

# KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 36 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

## 1 in 4 UK employees to receive raises

By Jill Laster  
jlaster@kykernel.com

About one in four regular full-time UK employees will be getting a raise beginning Jan. 1.

UK will give \$2.3 million to salary adjustments for a limited number of non-hospital employees, UK President Lee Todd announced in an e-mail to employees Wednesday night.

"This process is directly responsive to the concerns of faculty and staff as evidenced by the work-life process, which has surveyed the entire university community and involved hundreds of faculty and staff," Todd said in an e-mail to the Kernel.

The Work-Life survey, released

in September 2006, found that four percent of UK staff members said they were "very satisfied" with their pay and 28 percent said they were "satisfied."

The pay adjustment will first go to employees whose pay is low compared to similar jobs at other places in the state, Todd said.

"This should provide meaningful increases for many employees with salaries near the low end of their respective pay ranges," Todd said.

Each college or administrative unit will also give raises to a limited number of staff members in their department. These merit-based raises will be determined on past performance evaluations.

"It is directly responsive to the

Top 20 Business Plan, which examines and quantifies how we need to improve salaries and compensation to be competitive for our faculty and staff," Todd said.

UK Hospital employees will not be included in the pay increases, Todd said, because the hospital recently completed its own pay adjustment. Employees at Good Samaritan Hospital, recently acquired by UK, will also not be included.

The pay raise is part of the \$5 million staff enhancement pool approved by the Board of Trustees in April.

Last spring, the Board of Trustees approved a benefits package that included domestic partner benefits for UK employees and the planned construction of two child

care centers for faculty and staff, one close to North Campus on Woodland Avenue and the other close to South Campus on University Court.

The package, which cost nearly \$2.7 million, also included tuition discounts for a spouse, partner or one dependent of employees who have worked at UK for at least one year.

Todd said the pay increase is part of UK's larger goal of becoming a top-20 public research university by 2020.

"The Top 20 Business Plan recognizes that we need to — and must — pay our faculty and staff competitive compensation packages to recruit and retain the best and brightest," Todd said.

## Madness lovers don't mind lining up early

By Stephanie Short  
news@kykernel.com

Charles Wafford has one wish: that UK basketball players might sign his homemade camper as he waits in line for tickets to Big Blue Madness.

"I've got my fingers crossed," said Wafford, a Lexington resident.

Parked at the corner of Avenue of Champions and Lexington Avenue, Wafford's, camper is set up among nearly 65 tents, cornhole games and lawn chairs around Memorial Coliseum as fans camp out in line for tickets to UK's first basketball practice of the season. Tickets go on sale tomorrow.

Wafford has camped out for Big Blue Madness tickets for the last eight years. This is the fifth year he has been first in line, he said.

"I come here for the people," Wafford said. "A lot of students know me from years past. It's good to be outside and be around different kinds of people. I like to come here, sit out and just enjoy myself."

Decorated in blue and white, the camper is air conditioned and complete with a bed and a refrigerator.

"It started out as something to do," Wafford said. "I thought I might be able to use (the camper) for tailgating and camping. I added on pictures of old players, but they didn't stick too well. So, I painted it and had decals made, and here it is."

The only thing missing is a personal touch from the UK players.

Wafford obtained a city permit to park his camper for the week. After he gets his event tickets on Saturday morning, he will move the camper to Commonwealth Stadium to tailgate before the football game.

Over the years, Wafford and his nephew, Wallace Clark, nicknamed Wildcat Wally, have made camping out at Memorial Coliseum a tradition.

"I started coming because everybody else was coming," Clark said. "Now, I come because I want to. At 56 years old, the friends I've made here are great."

This year, the two men, and their friend Mickey Brady, are especially excited for Big Blue Madness because of the new men's and women's basketball coaches. Brady has never

See Madness on page 5



A member of the UK Army ROTC retrieves a gun from the bottom of the Lancaster Aquatic Center pool on Friday, Sept. 15.

PHOTOS BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

A cadet splashes into the Lancaster Aquatic Center pool on Sept. 15 during a training exercise conducted by the UK Army ROTC.



## The water's fine for training time

Members of the UK Army ROTC jumped off the one-meter diving platform to retrieve their guns at the bottom of the pool as part of an unexpected water entry drill. The exercise was part of the Army ROTC's water training at Lancaster Aquatic Center on Sept. 15. The training also involved a gear drop where cadets were pushed into the pool in full military gear that they had to strip off before resurfacing.

## Students to displace selves to raise awareness

By Wesley Robinson  
news@kykernel.com

This weekend Uganda's invisible children will become a little less transparent at UK.

Displace Me is an event that aims to inform students about invisible children, a term used to describe about 30,000 children who have been abducted during the civil war in Uganda that has been going on since 1987.

Displace Me simulates the real life situation that over 1.5 million Ugandan citizens have had to endure since being moved into protection

scale on UK's campus," said Naitore Kiogora, Displace Me co-chair and an integrated strategic communications and marketing senior.

Kiogora and Nally thought of bringing Displace Me to UK after attending the April national event in Nashville.

The Logistics Committee Chair Jessica Kane, an economics junior, said the goal is for people to attend to raise awareness on the issue and not for the purpose of promoting their organization.

"I don't want people to see a black organization and say they are supporting Africa because they are

supposed to," Kane said. Displace Me is about a bigger problem of people being mistreated, something everyone can relate to, she said.

Participants are asked to bring cardboard, paint and decorations to build a team or group village. Individual students that attend will be matched up with other individuals and groups in attendance.

This year's effort is a "trial and error run," Kane said. Applications for next year's committee will be available in November for those who

See Displace Me on page 5

## Engineering students let sun shine on solar car

By Jill Laster  
jlaster@kykernel.com

People can use the sun for many things, to work on a tan or dry clothes — or to power a 450-pound car.

Started in 1999 by engineering students, the UK Solar Car Team has designed, built and modified a racecar powered on solar energy.

"In school, they give you a problem, they give you a solution, they show you how to do it," said Matt Hatfield, a mechanical engineering senior. "Here, there are no solutions. You just have to think."

