

# KENTUCKY KERNEL

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## Mayor appoints new police chief to replace Beatty



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

Assistant Police Chief Ronnie J. Bastin gave remarks yesterday afternoon after being appointed the new chief of police by Lexington Mayor Jim Newberry.

By Alice Haymond  
ahaymond@kykernel.com

When Anthony Beatty leaves his post as Lexington police chief to head UK's department of public safety, Assistant Chief Ronnie J. Bastin will take his place.

Mayor Jim Newberry appointed Bastin, who has worked in the Lexington Division of Police for 23 years, as the new chief of police yesterday. Bastin will take the post Jan. 6, when Beatty leaves the department.

"I feel like this is one of the best agencies in the country," Bastin said, "I'm happy to get the

opportunity to try to fill the shoes Chief Beatty has (filled) over the last six years."

Bastin currently commands the Bureau of Training and has worked closely with Beatty. Mayor Jim Newberry said those experiences allowed Bastin to become "intimately familiar" with the division of police.

Bastin said his close relationship with Beatty would help connect the UK and Lexington communities and police agencies, adding that improving the relationship between local residents and students is a matter of addressing concerns from all sides.

"It's a matter of working with people to get to know the issues and understand the issues," he said.

When Bastin first came to the force, police sometimes assumed what the community needed but didn't always ask, he said, adding that now there is a strong emphasis on community involvement, which Beatty helped establish. Bastin said he plans to continue that emphasis when he takes over as chief.

"With the talent we have in this department and the supportive community in Lexington, my vision is to make Lexington the safest city of its size in the nation," Bastin said.

Bastin was chosen by a nine-member committee of city officials and citizens that considered only internal candidates for the police-chief position. Among the three final candidates, Bastin was a clear choice, said Public Safety Commissioner Tim Bennett, the committee chairman.

"The committee was impressed by (Bastin's) vision of the challenges our police officers will face in the future, and his plans to meet those challenges head-on," Bennett said.

Bastin's position is subject to ratification by the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council.

## Lexington students take a peek at UK

By Jennifer Graham  
news@kykernel.com

The See Blue Preview Night hit Lexington last night to educate a wall-to-wall crowd of local high school seniors about UK.

See Blue Preview Nights are the student component of President Lee Todd's See Blue tour, allowing prospective students to learn about UK's colleges and opportunities. There was also a short lecture covering topics like the application process, scholarship opportunities and financial-aid information.

"We've done preview nights for years, but we wanted to make it fit in more with the See Blue tour," said Laura Glover, associate director of undergraduate admissions. "Dr. Todd has been gracious with time to talk and see students and parents."

"The purpose of the preview nights is to show what UK has to offer," said Don Witt, director of admissions and university registrar. "Our goal is to give students as much information as possible."

The preview nights have nine stops throughout the state and one out-of-state stop in Nashville. Glover said UK plans on doing more out-of-state stops in future years.

"We've had record crowds across the state," Witt said. "The turnout has been outstanding."

The Lexington stop is a little different

See Preview Night on page 5

## Geography professor gains honor for research

By Shaheen Gani  
news@kykernel.com

A UK professor recognized for "unusually effective teaching" will give a lecture to the public today before devoting a year to research in Malaysia.

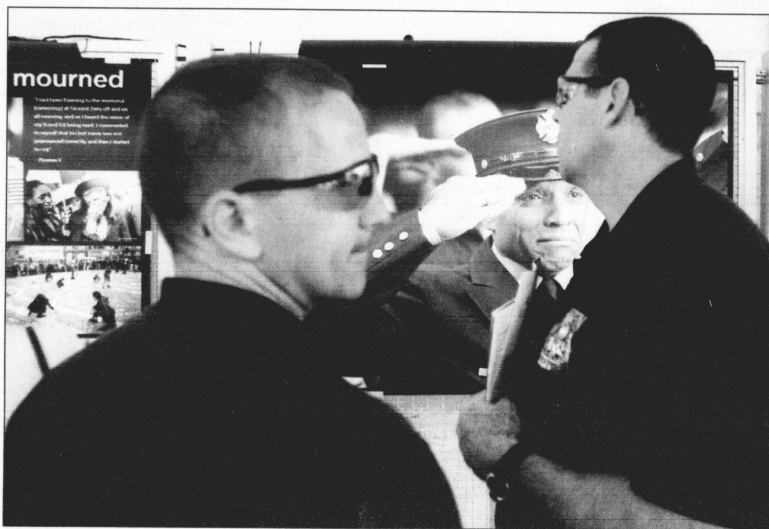
Thomas Leinbach, a geography professor and 2006-07 College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor, will talk about his upcoming research in "A Geographer at Work in Southeast Asia," which begins at 7 p.m. in the William T. Young Library Auditorium.

Leinbach will explain his new venture and three of his earlier projects. He is currently on sabbatical to conduct a joint research project with Universiti Sains Malaysia faculty and graduate students to analyze the practices of businesses in Penang, Malaysia.

"The project deals with the way information is shared and communicated between multinational companies," Leinbach said. "We will also focus on supply-chain management and logistics."

See Lecture on page 5

## A TRAVELING TRIBUTE



PHOTOS BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

Lexington firefighters John Durr, left, and Capt. Chris Footz walk through part of the Sept. 11 memorial yesterday afternoon in Cheapside Park.



Left: Lexington resident Charlie Wafford signs a steel beam yesterday afternoon at the Sept. 11 tribute exhibition downtown. The beam is one of two that will be signed by people across America and will ultimately be used in the National September 11 Memorial & Museum in New York.

Right: Darcia Fantuchioff, of Lexington, signs a steel beam in honor of her first cousin, John D'Allara, who was a first responder who died in the south tower of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.

Yesterday afternoon, at a memorial currently making its way across the nation, Kentucky citizens and firefighters paid tribute to those lost in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum began a nationwide tour in Columbia, S.C., on the sixth anniversary of the attacks to raise money for the project, which aims to build a memorial and a museum at ground zero, according to its Web site ([www.national911memorial.org](http://www.national911memorial.org)).

The memorial will travel to Fort Wayne, Ind., on Saturday and Sunday. "I'm really glad we came," said Georgetown firefighter Todd Monroe, who had been at a memorial for fallen firefighters in Frankfort earlier yesterday, and decided to stop by the exhibit in Lexington.

## SG memorial to honor UK students who died

By Katie Saltz  
ksaltz@kykernel.com

Student Government is holding a contest to design a memorial for students who have died during their time at UK.

The contest was an idea that the SG University Relations Cabinet had last year. The memorial would be a way to bring the university community together, said Executive Cabinet Secretary Madison Young.

"It will be space where students

and families can mourn and celebrate life," she said. "It's a good way to bring the UK campus together."

The contest is open to all UK students. Young said it is important for the memorial to be designed by a student.

"The students represent the best interest of the university," she said. "This memorial needs to represent UK and how we want to remember those we have lost."

The cabinet researched memorials

that other schools have built, such as those at Virginia Tech and Florida State. SG President Nick Phelps said most of these schools' memorials came after a tragedy, but SG officials didn't think they should wait to build a UK memorial.

"We didn't want to wait on a tragedy," Phelps said. "We want to remember those lost as individuals on campus and that we are a family here."

Phelps said he hopes that the memorial can be a site for an annual

service to remember all UK students who died while in college.

"Each year we can have a ceremony to read the names of those lost in the past year," Phelps said. "It will represent every single Wildcat that we've lost."

SG doesn't know how much money to set aside for the memorial because the design will determine the cost, Young said.

"Funding depends on the type of

See Memorial on page 5


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## Horoscopes

**By Linda C. Black**  
*To get the advantage, check the day's rating. 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.*

**Aries (March 21 - April 19)** Today is a 7 — It's going to be even harder to keep a secret now. You're so full of enthusiasm you want to tell the world. Not good. Limit your confidants.

**Taurus (April 20 - May 20)** Today is a 6 — Take care of a few household chores now, before they get out of hand. This is not going to be awful, it could even be fun.

**Gemini (May 21 - June 21)** Today is a 9 — You're still in a position to make a major sale, or whatever it is you do to score money. Imagine dollar bills floating your way.

