold weather just around the corner, smokers will flock to lenient campus bars and restaurants around town to keep from shivering through a smoke break.

But breaching the city's rules to keep customers may cost businesses more than just a mere citation. Earlier this month, a city council subcommittee passed a proposal to punish businesses cited six or more times a year for allowing customers to smoke inside.

A sixth citation means a suspended business license for a week.

Stronger consequences would be a useful deterrent; a week of closure can be detrimental to a restaurant business' chances of staying afloat amid tough local competition.

Many restaurant and bar owners object to the proposal, arguing that owners and bartenders are not responsible for individual customers' actions. So the fault sits on the shoulders of Lexington smokers, still rebels after enduring the

first winter stuck outdoors.

Lexington citizens can't be blamed for their lingering bitterness over the smoking ordinance. It was an abrupt and uncomfortable adjustment for bar-goers used to matching a stout drink with a cigarette.

But the other side of this story is that many non-smokers are enjoying cleaner air and pleasant dinners and drinks without a repulsive cloud of smoke haunting them.

Family businesses that profit from food sales violate the ban and common courtesy when they allow disgruntled smokers to puff.

That is why the subcommittee's proposal is necessary to prevent naughty businesses from crossing the line, even if it might not hurt anyone.

Bars and restaurants should support the regulation instead of ignoring the law.

Businesses can work around the ordinance by changing the way they operate, because all bars must deal with the same regulations. The playing field is even for Lexington bars.

May the best, most creative and appealing bar attract smokers and non-smokers alike to a healthy and appealing environment.

Kentucky's meth problem takes a toll on users and their families

This column is in response to John Dixon's column yesterday. "Drugs don't seem so tantalizing when you meet users' children."



Crystal Little
KERNEL COLUMNIST

I've never understood drug use, even in the recreational sense.

It's not that I'm a self-righteous, straight-laced Pollyanna.

I'd like to think that it's because I possess a rational mind, and I'm capable of intelligent choices.

But the methamphetamine problem slowly mirroring Kentucky in a cesspool of streets and junkies desperate for the next fix, even in my tiny hometown in the south central part of the state, makes me wonder if I'm not missing something, after all.

I mean, any substance that mixes Drano, lighter fluid, straggler pads from matches and antifreeze has got to be fantastic, right?

Not to mention the lure of the drug's euphoric side effects: nausea, twitchiness, paranoia and the possibility of emulating the Human Torch if you make a mistake putting together a batch in the bathtub of your apartment. You can blow your backwoods lab out of existence with one false move — there's a marketing plan that's sure to reach the masses of bored teenagers languishing in suburbia, or trophy wives with nothing better to do.

Clearly, I have no pity for addicts, though I do realize some people do draw the absolute worst lot by no fault of their own, and it's easy to want to find an escape — any escape — from reality and its inherent problems.

But there's certainly no excuse, or reason, to lose yourself, and, in effect, your free will, to such a dangerous substance.

Maybe I sound cold and out-of-touch with my peers. Maybe my intolerance for drug users makes me a terrible person, and getting high is OK and fun and socially acceptable.

But these reasons ring hollowly in my ears when I glance at my older brother's left hand, my eyes riveted on the splotchy scar across his knuckles.

It's the remnant of a two-year-old chemical burn, a painful and obvious souvenir from a botched attempt to cook meth at 3 a.m.

I've seen the anguish my mother has gone through and barely survived, certain that if she'd only "raised him right," this wouldn't have happened to her 28-year-old son.

I've argued endlessly with her, talking in circles, trying to make her see that in the end, he is his own person, a product of his own choices, and nothing — absolutely nothing — she could have done would have made any difference. She didn't put the glass pipe in his mouth. She didn't push him into the life he chose.

I watched him enter rehab last year, almost daring myself to hope.

I shouldn't have been so stupid — I found a used needle crammed under his mattress two weeks after he came home.

I've dealt with my own rage, angry at his poor decisions, at his blatant disregard for everything but his craving for the drug. I didn't speak to him for a year, while he served his 16-month prison sentence.

It's hard to trust someone after they've violated your confidence so many times. It's going to be difficult, when he finally comes home, to accept that he's decided to make positive changes in his life.

The signs are there: He's been clean for nearly 16 months in a place where, if he wanted, he could get his hands on illegal substances. He's gained back the weight he lost — his 65" frame shrank from 240 pounds to an emaciated 165. He wants to take college courses and help me care for my mom, who has multiple sclerosis.