Hatfield is one of the team's 15 members working on the Gato del Sol II, named for the horse that won the 1982 Kentucky Derby. The solar car can travel up to 45 miles per hour and is legally allowed to drive on roads as long as there are lead and chase cars.

"Taking it on the road is extremely nerve-racking," Hatfield said. "You don't want to see it break down in the middle of the road."

In 2003, the team used parts from the original solar car to build an improved car, Gato del Sol II. The materials used to build Gato del Sol II cost between \$100,000 and \$110,000. Members of the solar car team do not work for pay.

"Labor, man hours, that'd bump (costs) up to millions," Hatfield said.

After six months of design and one and a half years of construction, Gato del Sol II entered but did not qualify to compete in the 2005 North American Solar Car Challenge.

The challenge included a race route of

See Solar Car on page 5

# SUDOKU

Go to [www.kykernel.com](http://www.kykernel.com) for the solution

	6	9		7				
1		8				4		
5			4	3				
9	4				3			
	7							1
			9			2	3	
			3	5				7
		3			8		5	
		9		7		4		

4puz.com

## CRUSH YOUR CANS... NOT YOUR CARS



### Autobahn Autobody

Collision Center  
Accepting all insurance claims

170 Daniels Drive 11 miles from campus | 272-1972  
ask about our LUK student discount program!

## HOROSCOPES

By Linda C. Black

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

**Aries (March 21-April 19)** — Today is an 8 — The money you've been waiting for is coming very soon. The temptation to spend on treats will be huge. Get a few, but don't blow the whole check.  
**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** — Today is a 7 — You don't have to rely on another to get the answers you seek. You can find them for yourself. This also lets you know whom you can trust.  
**Gemini (May 21-June 21)** — Today is a 7 — Spend more time in contemplation. You have lots to think about. Don't think so! Well, give it a try. Slow down and smell the roses. Start with fifteen

minutes.  
**Cancer (June 22-July 22)** — Today is a 7 — You're meeting new people and talking on new projects, and this is good. You won't be shy about letting them know how you feel, and that's even better.  
**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** — Today is a 7 — Collect information from friends who have been there and done that. No need to tell them your plans exactly. Get them to share their experiences.  
**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Today is an 8 — You're gaining confidence, and you're getting ready to try something you've always wanted to do. But wait! More planning is required.  
**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** — Today is a 7 — You can advance remarkably a little bit at a time. Or you can take a great leap forward. Do the latter. Tell the world what you want, so they can help you get it.  
**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — Today is a 7 — The stable, cuddly, solid type makes good partners for you. Find a person who speaks with body language

more than verbal, and you'll have a good match.  
**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — Today is a 7 — The work you've been postponing is beginning to pile up. Unfortunately, it's necessary for you to do some of it. Put off the fun and games for a couple of days.  
**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — Today is a 7 — You've put together enough of the pieces to visualize the whole picture. Don't take action yet; you'll have more support from friends if you wait.  
**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** — Today is a 5 — An argument breaks out between several hardheaded types. Unfortunately, you're one of them. Even if you explain carefully, don't expect them to all understand. Some will get it later.  
**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** — Today is a 7 — Take care of an urgent matter at home, before it gets any worse. Heard this before? So? The good news is your life's getting easier.  
 © 2007 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.



## THE DISH

The Hills' Heidi Montag recalls how "mean boys" and a paralyzing insecurity about her body led her to go under the knife

When Heidi Montag, sporting a streamlined nose and an ample bosom barely contained by a teeny bikini, was spotted strolling along the Malibu, California, shore in early May with boyfriend Spencer Pratt, it did nothing but fuel the already deafening chatter that she had plastic surgery a month earlier. Still, the native of Crested Butte, Colorado, would only tell Us at the time. "Whatever women need to do to feel sexy, they should do. If that is surgery, then that is their own choice." As it turns out, surgery was Montag's choice. In an exclusive interview with Us, Montag confirms what Us first reported in its April 23 issue: that she had undergone rhinoplasty and breast augmentation earlier that month. The aspiring singer opens up to Us's Alii Riley about her decision to go under the knife, enlarging from a 32-A to a 32-C, and the painful body-image problems that spurred her to make a change.

was like, OK, they're going to grow. This is my year! And it never happened. I was less than an A-cup. I wore pushup bras, which cut into my skin. If I was with a guy and there was a girl next to me with big boobs, I would be like, Oh, my God, he's looking at her! On the beach, if I was standing next to a girl with big boobs, I'd be like, I hate her! I hated my nose too. I have my dad's nose, which is huge. It took up so much of my face, when I looked down, I could see my nose. I couldn't get away from it! I was so frustrated. I was just like, I don't want to be on camera anymore.

### Were you ever teased about your appearance?

People would say, "You have such a big nose!" And they'd make fun of me for being so flat, and say mean boy things, like, "If you nailed two nails in a board, they would be bigger than you are." I was tormented. And when I was older, I'd want to be intimate, but I'd feel insecure. My boyfriends always had bigger chests than I did!

### Did Spencer pressure you into surgery?

He had nothing to do with it. If anything, he said, "Maybe you should think about it a lot longer." I decided on this a couple of years ago. I wanted it before the show, but I couldn't afford it.

## YES, I HAD PLASTIC SURGERY

### The Hills made it possible?

Definitely. I come from very humble beginnings. [Montag's mother and stepfather own a restaurant in Crested Butte.] Everything I've had, I've earned and I've fought for. Let's just say it was very expensive. I went to the best doctor [Dr. Frank Ryan, see box, below]. This is something you cut corners on. I decided last November that, during break [The Hills was on hiatus in April and May], I was going to get surgery. MTV said, "Yeah, whatever you want to do. It's your body." I'm just glad I didn't have to do it on the show. My mom and my grandma and my family were like, "This is something you've always wanted. We love you regardless." They understood the teasing and the insecurity.

### How did you decide what you wanted to look like?

I got Playboys and I was looking at those. I was like, "Spencer, what do you think about this?" He said, "It's too funny. I asked Dr. Ryan, 'I was thinking of a C. What do you think?'" And he showed me some options and I felt them, and we came to the conclusion together.