**Cancer (June 22 - July 22)** Today is a 6 — It's good to know what the others think, even if you don't agree. Don't react emotionally if at all possible. Listen and take notes, and present your rebuttal later.

**Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22)** Today is an 8 — You hold yourself to high standards and that is a good thing. Don't scold yourself, though. That tends to distract you from watching where you're going.

**Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)** Today is a 6 — You've been having sweet dreams lately. Some of them could turn into wonderful parts of your real life. Planning is required, and this will be fun.

**Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)** Today is a 7 — A difficult situation is about to resolve itself. You and your friends will laugh about this, possibly as soon as tonight.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)** Today is a 7 — Part of the planning process is figuring out what won't work. That's very easy now. Don't let yourself get discouraged. You will find a way.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)** Today is an 8 — Resources may be a little tight, but that won't be a problem. You can slide past the few difficulties and achieve your goal.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)** Today is a 5 — The next phase involves money, both yours and other people's. You can get what you need, but don't pay too much for it.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)** Today is an 8 — It's easier to make time for yourself, thank heaven. Also thank the person who came to your rescue. A true friend is revealed.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)** Today is a 7 — It's possible you can get someone else to take care of your bookkeeping chores. Be really careful if you do. It pays you to know what you have and what you owe.

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## THE DISH

**British singer and 'Family Ties' star are latest celebrity parents**

Oasis' Noel Gallagher, 40, and his partner, Sara MacDonald, welcomed a boy, Donovan, Sept. 22. Former "Family Ties" star Tina Yothers, 34, and her husband, Robert Kaiser, had a son, Jake, Sept. 24.

## THE RECORD

Baby news!

**Sober**  
Richie Sambora, 48, has entered Utah's Cirque Lodge — where Lindsay Lohan, 21, is being treated — for alcoholism.

**Movin'**  
Nicole Kidman, 40, and Keith Urban, 39, are selling their four-bedroom Nashville digs for \$2.45 million. ... Melissa Etheridge, 46, and wife Tammy Lynn Michaels, 32, bought a \$5.1 million, five-bedroom pad in Hidden Hills, California.

**Jeers!**  
Tracy Morgan, 38, was ordered to wear the SCRAM ankle for an additional 80 days after admitting in a September 18 court progress report he drank booze Aug. 4. He was required to wear it for 90 days May 25 as part of his DUI probation.

**Seeking Treatment**  
Robin Roberts, 47, of "Good Morning America," has begun chemotherapy to treat her breast cancer.

**What a Drag!**  
Photos allegedly of boxer Oscar De La Hoya, 34, in lingerie surfaced on photo agency X17's Web site September 19. His attorney told Us they were "fake."

Stripper Milana Dravel, 22 — who says she took them and that she and De La Hoya often role-played — apologized in the New York Daily News "for any embarrassment I caused."

**Controversy**  
Reality star Adrienne Curry, 25, blogged on her Web site that she wanted to rename Black History Month "American History Month" because "having a month dedicated to one race... is racist."

**TMI**  
James Woods, 60, suggested on "The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson" on Sept. 20 that O.J. Simpson's ex Nicole Brown Simpson wanted to have an affair with him years before her murder. He also said the couple once invited him for "a late nightcap," adding, "It was very odd."

**New Gig**  
Katherine Heigl, 28, and her mother, Nancy, 63, are producing a movie version of Jacqueline Sheehan's bestseller "Lost & Found," about a widow who works at an animal hospital.

**Busted**  
"Die Hard" director John McTiernan, 56, was sentenced to four months in prison September 24 for lying to the FBI about hiring disgraced detective

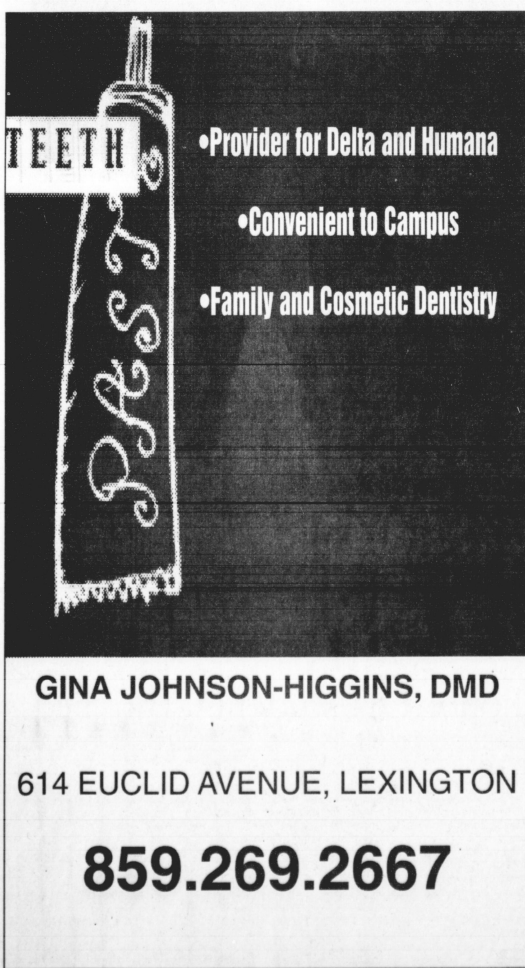
**Marcia & Jan: Lovers?**  
A very Brady scandal! Blogs were recently abuzz over a National Enquirer report claiming Maureen "Marcia Brady" McCormick, 51, would reveal in her 2008 memoir, tentatively titled "Here's the Story," that she had a lesbian fling with Eve "Jan Brady" Plumb, 49, while shooting the 1970s megahit "The Brady Bunch." (After all, on short-lived 1997 late-night talk show "Vibe," McCormick admitted the pair had "kissed" and "had really good times together.") Get it straight: "It is not true," Debbie Stier, the book's rep, tells Us. "The real story of what happened... will come out when the book comes out." An Enquirer rep did not return calls.

— Jan Drew

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# kernel POP

## ■ THE HISTORY OF A HOLY MONTH

According to Islamic tradition, Ramadan is the month Allah revealed the Muslim holy book, the Quran, to the prophet Muhammad.

The ninth month of the Islamic year, Ramadan is the holiest month of the Muslim calendar. During Ramadan, Muslims fast from sunrise to sundown and abstain from cursing, lying and other "impure" thoughts and actions.

Because it is based on the cycles of the moon, Ramadan starts on a different day every year. This year, Ramadan started Sept. 13 and will end either Oct. 12 or Oct. 13, depending on the cycles of the moon. Since Ramadan is a lunar month and not a regular calendar month, it begins about 11 days earlier each year. That means that during a Muslim's life, Ramadan will occur during both summer months, when days are longer, and winter months, when they're shorter.

At the beginning of each day of Ramadan, all able Muslims say the first of five daily prayers and eat before dawn. They participate in a fast called "sawm" during the day, eating only after sunset. During Ramadan, Muslims are encouraged to focus on their faith and the teachings of the Quran. Sunni Muslims often recite the entire Quran through "tarawih," special prayers in mosques reciting a section of the Quran every night of the month.

Each year, Ramadan ends with the holiday Eid ul-Fitr, which means "the festival of the breaking of the fast" and is often celebrated with communal prayers and feasts.

# From sunrise to sunset

## Muslim students focus on awareness, purification during Ramadan

By Jill Laster  
jlaster@kykernel.com

Ask most students what month it is and they'll tell you it's October — but some might say it's Ramadan.

Ramadan is the holiest month of the Islamic calendar — and for Muslim UK students, it is a time for both private religious observance and public charity.

"Ramadan has a number of purposes, the first of which is gratefulness to God," said management and Islamic studies sophomore Matt Longacre. "You become more aware of what you've been given; you become more aware of poverty."

"You (also) become more aware of hunger," he said.

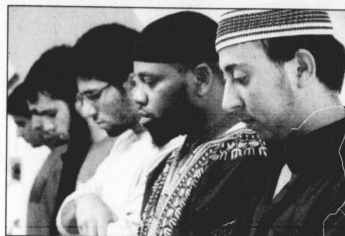
Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic year, when Muslims fast from sunrise to sundown and abstain from both cursing and unclean thoughts. This year, Ramadan started Sept. 13 and will last through Oct. 12 or Oct. 13, depending on when the new moon first appears.