Still, it's a tentative trust at best.

Sitting with him and managing to have a "normal" conversation — well, as normal as a conversation can be during visiting hours at Louisville's Dismas of Portland just off 15th Street in the proverbial ghetto — I'm beginning to believe there's life after meth.

The cost, however — physical, psychological and psychosocial scars for the addict, and untold emotional trauma for their loved ones — isn't something anyone should waver — "recreational" or not.

Crystal Little is a journalism senior. E-mail: littlec@kykernel.com.

Averting tragedy is possible

Alcohol-related accidents are preventable if students, administrators and others work together to find solutions, says father who lost son last year

By Mike Muth
KERNEL GUEST COLUMNIST

Last Tuesday morning, before the day could get a good start, Thomas J. Byers' promising life ended in a tragic accident after attending an off-campus "college party." The UK community did not get a chance to find out who Thomas Byers was and how much he had to contribute to their community. That is most certainly UK's loss, and I'm sure his family and friends know that to be the case. They are the ones who feel his loss, and his parents are the ones left with that indescribable pain that only a parent could know. All they want is for God to give him back to them and give him another chance to live out his dreams.

After a little time passes, they settle for a few personal hopes and pray that God will tell them why. Why did you allow this to happen to our son and our friend? They don't get any direct answers

but that's not the way it works. For them, nothing is for certain anymore apart from a feeling that this should never happen again. Not ever again to another young person and their family.

Last August, one day before his first class at UK, Brian Muth was killed in a tragic accident after attending a large "college party" for being arrested for alcohol intoxication (AI) and trying to cross New Circle Road after the Fayette County Detention Center. What are the similarities between Brian and Thomas' deaths, and do they hold any meaning?

College parties have been going on for years, so why now are we faced with back-to-back tragedies? One reason is that kids today are so connected as a result of cell phones. News becomes history almost at the speed of sound. As soon as someone finds out about a party, the word spreads instantly. Another is that public safety officials have not kept up with the college kids' techniques, and the third is that the community has become complacent and has just been plain lucky.

These parties have gone on for years, and many young adults have drunk too much. And I'm sure many of them woke up the next day and forgot how they got home. Does any of that sound familiar? Have you ever been involved in a near miss and through no fault of your own, escaped what could have resulted in a serious accident or even death? Maybe you were driving your car and were distracted for an instant and almost hit something or were almost hit. Maybe it was something that almost happened at home, at the pool, on the boat or at work.

There are so many similarities between these two young men's deaths that it begs the question: are the similarities a coincidence or is there a message?

Both were very popular, very athletic and well-liked by their friends and very excited to be attending UK, as were their friends to have them there.

Both were 19-year-olds and had transferred to UK as sophomores from out-of-state schools.

Both attended "college parties" two nights before their fall semesters were to begin.

Both were charged, or were about to be charged,

with alcohol intoxication.

Both were extremely frightened and made poor choices as a result of their encounter with the police and the situation they found themselves in.

Both boys had to make life-threatening decisions in a state of mind in which they did not have the rational capability to do so.

Both were considered by the police to be "a danger to themselves and others."

They were killed one year apart and within a couple hours of each other's time of death, the day before they were to attend their first class at UK.

Thomas died within a few hundred yards of Brian's apartment.

Last year, if Brian took a wrong turn and was able to get away from the police, he could have hid from them on the nearby railroad tracks and been killed just like Thomas was killed.

Tuesday, if the police were able to arrest Thomas before he ran off, he may have walked out of the detention center and been killed crossing New Circle Road, just like Brian was killed.

If this is a message, it could be that we are now presented with another opportunity to take the proper steps to prevent this from happening again. The Lexington and UK authorities did not take my suggestions or Brian's death as seriously as they should have because my son's life was the only life that was lost: not two, or three or more. I tried for several months after Brian was killed to form a volunteer coalition with UK and Lexington, but they would only refer to what I was doing as, "Mr. Muth's meetings," and at best, patronized my concerns.