COPYRIGHT 2007 US WEEKLY

**Good Luck Cats!**

**SALOTTO'S**  
RESTAURANT & NIGHT CLUB

Today's Dish  
Sponsored By: **CHARLIE BROWNS**  
Restaurant and Lounge

816 Euclid Ave.  
269-5701

**OPEN AIR PATIO**

Visit us at:

W  
W  
W  
.  
K  
Y  
K  
E  
R  
N  
E  
L  
C  
O  
M

**THE GRAND THEATRE**  
1 Mile So. of Man O' War

**UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY STUDENTS**  
College Student Pricing now available!  
Cut This Ad out and present it at the Box Office along with a current University Student ID to receive \$1.00 OFF an adult evening admission full price.

THE KINGDOM (R)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15	SYDNEY WHITE (PG-13)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15
THE GAME PLAN (PG)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15	THE BRAVE ONE (R)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15
DEATH AT A FUNERAL (R)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15	STARBUCKS (R)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15
FEAR OF LOVE (R)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15	RUSH HOUR 3 (PG-13)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15
RESIDENT EVIL: EXTINCTION (R)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15	MR. WOODCOCK (PG-13)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15
EASTERN PROMISES (R)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15	DRAGON WARS: O' WAR (PG-13)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15
GOOD LUCK CHUCK (PG)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15	THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM (PG-13)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15
110 TO YUMA (R)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15	MR. BEAN'S HOLIDAY (G)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15
		HALLOWEEN (R)	Fr. - Sat. 11:15

**FACULTY \* STAFF \* STUDENTS**

**GOVERNOR'S RACE FORUM**  
TODAY  
Noon-1 p.m.  
WORSHAM THEATRE

VS.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY VS. KENTUCKY FEDERATION OF REPUBLICANS

Ever wonder why they call it 'My Old Kentucky Home'?

Maybe it's Because A Part of You Belongs Here.

**LIKE YOUR RETIREMENT MONEY!**

237 E. Main St.  
Lexington, Ky 40507  
859-233-0400

DUPRE FINANCIAL.COM

**DUPREE FINANCIAL GROUP**  
AN INDEPENDENT FIRM

RAYMOND JAMES

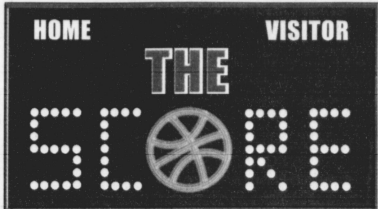
**THE KENTUCKY KERNEL**

we do it daily.

Note:  
Daily newspaper reading has been known to improve intelligence.

J.D. Williams  
Asst. Sports Editor  
jwilliams@kykernel.com

Designed by  
Azra Drljevic  
adrjjevic@kykernel.com



“You know when you catch one, because you're really energized, and next thing you know you really can't sit on the bench or you want to fall asleep. That's where everything goes from HD to regular TV — and that's the truth.”

—Miami Dolphins linebacker Zach Thomas commenting on the concussion he suffered against the Dallas Cowboys.

## High expectation, no limitations



Captain Mike Barnes, a psychology senior, left, and assistant captains Patrick McAdams, center, a management senior, and marketing junior Chris Protenic hope to reach the national tournament for the first time in 13 years. ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

### UK hockey coach expects team to be crowned as champions this season

By Laura Popper  
sports@kykernel.com

Heading into this hockey season, coach Rob Docherty might be able to add fortune-teller to his title if his lofty prediction for his team comes true. “We’re playing in that championship game March 15,” Docherty said. “That’s my prediction.”

Last year, the team came one game short of returning to the American Collegiate Hockey Association national tournament for the first time in 13 seasons, finishing with a 22-8-4-1 record. As a result, the team has a new game plan to get them up and over the ice capped playoff mountain. “This year, the key is to be very aggressive and take the game to the other team,” Docherty said. But first Docherty must plug some big holes in his roster.

The Cool Cats will have to replace forwards Johnny Mica and John North who left the team to focus on academics this year. The team will also be hindered by the absence of last year’s leading scorer in junior forward Tony Valerino. Team captain Mike Barnes said Valerino is currently ineligible to play due to low grades. Barnes does not know when or if Valerino will be back this season. As a sophomore, Valerino led the Cool Cats with 46 goals. Replacing those players could be a slippery slope for Docherty. He will look to Barnes, a senior forward, and his assistant captains, defender Patrick McAdams and forward Chris Protenic, to fill those skates. Barnes, who has

personal and team goals that he hopes encourage strives to a championship. “I want to be a good threat on the ice, and to create a good leadership role,” he said. “We need to keep the penalties down, work hard and motivate the guys. I don’t know why we can’t make it to the national championship. Anything less is an understatement.” The Cool Cats play 22 home games at the Lexington Ice Center, which holds around 650 people. The games

against Indiana and Tennessee usually sell out, as they are UK’s biggest hockey rivals. For at least three games last year, so many fans came that some had to be turned away at the door, Ward said. Fans in the past have brought large signs to cheer on the team, some even had white boards to write messages of congratulation or complaint to specific players. “When you’re lining up at face off, you look over and you hear the crowd

See **Hockey** on page 4

## After recent success, Cool Cats becoming kings of night

While most college students are prepping themselves to do whatever young scholars do on Friday nights, for the 3.8’s to 4.0’s I’ll be considerate and spare you the details, the Cool Cats are going through the game plan. It’s the graveyard shift — on ice.



J.D. WILLIAMS  
Kernel columnist

UK’s hockey team has built a reputation around the American Collegiate Hockey Association for being the team that faceoffs at midnight inside of

the Lexington Ice Center. “For us it starts at the gym and at practice,” said senior forward and co-captain Patrick McAdams about a typical game night. “We have to be at the rink at 10 o’clock before a midnight game. 10:30 we go in for 15 minutes to stretch and try to get a good sweat going, then back to the locker room to get dress and listen to music. Coach comes in and gives us a speech, the captains say some stuff to try and get everybody fired up, which usually isn’t a problem. We get out there to go through warm-ups and the national anthem - at 12 the puck drops.”