"Basically just stay pure," said psychology senior Naorin Motalib. "It's a purification time."

"Obviously, everyone's not peachy-perfect," she said, "but we all try."

After sunset, Muslims break the daytime fast, "sawm," with prayer and food. Breaking fast, and Ramadan as a whole, is a good way for family and friends

See **Ramadan** on page 4



KASHA STEVENSON | STAFF

Adnan Ahmed, a part-time student at Bluegrass Community and Technical College, attends prayer Tuesday night at the Islamic Center of Lexington.



BRITNEY MCINTOSH | STAFF

Members of the Islamic Center of Lexington end the daily fast of Ramadan by eating together after praying Tuesday night. Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset during Ramadan, which lasts a whole month, and they attempt to abstain from cursing and unclean thoughts.

## Environmentalists: We be jammin' **ontap** | For the week of Oct. 4 – Oct. 10

By Katie Saltz  
ksaltz@kykernel.com

Anyone seeking a musical alternative to the UK football game tonight can find one at the Kentucky Theatre.

UK Greenthumb and about 15 other local environmental groups are sponsoring EarthJAM, a night of music and other presentations to promote environmental awareness.

Rick Gersony is the director of GreenLex.org, the organization producing the concert. GreenLex hosted a town meeting last year to discuss global warming but wanted to do something different this year, Gersony said.

"I think music is the way we express our love and value of the beauty of nature," Gersony said. "So I got as many students as I could together to get feedback on what local

bands people would want to hear."

The local artists Gersony picked to perform include Bluegrass Collective, Danny Hess & Marcus Brothwell, and Carla Gover & Diane Timmons.

Gersony said the music ranges from traditional bluegrass to a "jazzy popular style."

"The music really hits on that direct connection to nature," he said. "Bluegrass Collective kind of has a Wilco-Grateful Dead sound."

The music from the concert will also be available at GreenLex.org.

Taylor Shelton, a Greenthumb co-coordinator and ge-

ography and political science junior, said he hopes people go to EarthJAM and leave with a better understanding of the environmental movement.

"I think music is the way we express our love and value of the beauty of nature."

**RICK GERSONY**  
Director of GreenLex.org

"It's important to get young people to feel directly how this issue affects their future," Gersony said.

Getting students involved is a goal, but Scott Beckmeyer,

a Greenthumb co-coordinator and environmental engineering junior, said he hopes Earth Jam will get the entire community engaged.

"This is a chance for grassroots organizations to be visible in the community, and it might provide a basis for people to jump in," Beckmeyer said.

The concert will take place tonight at the Kentucky Theatre from 8 to 10 p.m., but Gersony said the music could continue until midnight if there is a good crowd. Tickets cost \$5.

Gersony said he hopes people learn a lot and have a good time, and that they remember at least one thing.

"If one thing sticks, let it be the name GreenLex.org," he said. "It is an anchor to connect you with other local green groups. And keep an eye out for EarthJAM 2008."

### TONIGHT

**Do Make Say Think**  
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$7.

**Cheer Accident w/ Time of Orchids, Upsilon Acrux and Clan of the Cavebear**  
9 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$7.

### FRIDAY, Oct. 5

**Tony Trischka**  
7 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$10.

**Killers of Comedy**  
8 p.m., Headliners, Louisville. Tickets cost \$26.

**Enon w/ Bad Veins and Swear Jar**  
10 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$10.

### Stardevils

10 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets are free.

**The Juan MacLean w/ The Refinery, Rusuden, DJ John Buckman & Nate FX**  
10 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$10.

### SATURDAY, Oct. 6

**Paul K w/ Poke**  
10 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$5.


### TUESDAY, Oct. 9

**Fiery Furnaces w/ Pit Er Pat and The Sundresses**  
9 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$12.

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## RAMADAN

Continued from page 3

to come together, said family studies senior Fatimah Shalash.

"I think people think because it's fasting, it's a sober month, a somber month," Shalash said. "It's not."

Motalib said when she tries to explain Ramadan to non-Muslims, she often compares it to Christmas.

"It almost feels like Christmas every day, with family and friends," she said.

While there are UK students who are unfamiliar about Muslims and Ramadan, Motalib said most people are open-minded.

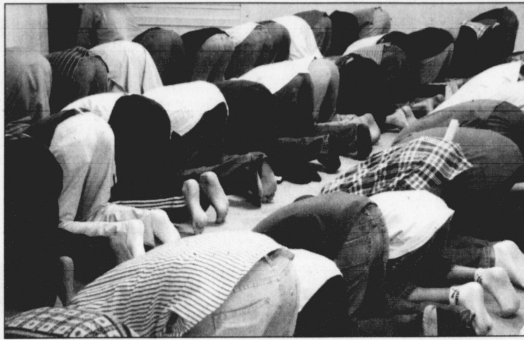
People are often reluctant to ask Muslims about their religious beliefs, Shalash said.

"Most people are shy about asking about the scarf," said said.

Longacre said that he has spoken to English 104 classes this semester and found many students who don't know what Ramadan is.

"About a billion people (practice Islam), and the general lack of knowledge is just shocking," Longacre said.

To give UK students an idea of what a daytime fast is like



KASHA STEVENSON | STAFF

Members of the Islamic Center of Lexington bow in prayer Tuesday night. Ramadan began Sept. 13 and will continue through Oct. 12 or Oct. 13, depending on the moon cycles.

House, a safe home for at-risk children. Students can sign up today and tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Student Center patio.

"The entire purpose of this event is solidarity," Motalib said. "Not 'Be Muslim and fast.'"

For the Fast-a-Thon, students will collect pledges and fast from sunrise to sunset. Motalib said the event will help students of different religions come together to help a good cause.

"It shouldn't be about seclusion, you know?" she said.

### MAKE YOUR

## WEEKEND PLANS

### 1. A ghoulish experience

Go on an actual ghost hunt on the Camp Nelson property, including the barracks, brig, refugee cemetery and earthen forts. Visitors will see equipment used to detect ghosts and will learn how to communicate with spirits. The event costs \$15 per person and will start at 9 p.m. tomorrow and Saturday. For more information, call 885-5155.

### 2. Giddy up!

Socialize, simulcast or stake your bet when Keeneland opens again for fall racing. Enjoy a day with the horses at the nation's only English-style thoroughbred racetrack. For more information, call (800) 456-3412.

### 3. Ghostbusting

Keene Springs Inn will be hosting a Ghost Hunter Certification Course on Saturday to get people certified to hunt in one day. The class combines Ghost Hunting 101 and Advanced Ghost Hunting in an intensive day of training. The day's classes will cost \$150 per person. For more information, call 885-5155 or visit the ghost hunters' Web site ([www.kyghosthunters.com](http://www.kyghosthunters.com)).



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Most-played albums of the week

1. M.I.A. — "Kala" (Interscope)
2. Caribou — "Andorra" (Merge)
3. Chromeo — "Fancy Footwork" (Vice)
4. Flight Of The Conchords — "The Distant Future" EP (Sub Pop)
5. Spoon — "Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga" (Merge)
6. Animal Collective — "Strawberry Jam" (Domino)
7. Gogol Bordello — "Super Tarantula" (Side One Dummy)
8. White Stripes — "Icky Thump" (Warner Bros.)
9. Justice — "†" (Vice)
10. Architecture In Helsinki — "Places Like This" (Polyvinyl)

## Cats go scratching up the wrong tree

By Nrong Xiong  
McClatchy Newspapers

FRESNO, Calif. — Cats might make you feel all warm and fuzzy inside when they cuddle in your lap and purr. But when they start attacking your sofa, your thoughts may not be so kind.

Scratching is natural for cats. But indoors, that basic tendency can cause havoc for you and your home. At least you have some options for encouraging your cat to scratch where it will be harmless.

Scratching is useful for cats for several reasons. They do it to mark their territory with both visible and scent markers, and to sharpen their claws.