Eventually, due to the community leaders' obvious disinterest, the meetings stopped. At a time when I lost

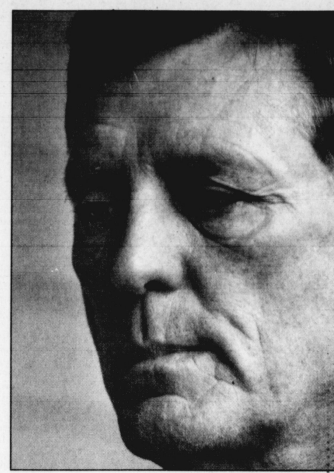
"It is not like we don't have a blueprint. What happened last year happened again this year. It happened before last year, and it will continue to happen unless we make a firm commitment to stop it."

one of the most important gifts that God gave me, I put my life and grief on hold so that Brian's death would act as an inspiration to effect changes so that this type of tragedy would never happen again to a young person or their family. Bottom line: They blew it big time. And one year later, another fine young man is tragically killed, and his family is left with huge holes in their hearts and no idea of how they will be able to live without their son.

If we cannot get community leaders to recognize the significance of the problem this time and get them to work with us to implement the solutions, then I will press them until they explain to the Byers family and to my family: How much larger does a tragedy have to be in order to justify appropriate changes to prevent future deaths? The problem is even bigger than I felt it was last year.

Were any changes made since last year by Lexington or UK with regards to the safety of UK students? Was another student killed under almost the same circumstances? The answer to both questions is yes, and so what does that say about the significance of the effort that was made the past year to prevent another death? I know a young man who lived by the motto "Give your best at everything you do; if it's worth your time, it's worth a 100 percent effort." I still believe it.

I am looking for help to get legislation introduced and passed that will ensure the safety of



Jonathan Palmer / STAFF

Mike Muth at his Louisville home last year shortly after the death of his son, Brian.

our young adults in situations such as the one that took the life of my son. I will not take solace in my effort to changing a culture which is less than completion of the mission. There is no doubt whatsoever in my mind that the laws surrounding alcohol incidents, arrests and release should and will be changed. The problem is that legislation will take time; however, I have some sound ideas that can be implemented very quickly and they will work. It is not like we don't have a blueprint. What happened last year happened again this year. It happened before last year, and it will continue to happen unless we make a firm commitment to stop it.

The size of "college parties" is one of the principal factors of our problem and the key players in controlling the size are: UK, Lexington Metro Police, property owners, the volunteer group, students and the volunteer group. This group should include parents, alumni, local citizens, retired police officers, individuals with counseling and negotiation skills and responsible students. For the volunteer group to exist and have impact, it has to be recognized by Lexington Metro, UK and the property owners. They, the property owners, can help fix the problem, or we can create laws and ordinances to help them fix it. The choice is theirs.

Most parties start out as small gatherings at someone's house, mostly just close friends. As a result of cell phones, some parties grow from 30 to 300 or greater in just more than a flash. I do not feel that parties need to be canceled in order to prevent these tragedies from happening. The answers are:

Keep parties from getting too large to manage.

Make students and property owners responsible for what goes on at these parties.

If intervention is necessary, allow the volunteer group and property owners to work with the students to keep things under control.

These steps need to be taken well before midnight, when there are workable solutions. Once a plan is proven successful, there will be very little need for police involvement, and that will be a win-win for students, parents, neighbors, Lexington and UK.

The critical time period is two weeks before UK's fall semester starts. Students now move into their housing at this time and have very little else to do but hang out. For the most part, they are not working, or if so, do not work many hours. What's going on? Rush is about to start, and that entails parties. The atmosphere becomes that of a party mentality, and that affects everyone there, whether they are Greek or not. The problem is that there is no supervision and little, if any, accountability.

I believe we can construct a plan that will insure stu-

dent safety and reduce the need for a noticeable police presence. That can be achieved through a volunteer group working directly with the property owners. For my plan or any plan to work, we need input from the students so that they recognize the intent and purpose. Eventually, they may take responsibility for their conduct and actions and regulate themselves. In so doing, we are on our way to changing a culture which is the mission of the UK Genesis Program. What a novel idea.

I feel UK needs to buy the houses adjacent to and to the west of campus and rent them to students. That will give them direct control and responsibility for the conduct and safety of their students, who just happen to be someone's child, and could be yours.

Also, start the process to move "Greek Rush" and recruiting to the spring semester. Holding Rush before school starts creates the wrong atmosphere and gets the year started off on the wrong foot. That change will also reduce the number of students (Greek or not) who will want to move into their housing two weeks before school with nothing to do but hang out.