Originally teams griped about taking the ice so late when playing UK in away games, but as the UK program began to progress in the league, finding

teams to schedule was no longer a problem. Neither was winning. Last year the Cool Cats came within one game of having the chance to play for the national championship in their league. General manager Ian Ward said that the team has become somewhat of a powerhouse. “We go to places like Ohio State, and a lot of those people ask us how do we do what we do,” Ward said. “I tell them we just do it.” Ward was referring to keeping a non-scholarship program afloat in the shadows of a school consumed with other major sports that bring in more revenue.

Head coach Rob Docherty said the answer is simple - UK hockey sells, lit-

erally. “I don’t chase after people, I don’t have scouts,” Docherty said. Most hockey players that come to UK contact him through emails and follow the team on their official website. Docherty said he gets inquiries from numerous players in state and also from St. Louis, Chicago, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. Recently he also has gained interest from a player in Switzerland. The international interest shows the UK program has no boundaries.

What separates UK from a D-I school that is included in the NCAA is the presence of international players. Most players on scholarship at the NCAA level are Canadian or European.

So gaining interest by good American players is key to the success of the Cool Cats. Players that want attend UK tour the campus and come to a hockey game. But it’s the finale of seeing a packed house of fans that sells them on being at UK. But Docherty made it clear, saying that UK is not a walk on team, all players tryout, and even on their visit he puts them on the ice to let them “work with the team.” “Then they can judge themselves - are they actual going to make this team - without myself talking to them,” Docherty said.

Docherty said that aspect of coaching is easy.

See **Williams** on page 4



**CHARLIE  
BRONN'S**  
RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE

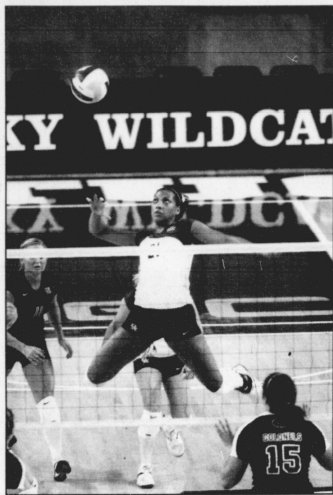
# WE'VE GOT IT ALL

Wireless Internet  
Sofas and Loveseats  
Fireplace  
**Heated Patio**

Great for Dates  
Great for study groups  
Happy Hour 4-7  
10-Close

Serving Food: M-Th 11am-12:30am  
F-Sat 11am-2:00am  
Sun 1pm-11pm

816 Euclid Avenue, Chevy Chase  
269-5701 Fax:266-5554



Senior middle blocker Nicole Britenriker going up for an offensive kill in a 3-0 sweep against Eastern Kentucky on Sept. 4.

## Cats' leader transferred to have more fun

By Kenny Colston  
kcolston@kykernel.com

For Nicole Britenriker, Ohio State University was a place she saw herself graduating from academically. But something was missing for Britenriker: she just wasn't having fun.

As a result of the outage on the fun-o-meter, the Cincinnati native decided to transfer from Ohio State to UK to finish out her collegiate career after her sophomore year.

"I came here expecting to enjoy my volleyball career better," Britenriker said. "As for winning, I always expect to win."

Britenriker made an impact from the moment she stepped foot on the court for the Cats. Last season Britenriker led UK in points per game and kills and was second in blocks. She was also named captain before even playing a game for the Cats. Her leadership impressed head coach Craig Skinner, even at a time when the coaching staff wasn't 100 percent sure about Britenriker.

"We didn't know her that well," Skinner said. "It says a lot if the first week and a half she's here, her teammates name her captain."

Britenriker's leadership is evident again this year as she leads or claims second in most statistical categories for UK, as well as being among the top ten players in the SEC for some categories. Britenriker's .334 hitting percentage is seventh in the SEC, while her 3.96 kills per game ranks sixth. Britenriker is also tied for ninth in blocks per game with teammate Lauren Rapp.

The leadership Britenriker displays on the court has already rubbed off on her teammates. Like the senior leader, sophomore setter Sarah Rumely's was also in her first year with the Cats last season. Even with a difference of two years of playing experience, Rumely said her and Britenriker clicked immediately.

"She's always been a player on the same page," Rumely said. "She has that drive to do the best everyday. That impacted me to see what collegiate volleyball was about."

And according to Rumely, Britenriker isn't just a leader on the court, but off the court as well.

"Everyone respects her," Rumely said. "She's the core of this team that holds us together."

That off the court impact is something that Skinner said has the coaches satisfied with the senior middle blocker.

"Physically we knew she was a gifted athlete and knew her capabilities," Skinner said. "It's difficult to transfer emotionally. But we are very pleased with her leadership, mental toughness and maturity."

For Britenriker, having good senior leaders at Ohio State influenced her to be the leader she is today.

"I've seen the impact of other seniors," Britenriker said. "My goal is to have my teammates trust me and to have a good impact."

While Britenriker is having an impact on the court and on her teammates, the senior is gaining what she was losing out on at Ohio State.

"I'm having a blast," Britenriker said. "I'm enjoying it all over again."

## UK vs. FLORIDA ATLANTIC: POSITION BY POSITION

By Travis Waldron  
twaldron@kykernel.com

### Quarterbacks

**Advantage:** UK

Unless Andre Woodson gets hurt, UK will likely have the advantage at quarterback in each of its remaining eight games, the only possible exception being Florida. Woodson still hasn't played his best and is averaging over 250 yards per game for the Southeastern Conference's third best passing offense. Plus, he has already thrown 11 touchdowns. Florida Atlantic's Rusty Smith may not have Woodson's big name, but he does have big game. Smith is averaging almost 280 yards per game, and if FAU wants to keep it close, he needs to be outstanding.

### Linebackers

As long as Wesley Woodyard is on the field, it is tough to hate on the UK linebackers. Woodyard had 17 tackles and a forced fumble against Arkansas, and Johnny Williams, Braxton Kelley and Micah Johnson are all among the team's top five tacklers. UK's linebackers have combined for 3.5 tackles for loss on year and five combined pass breakups. Their ability to get to the backfield has certainly helped improve the UK defense. Florida Atlantic's Frantz Joseph and Cergile Sincere both rank in the top 100 nationally in tackles, and Andre Clark is also a solid tackler, but the Owls have little depth beyond those three.