What felines like to scratch depends on the cat. "It's an individual cat thing," says Mark Nangle, a veterinarian with the Central California Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in southwest Fresno, Calif. "Some like horizontal surfaces, vertical surfaces or both."

But the material on the surface often has texture, says Ramona Turner, a veterinarian at the Fresno Cat Hospital in Fresno.

Nangle agrees. Cats typically like "irregular surfaces that they can get their grip on, such as textured wall coverings, furniture, carpeting and wood surfaces that are like trees."

Watch your cat to see what materials he likes to scratch and then look for structures with similar textures, advises a handout by



CRAIG KOHLRUSS | FRESNO BEE

Cat scratching can be a problem, but there are many options available at retail pet stores to keep kitty away from the furniture.

Banfield, The Pet Hospital. If the cat likes to claw on things vertically, try scratching posts. Rubbing catnip on the surface of the post can entice your cat to use it.

"Most cats will start scratching the area you applied the catnip to — to release the odor more," says Ed Loebach, a veterinarian and quality assurance medical adviser at Banfield, The Pet Hospital, in Portland, Ore. He adds that young kittens aren't usually affected by catnip until later in life.

He also suggests you try a scratching post with materials that aren't found anywhere else in the house. That way, if the cat wants to get his claws in that texture, he would be drawn back to that scratching post.

If your cat likes to scratch horizontally, scratch pads also are an option.

These can have various materials, such as corrugated cardboard, and may include catnip. Besides providing an alternate location to scratch, you can make the sofa and other areas you don't want your cat to attack less attractive. You can use double-sided sticky tape or sandpaper on the spots favored for scratching.

They don't like the rough feeling of the sandpaper, Loebach says. As for the tape, "I think it just feels weird to them."

Other things you can try include squirting them with water or shaking a can with marbles, Turner says. Cats don't find the shot of water or the sound appealing.

You also can try nail covers, such as the vinyl caps by Soft Paws. "You apply them with nail glue, and they go over the claws. When they scratch, they don't do any damage," she says.

Another option includes trimming the nails. "They really do develop sharp points on their nails," Nangle says. "You can trim off that tip, and it makes a huge difference on their ability to hook into things or any surface."

"It won't curtail their activities, but there will be less damage due to the nails." Another option is declawing your cat, says Turner, who performs surgical laser declawing. But it's often done only as a last resort.

"It's surgery, so there's always some risk of a bad reaction to anesthesia," she says. "Also, there is some pain involved, but we have really excellent pain management."

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OCTOBER 5-27



# SG committees disagree on funding request

By Katie Saltz  
ksaltz2@kykarnel.com

Even though UK BookExchange was left out of this year's Student Government budget, it might receive some funding from SG.

Sen. Jackie Colgate sponsored a Senate special project that requested \$1,485 for the BookExchange, a service that connects local students who want to sell and buy textbooks directly to and from one another. Last year SG gave \$2,000 to the non-profit service, but this year

it was cut from the budget.

The proposal packet listed that the funding would pay for advertising for the BookExchange service. The Academic and Student Affairs Committee unanimously voted last night to recommend the project to the full Senate. The Appropriations and Revenue Committee, however, did not.

The A&R Committee voted to not recommend the project to the Senate because of a lack of information and the absence of a representative from the BookExchange, said A&R Vice Chair

Brittany Pennington.

"That is a lot of money to say yes to when we don't have a representative from that group," Pennington said. "The concerns our committee had were a lack of information and some logistical things people need to know."

SG committees decide whether or not to recommend a special project, but they must be voted on in the full Senate to go into effect. Although A&R voted to not recommend the project, Pennington said it could still pass.

"The senators know we

looked over it, and it's not a favorable thing," Pennington said. "But they (the BookExchange) could come in and speak, and it could pass."

The A&R committee tabled another funding request at its meeting. Wildcat Polo Inc. requested a club sport grant to pay for medicine and daily supplies for the horses in its care.

Senate President Tyler Montell said anything SG pays for must be stored on campus, but the items Wildcat Polo needed would be stored at a farm off campus. Pennington said A&R

needed to look at the technicality further, and the request was put on emergency status for the full Senate meeting next week.

Six other funding requests were approved, along with another Senate special project. An amendment concerning the Appropriations Act passed through A&R and Academic and Student Affairs.

change would help student organizations working with Senate special projects. Pennington said

"This will help open up different opportunities for groups," Pennington said. "And it guarantees that UK is getting money back."

The Internal Relations Committee met last night as well, approving the Appropriations Act amendment, a resolution regarding Elections Board nominations and another resolution concerning the appointments of Supreme Court justices. All of these will go to the full Senate on Oct. 10.

## Renovations appeal to organizations

By Kelli Long  
news@kykarnel.com

After months of renovations, the Center for Student Involvement will hold its grand opening today.

Previously known as the Student Organizations Center, the CSI is a base for student involvement through community service, organizations and campus leadership.

The center's room in the Student Center received a \$420,000 makeover that began in February. A large, open space now makes up most of the room, and employee offices line the back wall.

The layout change was deliberate, said Lauren Goodpaster, who oversees the programming at the center as the leadership and service program director for the Office of Student Involvement.

"Now, if multiple groups are working in the office at the same time, they have the opportunity to work together and collaborate," Goodpaster said.

Goodpaster said she hopes the increased collaboration will lead to the development of bigger and better projects and ideas from organizations like GreenThumb, The Cause and even the dodgeball club, which use the renovated space to hold their meetings.

Zach Brien, a finance and political science sophomore who is chairman of the student organization Frontline, said the new CSI has been beneficial. When his organization was looking for a place to meet and work, Brien found that the center was an ideal place.

"Before it was renovated, I never even thought about it," Brien said. "Now that it's changed, it has been a great place for us to work. Now we have got an adequate meeting place as well as computers and copiers to get anything we need, and get it immediately."

The center offers many features, including the Leadership Library, which provides resources for students to use, regardless of their level of involvement. It

houses books and other publications filled with information ranging from club activities and retreats to conflict management.

A "smart classroom" is one of many additions to the renovated center. The classroom has a projector with speakers built into the ceiling, dry-erase boards with markers and enough seating to accommodate a large group. That room is one of two that students and organizations can check out.

The other room has a flat-screen television that can display information from students' computers.

"This room is ideal for executive meetings," Goodpaster said. Students can also use a computer lab and the workbook, which houses a laminator, copier, paper cutter and folding machine.

UK students and faculty are invited to attend the grand opening and ribbon-cutting today from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in room 106 of the Student Center.

## PREVIEW NIGHT

Continued from page 1

than the others, Witt said.

"Oftentimes, when students live in the same city as the university is located, they feel they know everything they need to know," he said. "They drive by it, but we are trying to get them inside of the campus."

Local high-school seniors say they are reaping the benefits of preview night even though UK is in their hometown.

"I'm trying to find out what college to go to, and coming to preview night has given me details about majors that I'm interested in and scholarship information," said Jordan Valenta, an East Jessamine senior.

"I came to preview night to turn in my application, but I learned so many different things and found out about other areas that I didn't know much about."

said Courtney Ehrler, a Scott County senior.

See Blue Preview Nights also give current UK students a chance to interact with high-school students and tell them about the university.

Diana Baulch, a communication senior at UK, volunteers with Preparing Aspiring Wildcats, which helps the Undergraduate Admissions office put together preview nights.

"We try to get students to want to go to UK," Baulch said. "I try to let everyone I talk to know that they can find their comfort zone at UK. I encourage all of the students to get involved in at least one extracurricular so they can find their core group of friends."

The preview nights help UK demonstrate its strengths, Witt said.

"We want people to 'see blue,'" he said. "We want to show students that we have a lot of things at UK to be proud of."

## MEMORIAL

Continued from page 1

design chosen," she said. "But we met with about 10 key administrators, and they all supported the idea."

The winner of the design contest will receive a cash prize, recognition by the Board of Trustees and the Student Affairs Board of Directors, a picture and biography on the Student Affairs Web site ([www.uky.edu](http://www.uky.edu))

Student Affairs), and design credit for the standing memorial.