I would like to meet and discuss my ideas and others with interested officials from both the city of Lexington and UK that have authority to make decisions. I would include interested parents, local residents (that live in the problem area), students and the press. I feel that it is irresponsible to implement new tactics and procedures without getting input from all sides. My objective is to come away with an agreement to create a plan that will provide a safe environment for our students and children to grow and learn that is accepted by all.

Some concerned students that want to be a part of the solution have contacted me. They are more than willing to get involved and will represent their fellow classmates very well. Their participation will be invaluable not only to convey their point of view but because, ultimately, the students will have to preserve this newly created environment.

The clock is ticking in the fast lane. Please don't spend time on my new ideas won't work; let's use our talents and resources to make them work. We cannot allow the solution to become a "work-in-progress." And please, don't think that these tragedies can't happen to you or your kids.

Mike Muth, above, is the father of Brian Muth, who was killed in an alcohol-related accident last August. Anyone interested in meeting with Muth can reach him at bam.foundation@insubh.com. For more information on Muth's project, you can visit his Web site, www.brianmuthmemorialfoundation.org.

UK FOOTBALL 2005

TWO-A-DAYS This week, The Kernel runs down two UK football positions a day. Tomorrow: running backs and wide receivers.

Confident O-line jelling

Chris Johnson
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL
Injuries and the resulting lack of depth have been the calling card of UK football for the breadth of the Rich Brooks regime, especially in the offensive line.

This year, however, the bite of the injury bug has been less toxic than in previous years. The line feels confident in its newfound experience and unity under new coach Jimmy Heggins.

"We have more experience than we've had in the past," said sophomore guard Mitch Jones, the only injured possible starter on the offensive line. "Experience plays a big role."

Jones is scheduled for surgery today to repair cartilage in his left knee and is out indefinitely. He is being considered for a redshirt depending on the length of his rehabilitation.

"The guys up there (on the depth chart) now have lots of playing time and experience," starting junior tackle Hayden

Lane said. "We're jelling as a unit."

Heggins comes to Lexington after 19 years at Florida State. In his tenure in Tallahassee, the Seminoles won 185 games, went to 19 bowl games, won two Associated Press national championships and 11 Atlantic Coast Conference championships after joining the ACC in 1992.

Heggins coached 12 All-American offensive linemen since 1984, when he became the head of the entire FSU line. He has had 10 linemen drafted to the NFL, including two in 2005.

"They're making progress," Heggins said of his first crop of UK linemen. "They're still learning me and I'm still learning them. They just need to be more consistent."

During Brooks' tenure, coaching changes have sometimes had an adverse effect on team chemistry and, thus, the play on the field. Not so with the 2005 linemen.

"We really like Coach (Heggins)," said senior center

Matt McCutchan. "He won 10 games a season at Florida State, which spoke for itself. He's easy to like. He came in and worked us at fundamentals."

"McCutchan, Hayden, Trai (Williams, who is leading a pack for 'Jones' starting guard spot), and (junior transfer tackle Fatu) Turturi, they're all talented," Heggins said. "They need more reps. They aren't where they need to be. They need to work on their footwork and their hands."

Heggins' protégés agreed. The line needs more practice, but was happy with the progress so far.

"We need to get our assignments down perfectly," Lane said. "We need to get it with no mistakes. That takes reps."

"We're coming along," McCutchan said. "We're getting good rubs with the guards. But however we play determines how the entire offense plays."

E-mail
cjohnson@kykernel.com



CHRIS REYNOLDS | STAFF

New UK defensive line coach Rick Petri hopes the switch to the 4-3 this season will help stop the run. Last season, UK allowed 225 yards per game on the ground while using the 3-4 defense much of the year.

Defense wants to dominate up front

By Chris Johnson
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

New defensive line coach Rick Petri decided something needed to be done to remind his unit of their futility against the run last season when the team ranked last in the SEC in yards allowed per game (225).

"When we got to practice (this fall), we had little notes in all of our lockers," senior defensive end B. Jay Parsons said. "They said '225 per.' It took us a couple of days to figure out what they meant, but then we made stopping the run a big priority."

The coaches made a not-so-subtle switch in the defense to try and aid run stoppage, switching the alignment of the front seven: the defensive line and linebackers from 3-4 to 4-3.

"(The switch) will give us a couple bigger bodies up front," Parsons said. "That should help us with the run a little."

Though stopping the run is a priority for the entire season, the line knows that against an offensive machine like Louisville, stopping one person or even facet of the game doesn't necessarily guarantee success. "(Louisville's) offense is well rounded," Parsons said. "They have weapons to pass and run. They shouldn't be much different than last year."