### Defensive Line

Florida Atlantic's defensive line isn't bad by any means. The Owls are 52nd in the country against the run (137 yards per game) and have logged seven sacks. Though UK's defensive line is thin, it has played well so far. Linemen Ventrell Jenkins and Dominic Lewis have both surprised UK coaches, and Jeremy Jarmon already has four sacks. Junior defensive tackle Myron Pryor is healthy — bad news for a Florida Atlantic team that already struggles rushing the football. And with size issues on the Owls' offensive front, Jarmon and Lewis may live in the backfield Saturday.

### Offensive Line

UK's offensive line has proven solid as long as the team is running the football. But the Cats haven't allowed a great defensive line yet and have still allowed nine sacks, the ninth most in the SEC. Even against an inferior opponent, the Cats can't allow defensive linemen to interrupt hand-offs as they did against Arkansas. Florida Atlantic has given up seven sacks and struggles to run the football, partially due to their size. Seven of Florida Atlantic's ten offensive linemen on the depth chart weigh less than 260 pounds, including David Matlock, a 239-pound left tackle. Size may present problems for the Owls against UK's strong defensive line.

### Overall

Florida Atlantic may have one of the top college football coaches of all-time in Howard Schnellenberger. And the Owls knocked off Minnesota earlier this season. And they may even be one of the best-dressed teams in America. But this is a UK team riding high after two emotional wins, and even if the Cats aren't 100 percent focused from the outset, they have the talent to win. FAU may hang tough early, but the Owls won't keep up with UK's balanced offensive attack.

### Running Backs

Despite the loss of three running backs to injury against Arkansas, the Cats rode freshman Derrick Locke in the second half against the Razorbacks. Alfonso Smith won't play due to a high ankle sprain, but Raphael Little and Tony Dixon are healthy, giving the Cats a major edge in the backfield. The Cats are averaging 227 yards per game on the ground and already have more rushing touchdowns this season (14) than they did in all of 2006 (12). Florida Atlantic, led by Charles Pierre's 54 yards per game, is 92nd in America in rushing offense. The Owls haven't had a 100-yard rusher yet, and that streak likely won't end in Lexington.

### Receivers

The Owls know how to spread the ball around. Six of their receivers have caught touchdown passes, while three average over 40 yards per game. Leading receiver Jason Harmon has caught a pass in 16 straight games. Still, the Owls can't compete with UK's depth. The emergence of Steve Johnson (14 catches, 265 yards, 3 touchdowns) gives UK three receivers capable of taking every catch to the end zone, plus tight end Jacob Tamme. Add Little and fullback John Conner, who have combined for 12 catches out of the backfield, and it's easy to see why wide receiver Keenan Burton and company get the nod.

### Special Teams

It's not that Florida Atlantic's special teams unit is that good; it's just that UK's is that bad. Traditionally one of the better units on Rich Brooks' teams, special teams has been woeful for the Cats in 2007. Kicker Lones Seiber is 3-for-4 on field goals but has failed on three extra points, and UK has given up special teams touchdowns two weeks in a row. Florida Atlantic kicker Warley Leroy has made seven of nine field goals and all 12 extra points, and punter Keegan Peterson is averaging over 40 yards per kick.

### Secondary

The Cats are seventh in the SEC in pass defense and would be better if Louisville quarterback Brian Brohm hadn't thrown for 366 yards against them. Sophomore cornerback Trevard Lindley, a freshman All-American in 2006, sprained his ankle against Arkansas but is healthy this week. Lindley has an interception and a fumble return for a touchdown this season. Even though Owl's cornerback Tavious Polo has six interceptions in four games, FAU is still the 99th-ranked pass defense in the country, and it hasn't faced a quarterback of Woodson's caliber. As UK was a year ago, the Owls aren't very good at stopping the pass, but they are very good at stealing it. FAU is second in the country in takeaways.



Senior defensive end Dominic Lewis runs in pursuit of Arkansas' Michael Smith in the Cats 42-29 win last week. UK will look for him along with the rest of the defensive line to pressure Florida Atlantic.

## krystalball

Picks for Saturday, Sept. 29

THIS WEEK'S GAMES	J.D. Williams	Jonathan Smith	Chris DeLotell
Auburn vs. #4 Florida	Asst. Sports Editor Record: 18-5 Last week: 6-0	Sports columnist Record: 16-7 Last week: 5-1	Sports Editor Record: 14-9 Last week: 4-2
#5 West Virginia vs. #18 South Florida	Florida South Florida California Wisconsin Florida State Clemson	West Virginia Oregon Wisconsin Florida State Clemson	South Florida California Wisconsin Florida State Clemson
#6 California vs. #11 Oregon	Michigan State vs. #9 Wisconsin	Corey Price	Travis Waldron
#22 Alabama vs. Florida State	Asst. Sports Editor Record: 17-6 Last week: 4-2	UK fan Record: 15-8 Last week: 4-2	Staff writer Record: 14-9 Last week: 3-3
#13 Clemson vs. Georgia Tech	Florida West Virginia California Wisconsin Florida State Clemson	Florida West Virginia California Wisconsin Alabama Clemson	West Virginia Oregon Wisconsin Alabama Clemson

## HOCKEY

Continued from page 3

cursing at the other team and looking on our team. The guys on the other team rook over and they say, 'this is awesome,'" senior forward Aaron Lechty said. "We can hear what people say on the ice. It is impossible not to."

"Nobody gets the crowds that we do," Docherty said. "We've got the best fans around." UK plays games at midnight, attracting more passionate fans, and providing an edge against opponents.

"It's a lot to get used to, because not everyone plays at midnight," Barnes said. "People recognize us for our games at midnight. They set us apart from anyone else. We get a more rowdy crowd."

The same crowd should be at ice center tonight. After winning their first two games of the season 5-4 and 4-1 against the University of Illinois, the Cool Cats make their first appearance in at home this weekend with games against Lindenwood University tonight and tomorrow.