SG encourages as many students as possible to enter a design, Young said.

"More applications mean the more we can represent the student population," she said. "The more the better."

Students can find the contest application, which is due Oct. 12, on the SG Web site ([www.uksga.org](http://www.uksga.org)). After the deadline, SG will form a committee of non-SG students, administrators and staff to choose a winning design.

## LECTURE

Continued from page 1

Leinbach said the other research topics he will address include "impact of accessibility, transmigration program in Indonesia, and air cargo services and impact on electronics industry in Southeast Asia."

The tradition of recognizing the accomplishments of faculty began in 1944 with the Distinguished Professor Award, presented by the College of Arts and Science. The college presents the award to faculty who have conducted outstanding research, have shown unusually effective teaching and have displayed distinguished professional service.

In addition to the title, distinguished professors receive an opportunity to give a public lecture and to further their research for a year while on full salary.

Leinbach, who has received more than 25 grants and awards to fund his research, was also named a University Research Professor for the 2002-03 academic year.

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## It's been fun (and frightening). Now I'm hopping off this tiger

Do I really want to do this? I spent a long time asking myself that question on Jan. 13, 2006, the publication date of my first column. In that piece I blistered the UK hockey team for firing its head coach.

That day I received a threatening phone call from a team member. My phone number was listed on my Facebook page to encourage beautiful girls to call me to set up dates, not to open myself to invitations to meet hockey players in dark alleyways. But aside from the fear of bodily harm, that phone call provided another rush:



**CHRIS DELOTELL**  
Kernel columnist

People were reading what I was writing, what else could a 19-year-old college kid ask for?

So my phone number came off my Facebook, and my heart became attached to the job of writing columns. For the past year and a half, the column has become like a close friend, an outlet for me to sit down and discuss what I believe.

That's why, when the Cincinnati Enquirer, my hometown paper, offered me an opportunity to cover some UK football games, one thought came to mind:

Do I really want to do this?

Longtime Los Angeles Times sports columnist Jim Murray was once asked if he would ever retire from writing his column. He responded with the type of vivid analogy that made him perhaps the greatest sports writer ever.

"Columns are like riding a tiger," Murray said. "You'd like to get off, but you have no idea how."

I'm getting off the tiger today.

From the beginning of my nearly two years as a Kernel sports columnist, this job has given me an opportunity to tell stories and express opinions. So often we only see sports figures on

television or only hear them on the radio. They become nothing more than pawns on a playing field, and we easily forget that they are regular people with extraordinary athletic ability.

If I did one thing in this job, I hope it's that I never lost sight of the fact that players, coaches and administrators are just like the rest of us. I hope I've treated them fairly, and I hope I've written accurately and honestly.

While my picture has been by the words — and I'm still single, so maybe that's not a good thing — so many other people have been a part of the column. (This is the part where I roll through the list of thank yous. Out of fear of forgetting someone, I'll refrain from naming names.)

Thank you to my editors, who allowed me the freedom to write what I believed; thank you to friends and colleagues who offered feedback and constructive criticism; thank you to the staff in UK's media relations office, who always answered questions and offered assistance.

Most of all, thank you for reading. I could write like Hemingway (I don't, but stay with me), and it wouldn't matter if nobody read or responded. You've read, and you've responded (especially when I've written about Bobby Petrino).

Thank you for that. And that even includes the guy who took the time to send a note encouraging me to "go back to Ohio and write about field hockey."

The new opportunity is back in Ohio, but fortunately for me, it doesn't involve field hockey coverage. It does, however, involve me getting off the tiger.

Since I'll no longer be expressing my opinions twice a week in this space, I think I'll put my phone number back on Facebook. Feel free to call and chat about the Cats.

As long as you're not on the hockey team.

Chris DeLotell is an education and journalism senior. E-mail for a little while longer, cdelotell@kykernel.com.

### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### Porter suffers concussion during workout

UK men's basketball sophomore guard Michael Porter suffered a concussion while diving for a loose ball during a team workout Monday. Porter became the fourth Cat to be placed on the injured list before the beginning of practice.

Senior Joe Crawford and sophomore Derrick Jasper underwent arthroscopic knee surgery during the off-season, and junior Jared Carter had surgery to repair his injured shoulder in early June.

In a press release, head coach Billy Gillispie said he hopes to

have all of his players cleared by the beginning of practice.

UK begins full-squad practice for the 2007-08 season Oct. 12 with Big Blue Madness at 9 p.m. in Rupp Arena.

**Woodson nominated for AT&T Player of the Week**

UK senior quarterback Andre Woodson has been nominated for the AT&T National Player of the Week after his week-five performance against Florida Atlantic. Woodson completed 26-of-53 passes for 301 yards

and a career-high five touchdowns in the Cats' 45-17 win over the Owls.

Woodson joins Wisconsin running back P.J. Hill, California wide receiver DeSean Jackson and Illinois wide receiver Arrelious Benn on the ballot list, which was determined by ESPN for each of the players' outstanding performances during the week. The winner, determined by fan voting, will be announced during halftime of tonight's game between UK and South Carolina.

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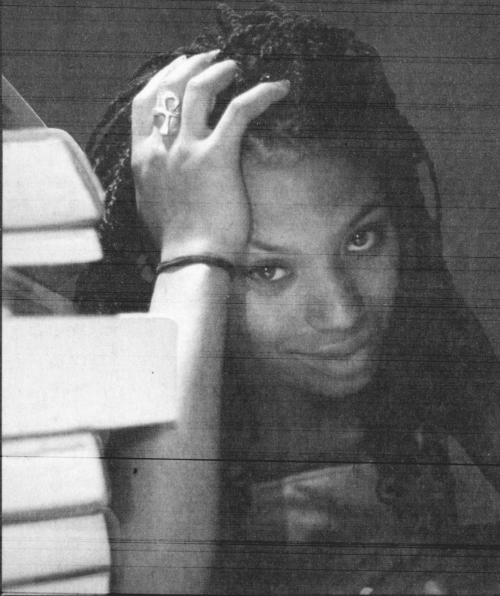
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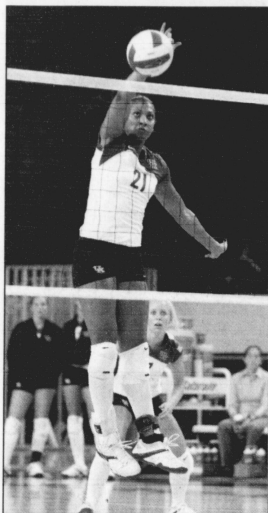
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UK senior middle blocker Nicole Britenriker attempts a spike against Georgetown in the first round of the annual Kentucky Classic in Memorial Coliseum on Aug. 31. Britenriker had 11 kills in the Cats' 3-0 win over the Tigers.

\* BRITNEY MCINTOSH STAFF

## Facing Florida, Cats vie for share of conference lead

By Kenny Colston  
kcolston@kykernel.com

For the UK volleyball team, no goal is higher than becoming Southeastern Conference champions.

But for the past three years, the major bump in the road has been No. 6 Florida, which has won the past three SEC titles. In order to reach their goal this year, the Cats want to be the team that knocks off the Gators — and they have their chance tomorrow night at Florida.

"We hope to be the ones to cause them to stumble," said senior middle blocker and captain Nicole Britenriker. "They are a big roadblock to our goal. This is a big game for the standings."

At 5-1 in the SEC, the Cats are breathing down Florida's neck for first place in the conference. A win on Friday would put the two teams in a tie, with UK owning the tiebreaker. But that's easier said than done, as UK has not beaten Florida since 1990. The Cats' streak of 29 consecutive losses against Florida has some UK players looking forward to tomorrow's match.

"I've never beaten Florida since I've been here," junior libero Alisa Pierce said. "So playing them is always in the back of your mind."

This year may be UK's best chance to knock off Florida from its SEC throne. The Cats have the best blocking team in the conference, two All-SEC players and a freshman middle blocker who has already won three SEC Freshman of the Week honors.

UK and Florida are the top two teams in almost every category in the SEC: hitting percentage, opponent hitting percent-

age, assists, kills and blocks. Numerous players on both teams rank in the top 10 in individual statistics. With very little edge in the numbers, UK knows it will have to play even better than usual.