In 2004, Louisville's offense led the nation in productivity, scoring 50.3 points and gaining 531.9 yards per regular-season game.

That was with Michael Bush, Louisville's 250-pound running back who runs the 40-yard dash in just above 4.6 seconds, playing a comparably reduced role than he'll have this year as the starter.

"It's not our goal to stop one person," Parsons said. "It's a great start for us to go against the number one offense."

Parsons also noted that, while Louisville is obviously a major game on the 2005 schedule, the game wouldn't define the Cats' season.

"Right now, it's our number one priority," he said. "It's more than just another game, but next Monday, Idaho State is our number one

priority." Parsons noted the defense's hard work through camp and team chemistry as positives for the 2005 team.

"As a defense, our confidence is very high right now," Parsons said. "We don't believe anyone will come out and run over us."

"We want to be looked at as dominant." E-mail
cjohnson@kykernel.com

DEPTH | THE LINES

CENTER
62 Matt McCutchan, 6-3, 295, Sr.
77 Casey Stumate, 6-3, 280, Soph.

GUARDS
72 Left Michael Aitchison, 6-3, 290, Jr.
64 Cody Morehead, 6-5, 320, Soph.
60 Right Trai Williams, 6-4, 280, Jr.

OFFENSIVE TACKLES
57 Right Hayden Lane, 6-6, 280, Jr.
76 Ernie Pelayo, 6-5, 290, Sr.
52 Left Fatu Turturi, 6-3, 290, Jr.
67 Patrick Daly, 6-6, 300, Soph.

LEFT END
54 B. Jay Parsons, 6-5, 250, Sr.
94 Travis Day, 6-3, 260, Soph.

RIGHT END
9 Durrell White, 6-3, 245, Jr.
97 Will Adjei Omikru, 6-1, 245, Fr.

DEFENSIVE TACKLES
45 Lamar Mills, 6-1, 285, Jr.
66 Jason Leger, 6-1, 288, Soph.
53 Richard Gray, 6-1, 240, Sr.
57 Thomas Flannery, 6-1, 240, Fr.

Have you Heard?
With the NEW *Smart Checking Account* for undergrads
It's all FREE!*

Student Credit Card! No ATM Charges from UKFCU!
1st Box of UK Checks! Cell Phone Ring Downloads!
Online Bill Pay! Discounts on Auto Loans!
Debit Card! e-Statements!

Check Us Out Today!
Room 249 in the Student Center
www.ukfcu.org
(859) 257-2678

NCUA

Nickel Creek Turning 25
Singletary Center for the Arts

Monday, October 17, 7:00 PM Concert Hall
ON SALE August 29, 12:00 PM: www.uky.edu/SCFA
August 31, 12:00 PM Singletary Ticket Office / 859 257 4929

UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Singletary Center for the Arts

WUKY
THE ROCKS 69.5

Opening: The Ditty Bops

VISIT

K
Y
K
E
R
N
E
L
O
O
M

ReCYcle
me
pLEase

QUESTIONING?
Dive into the deepest issues of Life

The Well

Tuesday Nights
7:30 p.m.
Student Center room 230
This Week: What they won't teach you at UK

**OPEN A CHECKING ACCOUNT.
ENJOY FREE PIZZA.**

KENTUCKY STUDENTS REJOICE.

Come to the BB&T campus location and find out why a Student Checking account is exactly what you need to financially stay on track. Just open a new account before September 30th, and we'll show you our appreciation with something tasty - a \$15 gift certificate from Pazzo's Pizza. The quicker you come in, the quicker you'll be chowing down.

BB&T Student Checking offers you everything you could need.

- No minimum balance requirements or monthly maintenance fees
- Free BB&T OnLine® Banking with free OnLine® Bill Payment
- Free BB&T Check Card
- Free automated account access through BB&T Phone24
- No annual fee overdraft protection upon credit approval

Visit www.BB&T.com for more information.

BB&T STUDENT BANKING

Pazzo's

Subject to credit approval. See Rules and Regulations at the branch. Member FDIC.

LEXINGTON (MAIN)
360 East Vine Street
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 281-2120

LANSDOWNE
3329 Tates Creek Road
Lexington, KY 40502
(859) 269-3448

CENTRAL BAPTIST
1780 Nicholasville Road,
Suite 102
Lexington, KY 40503
(859) 276-2557