Senior co-captain Patrick McAdams passes the puck against Toledo last season. The defenseman will be key for the Cool Cats' high expectations this season.

## WILLIAMS

Continued from page 3

It's the finances that makes UK hockey difficult.

Ward said the team has a team budget that exceeds \$80,000. Of that large sum, only \$500 comes from UK. With a \$79,500 figure hovering over the ice, the hockey team is left to come up with the rest of the money.

Because it is a club sport and not a scholarship sport backed by a wealthy athletic department such as basketball or football, each player must pay \$600 of the budget. The rest of the finances are chipped away by ticket sales and donations such as the \$2,500 the team received from the Student Government at UK.

Financial stability is not the only burden UK hockey player have to juggle.

Many Cool Cats faceoff daily with the obstacle of being productive

in the classroom, along with late night practices and jobs, something most collegiate athletes don't have to deal with. NCAA rules prevent college athletes from having jobs and receiving cash prizes in return they receive scholarships. UK hockey players don't have that privilege, so members such as McAdams could very well be plugging holes in ties at the shop he works at before practicing slapshots with the puck at 9:30 on weeknights, all while sandwiching in time to study.

With such tedious schedules of his players, there's no wonder why Docherty appreciates the 600 people that pack into the Lexington Ice Center to support UK. Without the revenue they bring in the Cool Cats would be somewhere wiped out indefinitely instead of on the late night ice.

J.D. Williams is a journalism senior. His columns run on Fridays. Email jwilliams@kykernel.com.

## frame by frame | This week's box office hits and misses

### New mafia drama 'Promises' more than gloom, grit

By Ricky Simpson  
features@kykermel.com

#### Eastern Promises

Starring: Naomi Watts, Viggo Mortensen, Armin Mueller-Stahl

When you hear that David Cronenberg, director of "A History of Violence," is taking on another gritty mafia flick, it is possible to think he is just riding the wave of success from his prior film. Surprisingly, that is just not true.

"Promises" could not be more different than Cronenberg's past projects. He continues to adapt his trademark atmosphere of gloom to this picture, but the way the story is presented doesn't compare to his other mafia endeavors.

The movie starts with Anna (Watts), who works in a maternity ward, helping a badly beaten girl deliver a child. The girl dies while in labor. After finding a diary in the young lady's handbag, Anna begins to put together the broken pieces of the girl's life. Because the diary is in Russian, Anna relies on others to decode the words.

As she finds out more about the girl, Anna inadvertently puts herself and her family in danger. Her clues begin to point to foul play by the London mafia.

In a supporting role, Mortensen eclipses the entire cast of the film. He turns the cut-throat gangster into a humanistic creature making the viewer want to trust him without knowing why until later.

Unlike Mortensen, the father-son duo of Kirill (Vincent Cassel) and Semyon (Mueller-Stahl) are gruesomely depicted and loathed until the very end. Both are perfectly horrific in their own ways. Semyon is a raunchy street punk with a taste for under-

ground brothels, while Kirill is even nastier due to his deceitful behavior as a "friendly" old man who acts like he could be anyone's grandfather but is anything but.

Thus far, "Promises" is one of the best films of the year. Although it is a little obvious where the diary is leading, the ending of the story is unclear until the finish. This film is electric and worth watching from start to finish.

Grade: B  
"Promises" runs 100 minutes and is rated R.  
Playing at: Cinemark Fayette Mall, Regal Hamburg

#### Opening Today

#### The Kingdom

Starring: Jamie Foxx, Chris Cooper, Jennifer Garner

A team of top U.S. agents are sent to investigate a bombing in the Middle East and risk everything attempting to take down the man responsible for the crime. This film looks gripping and heart wrenching and is clearly the film to catch this weekend.

Playing at: Cinemark Fayette Mall, Movies 10 Codell Drive, Regal Hamburg

#### The Game Plan

Starring: Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, Kyla Sedgwick, Madison Pettis

A pro football player (Johnson) is shocked to find he has a 7-year-old daughter that he has never met. His newly found daughter puts a cramp in his bachelor lifestyle and forces comical situations. This comedy might resemble Adam Sandler's

"Big Daddy," only not as good or funny.

Playing at: Cinemark Fayette Mall, Movies 10 Codell Drive, Regal Hamburg

#### Black Irish

Starring: Michael Angarano, Brendan Gleeson, Emily VanCamp

Cole (Angarano) strives for his father's love and becomes emotionally torn by his family's lack of affection. This film is already racking up a number of awards and looks to be a great sleeper drama to catch when it comes to Lexington after its limited release.

#### Upcoming DVDs

#### Entourage Season 3 Part 2 (Oct. 2)

Starring: Adrian Grenier, Jeremy Piven, Kevin Connolly

The season just ended "Entourage" fans are already having withdrawals. If you haven't seen this show, you are missing one of the best comedies ever. Follow Vinny, "E" and the boys as they finally finish their dream project, Medelin, and wait for public reviews.

#### 4: Rise of The Silver Surfer (Oct. 2)

Starring: Ioan Gruffudd, Jessica Alba, Chris Evans, Michael Chiklis

After the original "Fantastic Four" grossed over \$153 million, Twentieth Century-Fox thought it was worth trying to put together yet another Marvel Comic adaptation. The risk paid off in a big way with the sequel grossing over \$131 million.

## Beethoven's back in UK orchestra's first concert of semester

By Michelle Charles  
features@kykermel.com

As the curtains roll back tonight, a familiar sound will be heard.

The UK Symphony Orchestra will be playing Beethoven's Fifth Symphony as part of their first free concert of the semester tonight at 7:30 in the Singletary Center.

The conductor, John Nardolillo, who has been with the UK symphony for ten years, has been preparing his orchestra for this performance since the start of the semester.

"I am feeling excited about the concert," Nardolillo said. "We are going to be playing a piece from one of the all time great classics."

Animal science and music performance sophomore Alexandra Harper, who plays viola in the orchestra, said she hopes the long practices will pay off tonight with a strong performance.

"Students can expect to see a great all-around concert," Harper said.

Harper, who has played viola for ten years, said the orchestra has been working hard all semester.