"We have to show up with heart," Pierce said. "The skill level is there. We have to fight to win and force them to make mistakes."

Not only does the team have to play with heart, it knows it has to play a near-flawless match as well.

"We have to play consistently at the top level of our game," Britenriker said. "Have good communication and play ball the whole time."

Head coach Craig Skinner said the Cats would have to have an elevated level of play in order to compete.

"We need to play a great match," Skinner said, "and execute our offense at a high level." While UK's goal is to win the SEC, the team said that looking ahead to this game wasn't even a possibility.

"Every match is a big match," Skinner said. "Florida is just the top dog right now. But we don't circle any match." Britenriker pointed to the home loss to Alabama as finishing any chance to look ahead.

"Florida is always in the back of our minds," Britenriker said. "But since that first loss to Alabama, we've really focused one match at a time."

Still, the Cats are looking forward to what would follow from ending their losing streak.

"It could leave us second or raise attention to our team," Pierce said. "People say we haven't proved anything. We beat Florida and it says a lot."

## LSU, Florida ready for prime time

By Mark Snyder  
Detroit Free Press

Even after a monstrous upset weekend, the Southeastern Conference remains college football's gold standard.

The SEC has five teams in the Associated Press top 12 and two games this week featuring four of them: No. 1 LSU hosting No. 9 Florida and No. 8 Kentucky at No. 11 South Carolina.

Florida and LSU face off Saturday night in Baton Rouge, La., which coaches called the most intimidating place to play in the country in an ESPN.com survey this week.

The nighttime, outdoor atmosphere can be lethal for an opponent, even one as talented as the Gators.

"It seems like the ceiling's a little shorter, a little lower on you," said LSU coach Les Miles.

"It's getting you in a small environment, making a lot of noise and playing ball. There's time for our fans to celebrate getting to their seats and that allows for some fun as well."

"Celebrate" . . . and you wonder why Michigan won't host night games?

Despite the hostile environment, the Gators may be better-equipped to handle LSU than most teams. That's because LSU's evolving offense is a system the Gators know well. They employed it last year on the way to the national championship.

"Their use of a two-QB system, I'd have to say (most of the) country wants to do that," Florida coach Urban Meyer said. "I know I would not mind doing that again if we could develop our backup to compete. That's a heck of a weapon to have. Their guys aren't just good players, they're very good players."

At the very least, college football is a copycat system. So when Florida won the national title with a dominant defense and a two-QB system, Miles took notice, admitting Wednesday he sees similarities with the multiple QBs.

We'll see how close the mirror is Saturday night.

## The Kernel

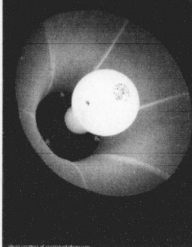
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## UK VS. SOUTH CAROLINA: POSITION BY POSITION

By Eric Lindsey  
elindsey@kykernel.com

### Advantage:



**Quarterbacks**  
South Carolina quarterback Chris Smelley is talented and should thrive in head coach Steve Spurrier's offense as his career progresses, but the freshman is clearly overmatched against UK gunslinger Andre Woodson. Smelley, who will be making just his third career start tonight, has four touchdown passes on the year, one shy of the career-high five touchdown tosses that Woodson threw last week against Florida Atlantic. Although Woodson's record-breaking streak of 325 consecutive passes without an interception finally came to an end, he continued his ascension among the elite players in the nation and is a serious contender for the Heisman Trophy.

### Defensive Line



Neither defensive line has been able to stop the run so far this season. Both teams are giving up more than 200 yards a game on the ground, and whoever can contain the run should be in the best position to win at the end of the night. The Gamecocks have been decimated by injuries in recent weeks, and one of the biggest losses was defensive end Nathan Pepper. The loss of defensive end Jordan Lindsey because of academics makes the Gamecocks dangerously thin on the line. Meanwhile, UK defensive end Jeremy Jarmon continues to be a one-man sacking crew (four sacks in five games), and Myron Pryor has stepped up at the defensive tackle position after the loss of Ricky Lumpkin.

### Linebackers



The injury bug bit the South Carolina linebackers too. Jasper Brinkley, an All-SEC linebacker and South Carolina's leading tackler from a year ago, is out for the season with a knee injury. UK would be wise to take advantage of the void in the middle. UK linebacker Wesley Woodyard continues to be a force for the Cats and seems to have a knack for always being around the ball. The Cats' leading tackler from a year ago already has 58 tackles and is well on his way to breaking last year's total.

### Offensive Line

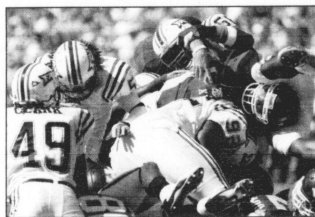


It's time to give the UK offensive line its due respect. The inexperienced line has adequately protected Woodson all year long and is the motor behind UK's consistent and productive running attack. Already the UK offensive line has had a player take home honors for SEC Offensive Lineman of the Week in just five weeks of play. The South Carolina offensive line hasn't been bad, but by no means has it been good. Led by junior Jamon Meredith, the Gamecocks have produced a steady running attack, but South Carolina's inability to protect its quarterback (averaging more than two sacks allowed per game) has to be a concern for Spurrier.

### Overall



The streak stops here. And no, it isn't UK's undefeated winning streak this season. Expect the "O! Ball Coach's" 14-0 streak against the Cats to finally come to end tonight behind the arm of Woodson and the feet of Little. Spurrier's offense will surely run its trick plays and most likely rack up yards on the Cats' defense. But the Cats feature one of the most balanced offenses in the nation, and for once, Spurrier doesn't have the best offensive talent on the field.



Senior quarterback Andre Woodson dives for a first down in UK's 45-17 win over Florida Atlantic. Woodson threw for a career-high five touchdowns against the Owls.  
ED MATTHEWS STAFF

### Receivers

Woodson might be one of the best quarterbacks in the nation, but he also has one of the country's best receiver corps to throw to. Dicky Lyons Jr. caught two touchdown passes last week, and Steve Johnson added a score of his own. The two are making it harder and harder for teams to key in on Keenan Burton, UK's leader in receptions, yards and touchdown grabs. South Carolina has a speedy threat on the outside in wide receiver Kenny McKinley. The junior is tied for the Southeastern Conference lead in touchdown catches with five scores, helping Gamecocks fans easily forget the loss of NFL receiver Sidney Rice.

### Running Backs

The Gamecocks feature a double-headed monster at the tailback position with Cory Boyd and Mike Davis carrying the load. The duo have produced nearly identical numbers — Boyd has 68 carries for 330 yards, and Davis has 62 rushes for 321 yards — and both should see significant carries against a questionable UK run defense ranked 103rd in the nation. Rafael Little was overshadowed by a potent aerial attack from Woodson and the wide receivers against FAU, but he churned out another 100-yard performance on the ground, carrying the ball 20 times for 112 yards.

### Special Teams

South Carolina's kicking game lies on the shoulders of Ryan Succop, a do-it-all junior who serves as the team's placekicker and punter. Succop has been solid in both areas, nailing 6-of-8 field goals this year while averaging 41 yards per punt. The Cats' special teams played much better last week, rarely letting FAU get much farther than the 20-yard line on kickoffs. Still, Lones Seiber has to be more consistent in the kicking game if UK hopes to pull out more close games.

### Secondary

The Gamecocks have been downright dominant in defending the pass. The No. 1 passing defense in the nation features a pair of speedy cornerbacks on the outside in sophomore Captain Munnerlyn and junior Carlos Thomas. Even if Burton and the rest of the Cats' receivers get open, they will have to deal with hard-hitting Emanuel Cook at the strong safety position. The Cats' secondary continues to be a defensive stronghold, led by Trevard Lindley. Very few teams have tried to throw at the standout cornerback, largely because of his knack for making big plays.

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# OPINIONS

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

### ■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

## Fletcher's absence unfair to students attending UK forum

While our generation is often criticized for political apathy, it was refreshing to see a strong turnout of students at the gubernatorial forum hosted by Student Government last Friday.

Unfortunately, the enthusiasm and presence of the students and of the Democratic candidate for governor Steve Beshear was not echoed by one critical party: the Republican candidate, Gov. Ernie Fletcher.

Fletcher's absence from the forum, which his campaign communications director Jason Keller said was because of "unavoidable scheduling conflicts" in a Sept. 27 Kernel article, at best downgraded a healthy debate to a one-sided forum. At worst, it severely hurt Fletcher's pull among students and further antagonized those already cynical about the political system.

A scheduling conflict is one thing, but Fletcher's campaign knew for months that SG wanted to set up a debate between the candidates.

"We've been in contact with both these offices since this summer, and that's more than enough time," SG President Nick Phelps said in a meeting with the editorial board on Monday.

We agree with Phelps. A candidate running for the highest executive office in the state should not have to be persuaded to speak at that state's flagship university, particularly in a re-election year.

The governor should make it a priority, if not an obligation, to visit Kentucky's public universities if he expects this state's youth to have faith in him as a leader.

One reason college students feel disenfranchised from politics so easily is that they don't always realize how government actions affect them.

The physical presence of these decision-makers speaking directly to students on issues that directly affect them is an invaluable opportunity, not only for young people, but also for the politicians to provoke interest and support in their policies and in the

democratic system. It is truly a shame Fletcher's actions show he does not agree.

Whether his head or his heart was in the right place makes no difference. His person was not on UK's campus Friday at noon. And whether Beshear didn't see the value of such an interaction is also irrelevant. He showed up.

What's more, Fletcher did not issue a personal explanation to why he could not attend but let his staff explain his actions and evade his confidence that mysteriously pervades despite turning away from meeting with young citizens.

"Gov. Fletcher is very focused on postsecondary education," Keller said in the Kernel article. "We are confident that voters at UK will decide he is the right man for Kentucky for the next four years."

We, as an editorial board and as citizens who truly wanted to see the governor last Friday, are not so confident for Fletcher.

In a time of increasing tuition costs when UK is mandated by state government to reach top-20 status by 2020, and when Fletcher's original budget proposal in 2006 denied UK's full funding requests to help our school reach that goal, Fletcher has a long path to walk before he proves his focus and concern for students and for postsecondary education. A simple appearance would have gone far to show this, but scheduling got in the way.

Phelps said he will continue to work to bring Fletcher to campus before the Nov. 6 election, saying SG would welcome him "any day, any time." It won't be an open debate, which would have been the ideal scenario so voters could directly compare each candidate, but it is better than nothing.

The door is still open for Fletcher to show his focus on postsecondary education, and unless the governor thinks confidence alone will prove his worth to students, he should walk through it before it shuts.

### ■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Men have their own 'dirty laundry' too

I sighed heavily after reading about the Clothesline Project in Tuesday's Kernel.

Please don't misunderstand me: I willingly and enthusiastically support, with voice and action, the defense of women, but men are abused too.

Though it is not as frequent, men are abused in all the same ways women are — mentally, emotionally, spiritually, sexually, verbally and physically.

The largest difference is that men are ashamed to admit that the "weaker of the sexes" has controlled and used them.

Control in abusive relationships is enabled by the abused's fear of the abuser, and culture at large insinuates that real men don't have fears.

Society tends to not address abused men's concerns, throwing their dirty laundry in the garbage instead of trying to clean and hang it out on the line.

I was in an abusive relationship for about three years, and have been used by a woman in all the ways mentioned above. Now, almost a year later, I have many unresolved issues from what I faced, the largest being

that I don't want to talk about them.

I usually preface the story of that time with "Please don't feel pity" and close with "What I experienced didn't make me weak; the decision to stay in it for so long was weak." To my ears, the quivering of my own voice sounds as if I am trying to convince myself that ending more than the listener.

When I conclude this letter, if I will have to make a decision that if it goes into print, will I give my name? Will I step out as a voice with a face in support of abused men? Will I believe that by being a squeaky wheel about this issue I can make a difference about the prejudice of abused men?

Like most men, I would guess, I don't want to deal with the emotions, and I don't want to be judged by others.

Admittedly, my first reaction to giving my name is fear, and then sharp anger at feeling so inferior. Fear and anger, just like when I was being abused ...

My name is Jacob McNutt.

Jacob McNutt  
Civil engineering junior

#### Cartoonists Needed

The Kernel is looking for a cartoonist to draw pieces for the Opinions page on a regular basis.

E-mail [opinions@kykernel.com](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com)

#### Weekly Poll Question

Should SG take action regarding the purchasing and reselling of tickets to the Corey Smith concert by two SG Senators?

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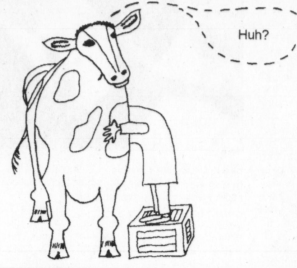
#### Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Chad Reese. Please limit letters to 350 words or fewer.

E-mail [opinions@kykernel.com](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com)

### ANNALS OF ANIMAL SCIENCE

#### FISTULATED COWS



MARK COYNE, Kernel cartoonist

## Blackwater's mercenary soldiers hinder U.S. progress in Iraq

Blackwater, the largest U.S. private security firm in Iraq, has been making headlines for all the wrong reasons.

The firm is currently facing investigation by a Congressional committee for its role in the recent shooting in a Baghdad square. In the shooting that took place Sept. 16, Blackwater guards killed 11 Iraqis and wounded 12 others, according to BBC News.

Both Blackwater and the U.S. State Department maintained that the guards acted in self-defense after insurgents attacked the U.S. diplomatic convoy they were protecting. However, eyewitnesses and a later Iraqi government report said the guards opened fire on innocent civilians without provocation, BBC News reported.

The worst part of the story is this shooting is not an isolated incident that took place by chance. Further probing into Blackwater's records shows us a chilling history of violent and unruly conduct in Iraq.

Blackwater has been involved in 195 shooting incidents in Iraq since 2005, and in more than 80 percent of those cases Blackwater guards were the first to open fire, according to a U.S. congressional report. Additionally, in the majority of cases, the guards fired their weapons from moving vehicles without stopping to count the dead or assist the wounded, the report said.

The incident also sheds light on a different question: According to BBC News, there are nearly 50,000 armed private security guards in Iraq, so with more than 100,000 U.S. soldiers already there, why are these private guards needed?

The fact is, the United States almost exclusively employs private guards to protect U.S. diplomats and other officials outside of the safety zone; without these private security guards, U.S. diplomats would not be able to do their job.

To think that U.S. diplomats cannot do their job without the help of private security guards — not U.S. soldiers, mind you — one has to wonder, after five years of fighting and with over 100,000 U.S. soldiers in Iraq, just how little security there is in that country.

More pathetic, however, was the Iraqi government's feeble protest against the shooting and the practice of employing unaccountable private security contractors.

Amid roaring public outrage, the Iraqi government initially revoked Blackwater's license to operate in Iraq and ordered its personnel to leave the country immediately. However, not only did Blackwater remain in Iraq, it also resumed limited operations four days after the shooting. The firm was back in full operation within a week, according to BBC News.

Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki called the shooting a "criminal act" and an inquiry by the Iraqi interior ministry has included the security guards were "100-percent guilty." The congressional report supported these claims.

Yet the Iraqi government cannot bring any charges on these Blackwater guards, mercenaries in effect, responsible for the reckless shooting, because private security contractors are not subject to Iraqi law. That's a slap in the face of a country's sovereignty if there ever was one.

If a government doesn't even have the power to protect its people from foreign private armed guards, how is it expected to oversee a turbulent country?

What role has the United States been playing in this sticky situation? As "liberators" of Iraq, surely the United States would stand up for the people it liberated, right?

In the past, U.S. diplomats once

helped a Blackwater employee leave Iraq less than 36 hours after he killed a bodyguard of one of Iraq's vice presidents while drunk. He faced no criminal charges, according to a BBC News article.