"The end result is what we look forward to," Harper said.

"Going through all of the hard work is worth it in the end."

The concert will begin with Beethoven's Fifth Symphony and the orchestra will put a modern twist on other classical music that may be unfamiliar to some students, Harper said.

The works of composers such as Jacques Ibert, a composer in the early 1900s, and Michael Torke, a modern composer, will also be part of the orchestra's musical repertoire.

Art administration senior Chelsea Compton, who has played the viola for twelve years, said she is excited about the different music the orchestra will be playing tonight.

"What I enjoy most about being in the orchestra is all of the fun music we get to play," Compton said.

A guest musician will also be sharing his work. Seth Morris, a 2007 UK graduate, will be returning from the New England Conservatory in Boston to perform a flute piece from Ibert.

"We are looking forward to hearing him play again," said Nardolillo.

After tonight the orchestra will prepare for a Nov. 24 performance at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

## SOLAR CAR

Continued from page 1

2,495 miles from Austin, Texas to Calgary, Canada.

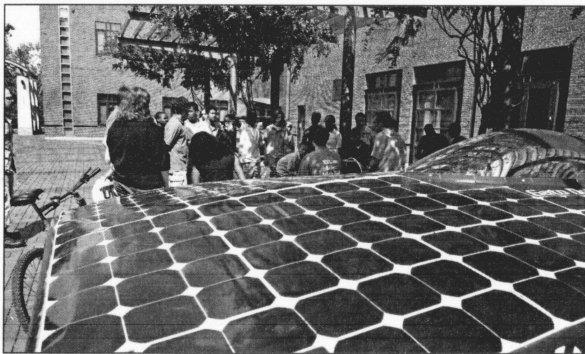
UK's team did not pass the qualifying rounds in 2005, but the team intends to compete in the next North American Solar Car Challenge in 2008.

However, the UK team may not be eligible to compete in the 2008 race because a change in competition rules about the solar car chassis would necessitate significant changes in the car, said mechanical engineering senior Anthony Robertson.

"With the manpower we have right now, it would probably take about two years," Robertson said. "We will be going to the one in 2008, but it might only be a demonstration vehicle."

The team is petitioning the challenge's main sponsor, Toyota, to change the rule. Either way, until the 2008 competition, the UK Solar Car Team will continue to test and improve the car, Hatfield said. The team will also try to make appearances at UK football games and in elementary and middle school classrooms.

"People usually stop and stare,



The UK Solar Car Team built the Gato Del Sol II in 2003. The car is powered by solar energy and can reach speeds of 45 mph. ELLIOTT HESS / STAFF

and it's nice to see that reaction after putting all that effort in," Hatfield said.

Students who want to join the UK Solar Car Team do not have to be engineering majors.

"Most of the time it takes that kind of (engineering) background for someone to actually be interested in the stuff you do," Robertson said. "But you don't have to be. We welcome everybody."

Students interested in joining the UK Solar Car Team may go to one of the team's meetings to learn more. Meetings are held every Monday at 7 p.m. in the Terrell Civil Engineering Building.

## Keynote speaker wants to hearten listeners 'in our troubled world'

By Bailey Johnson  
news@kykermel.com

Naomi Shihab Nye is a humanist, a poet, a world traveler, a literary enthusiast and an educator all wrapped up into one person, with a little Palestinian heritage thrown in.

This year's keynote speaker at the Kentucky Women Writers Conference, Nye will speak in Memorial Hall Saturday at 7 p.m. Nye has become a prominent voice in the literary world with powerful works ranging from poems to children's stories. "I've always had a very simple approach to writing in the sense it was something I believed in doing regularly," Nye said. "I liked the whole possibility of poems. They were brief, but could be profound and detailed."

She discovered her love for poetry and writing at a young age, and sent poems to magazines for publication when she was 7.

Since those early works, Nye has become a well-known poet and anthologist, compiling more than 20 volumes of poetry from around the world. Her original poems and compilations have won several awards, including her book "You & Yours" being recognized as one of the best selling poetry books of 2006 and another was named a finalist for the National Book Award in 2002.

Nye said her heritage has significantly impacted her writing. As a teenager, Nye learned to embrace both parts of her Palestinian-American heritage while living in Jerusalem and then San Antonio, Texas.

Throughout Nye's career, her experiences with family and violence in the Middle East led to some of her greatest obstacles and accomplishments in her writing.

"Every act of violence in the world is a betrayal of language," Nye said. "What could be said that would make people pause in their cycles of violence and really think about all this?" Nye said that she believes it is hard to be creative with a "constant negative tidal wave of violence" dominating the news, and that it's up to the people of the world to speak out and help turn the tides toward hope and optimism.

"It seems more important than ever that people keep telling individual stories," Nye said. "Lives are shattered every day by what goes on in war."

Drawing on these thoughts, Nye has continued to produce insightful works concerning humanity and urges aspiring writers to do the same, regardless of their previous inhibitions.

"The creative process is one that is a constant cycling of belief and doubt," Nye said. "We have to ask questions about what

we do. We take a risk when we do it."

One of her anthologies, "This Same Sky," has been published in 11 editions, and is used as a learning text in grade levels from fifth grade to college.

"I don't really think good poems have an absolute age of an audience," Nye said. "It's not as if things are written for one particular age of a reader. Poetry likes to blur the borders of age."

Nye released a book this fall titled "I'll Ask You Three Times, Are You Okay? Tales of Driving and Being Driven," and is scheduled to release a collection of poems and paragraphs called "Honeybee" in January.

Nye said she hopes that students who attend the Kentucky Women's Writers Conference will feel a sense of unity with other writers and readers.

"I think it can be very inspiring and very encouraging; whenever you have a group, there is energy in that exchange," Nye said. "I'm sure we all have things that are harmonious about our own paths and work."

Nye said at the conference she wants to convey a message of hope to aspiring writers that she learned in her experiences in writing and observing the world.

"I hope everyone gets a little heartened in our troubled world," she said. "There are many women out there who believe in language."

## Researchers link music players with 'iCrime wave'

By James Gordon Meek and Bill Hutchinson  
New York Daily News

NEW YORK - They provide New Yorkers with a daily portable soundtrack, but the darker side of the iPod is being blamed for a nationwide spike in violent crime.