And in the Baghdad shooting incident, the U.S. State Department's approach is "to make monetary payments to put the matter behind us." The Congressional report said.

The "liberators" now allow trigger-happy private security guards to fire at will upon the "liberated" Iraqi civilians and refuse to investigate such criminal actions.

Remember the Republicans' claims that the U.S. troops would be welcomed by the Iraqis upon entering the country? Well, even if it were true several years ago, there is no way on earth it can be true now.

Personally, I am disappointed by how little reaction the American public has had on this atrocity. Certain people must feel that since the United States has already liberated the Iraqis, it's a job well done.

This shows how little regard the public has for the lives of Iraqi civilians. Imagine if this shooting took place in Washington — how would the public react then?

This column is not aimed against the Iraq war, but rather against the killing of innocent civilians. The victims of the shooting and their families deserve justice, and the United States has yet to serve justice to the perpetrators.

On a broader view, the United States can only win the hearts of the Iraqis by showing that they are regarded as equal human beings with the same rights of American citizens, both in theory and in practice.

As it is obvious the United States is unwilling to do that, perhaps it's best to give Iraqis their chance of securing their own rights.

Linsen Li is a history and journalism junior. E-mail [opinions@kykernel.com](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com).

## Delay Robinson Forest logging and conserve remaining wilderness

I hope everyone has been able to follow the Robinson Forest controversy. This issue is one of extreme importance to us as UK students, because

this forest has been entrusted to us as part of this university, and the responsibility to ensure that it is properly taken care of belongs to us, at least partially to us.

If you haven't been paying close attention, allow me to write briefly about what is going on. UK's forestry department has decided to push ahead with a plan to cut down 800 acres of Robinson Forest in order to determine the best way to cut down trees that are close to streams. In the department's words, it wants to "clarify the timber harvesting practices needed to avoid negative environmental impacts and assist Kentucky forest owners and manager in protecting water quality in rugged terrain."

Proponents of this plan claim that the "best management practices" for streamside logging have not been properly established and say that the research done at the forest is necessary. Also, the proponents of this plan say the byproduct of increasing the funds for the Robinson Scholars program is another plus of the logging plan.

At a public forum Sept. 25, the dean of the College of Agriculture, which houses the forestry department, explained this plan in detail and said he was surprised there was opposition to this plan at all.

However, there was quite a bit of opposition. Those of us on the other side of the issue — including writer Wendell Berry, former UK trustee Tracy Farmer, U.S. Rep. Ben Chandler, Kentuckians For The Commonwealth, UK GreenThumb and UK College Democrats — say this research is good, but should be done in forests where sustainable logging is already being practiced. It is unnecessary to damage what is left of the forest in Eastern Kentucky.

Robinson Forest is the last piece of wilderness (at least reclaimed wilderness) left in Eastern Kentucky, and it should forever exist in its full 14,786-acre glory as a monument to what was once a grand, beautiful forest.

The excuse that the logging will help fund the Robinson Scholars Program is unfortunate — it is extremely important for Kentucky to invest in

first-generation college students from the economically disadvantaged area of Eastern Kentucky. However, to do so by destroying the beauty of their region is a little counterintuitive.

There is also no consensus in the forestry department. Dave Maehr, a professor of conservation biology in the department, wrote recently that Robinson Forest was "globally significant" and that use of the forest should be to "embrace the lost world of the Laurel Fork." Obviously, if the entire faculty can't agree on what should be done, this plan should be at least delayed.

Important citizens, respected civic groups and major newspapers from across the state have called on UK to delay logging the forest, which is scheduled to begin this month, but there has been no change in plans. This is very disappointing.

Hopefully, the forestry department will see the light and at least delay the logging of Robinson Forest until this issue can be fully discussed and debated. The forest deserves such respect, and we, as citizens of this state and students of this university, deserve the right to enjoy the forest in full.

Robert Kahne is a political science and economics junior and president of UK College Democrats. E-mail [opinions@kykernel.com](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com).



ROBERT KAHNE  
Contributing columnist



## Efforts to ban literature bring on librarians' ire

By Stevenson Swanson  
Chicago Tribune

**NEW YORK** — The story seemed like a surefire hit for children. A pair of penguins take care of an egg that isn't theirs and then raise the baby penguin, after it hatches, as their own.

How heartwarming. And who doesn't love penguins? Plenty of parents, it turns out, when both penguin parents are male.

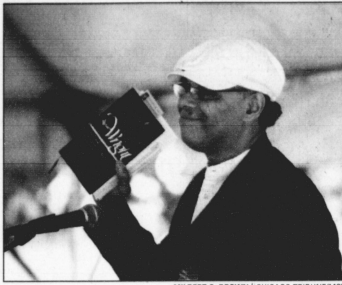
That plot twist earned "And Tango Makes Three" the distinction of being the most-challenged book of 2006, according to the Chicago-based American Library Association, which compiles an annual list of titles that have been the subject of efforts to have them removed from public and school libraries.

"Tango," by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell, and other controversial titles from the 2006 list, such as two by Nobel laureate Toni Morrison and Cecily von Ziegesar's popular "Cissip Girl" series, will be the center of attention in the coming week at readings and other literary events nationwide as part of Banned Books Week, organized by the library association and other groups, including the American Civil Liberties Union.

Last year, the number of challenges — ranging from written complaints to full-blown hearings — jumped to 546, more than 30 percent higher than in 2005. Such annual fluctuations are not unusual, according to Judith Krug, head of the library association's office for intellectual freedom.

And, despite the higher number of challenges, the vast majority of efforts to ban specific books came up short: Only 29 titles were removed from library shelves last year. Among the titles that disappeared from some libraries were "Siddhartha" by Hermann Hesse, Morrison's "The Bluest Eye" and "Forever" by Judy Blume.

But even one removal is one too many for Krug. "You're taking choice



MILBERT O. BROWN | CHICAGO TRIBUNE/GETTY IMAGES  
Haki R. Madhubuti, founder of the Third World Press, reads parts from Richard Wright's "Native Son" at the 26th annual celebration of Banned Books Week in Chicago on Sept. 29.

away," she said. "If it's removed, no one in that library or school has the opportunity to read that book."

Organizers of efforts to have books removed from public libraries or reading lists in schools say that their efforts are aimed at keeping graphic material, such as obscene language or sex scenes, out of the hands of young children.

The library association has been "very successful in spreading their message that anything goes," said Dan Kleinman, who runs the Web site SafeLibraries.org, which calls for greater parental say in the books used in schools and available to children at libraries. Banned Books Week is "propaganda to convince parents to allow school boards and libraries to continue making inappropriate material available," he said.

Challenges involving books aimed at children or young adults make up "at least 75" of every 100 efforts to have a title removed, Krug said.

"Absolutely, parents should have the right to decide whether their children should have access to a book, but that right ends where my nose begins,"

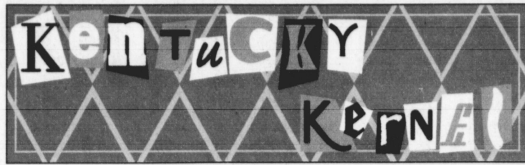
said Krug, meaning that other parents might think that same book was appropriate for their children.

Objections to books come from all points on the political spectrum, she said. If the issue is homosexuality, the challenge is likely to come from religious conservatives, but if the issue is racism, the complaint is more likely to come from the left, "because they're concerned about eliminating 'isms,'" Krug said.

In past years, Mark Twain's use of an offensive term for blacks landed "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" on the most-challenged list. Twain is missing from the newest list.

So is Harry Potter. The Potter series, which concluded this year with the seventh book, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," tops the list of most-challenged titles from 2000 to 2006, but no new Potter book was published in 2006.

Objections have been raised to various titles in the series because of their frequent violence and because some opponents maintain that author J.K. Rowling's stories about her young wizard hero promote Satanism.



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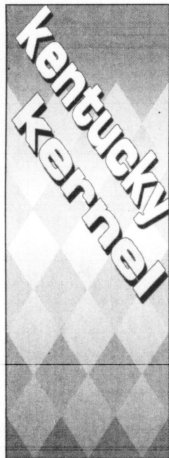


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