New FBI stats indicate the teenage obsession with the trendy minimusic players has triggered a jump in robberies, including some that have resulted in murder.

"Your iPod can definitely get you hurt, or even killed, if you're not careful in public," Urban Institute researcher John Roman told the National Daily News.

Roman and his colleague Aaron Chalfin analyzed the FBI figures and produced a report tracking the startling "iCrime wave."

Nationwide, robberies were up 3.9 percent in 2005 and 6.8 percent last year. Meanwhile, overall theft fell 6 percent and auto theft dropped 5 percent during the same time span.

Although the crime stats don't specifically chart iPod holdups, Roman said it is the most likely reason for the surge.

A telltale sign that iPods, costing \$70 to \$400, are at the root of the troubling trend is that juvenile robbery arrests climbed 18 percent last year after a 44 percent decline during the previous decade.

"People carry less cash now because of check cards and the big jewelry fad has faded," Roman said. "iPods are the only explanation of why this crime spike is happening now."

Errol Rose of Brooklyn is not surprised. His 15-year-old son, Christopher, was stabbed to death in July 2005 when a gang of kids jumped him and ripped off his iPod.

## MADNESS

Continued from page 1

missed a Big Blue Madness since the tradition began in 1982.

"I'm here this year because of Coach Billy Gillespie," Brady said. "I've seen the things he's done in the last four years, and I think he is going to cut the nets out of UK, possibly this year."

While all three men struggle with health issues, that doesn't keep them inside.

"I've got COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)," said Wafford. "I can't walk across the street, but I still get out and go. If the good Lord's willing and the creek don't rise, I'll be here every year."

Students joined the other UK fans in line as early Tuesday. Some skip class to set up tents; others are taking shifts waiting in line.

This is UK students Adam Cain and John Campbell's fourth year of camping out for tickets. Cain said the experience is worth as much as the tickets.

"It's pretty much more fun to stay out here and do this with these guys because there are people of all ages here," Cain said. "There are college kids like us, little 7-year-old kids, people that are around 100. And we are all out here for basketball. It's pretty cool that everybody comes together like that for the same thing."

Campbell said he sees some of the same faces every year.

"I think the first 15 or 20 people that come out here are the same every year," he said. "A guy we know has been coming for 18 years. We plan on coming out here after we graduate."

The event also attracts students from other Kentucky universities.

"I'm down here to get my midnight madness tickets because it's a new year of UK basketball with Billy Gillespie coming in," said Jordan Dezarn, a Northern Kentucky University student. "He has kind of rejuvenated the program. There is a little more excitement around it. I'm not saying Tubby (Smith) was a bad coach or anything, but with a new coach brings new excitement."

Big Blue Madness is Oct. 12 at 9 p.m. in Rupp Arena. Tickets are free and will be given out at 7 a.m. Saturday at Memorial Coliseum. They are also available at the athletics Web site ([www.ukathletics.com](http://www.ukathletics.com)).

## DISPLACE ME

Continued from page 1

are interested.

Displace Me is held in support of the International Invisible Children Movement through the UK Invisible Children Movement, with the support of the African Student Association, BaNd campaign, Student Diversity Engagement and Students Taking Action Globally.

Individual students, organizations and groups participating in the event are asked to bring \$10 per person. All of the proceeds will go to the Schools For Schools project, which partners a cluster of American schools in a fundraising effort for a school in northern Uganda.

Displace Me starts at 10 p.m. Saturday at Haggin Field and Kane said she expects students to really be affected by the experience.

"You think more if something is in your face," Kane said. "You have to be more sensitive and a situation becomes real."

# OPINIONS

## KERNEL EDITORIAL BOARD

Keith Smiley, editor in chief  
Brenton Kankel, managing editor  
Sean Ross, managing editor  
Chad Reese, opinions editor  
Loren LI, assistant opinions editor

Chris DeLott, sports editor  
Meghan Cain, features editor  
Carrie Bass, columnist  
Bryan Kennedy, columnist

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

### UK peer instructors deserve to receive fair compensation

For the past 19 years, UK 101 has been a relatively successful program in raising freshman retention rate and helping students graduate. While we recognize the achievements of the UK 101 program, we also think it can be improved to be more effective in reaching its goals, namely by compensating the peer instructors.

A Sept. 20 Kernel article listed statistics that affirm UK 101's success. Students who took UK 101 were 6 percent more likely to return the following year, according to a study released by UK's Office of Institutional Research in 2005; a 2000 study found that students who took UK 101 were also 6 percent more likely to graduate than students who didn't.

When other indicators like test scores are taken into consideration, the program's effectiveness is more convincing.

"The superior retention and graduation rates for UK 101 students have occurred despite the slightly lower ACT scores and high school GPAs earned by non-UK 101 students," said Roger Sugamman, director of institutional research at UK, in the Kernel article.

While UK 101 is making a difference to students, we think the program has yet to reach its full potential. The 2005 study showed that 81 percent of students who took UK 101 return for their sophomore year, which is lower than the retention rates of some of UK's benchmark universities.

Ohio State University has a freshman retention rate of 91 percent, while Purdue's is 84.8 percent, according to the Kernel article.

One major factor in the program's underachievement is the poor treatment of the program's peer instructors. Faculty and staff who lead a section are paid as if they were teaching

an extra class, while peer instructors are not compensated, according to the Kernel article.

The peer instructors are given a T-shirt and \$50 in their plus account, which is supposed to be spent on the class. This is insufficient compensation for such a demanding position.

If the peer instructors received something more substantial from the university, they would be more motivated and inclined to willingly take their job seriously.

There is no funding to be found by the peer instructors, said Jared Tippets, director of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Kernel article. We beg to differ.

The peer instructors don't command the payment of a faculty or staff member. They should only receive a small fraction of their pay. If the program organizers are committed to that cause, they can certainly find more than enough money to cover the cost.

Currently, peer instructors don't receive credit for leading these courses. The option of receiving internship credit is available, Tippets said, but no instructor has yet to take up that offer.

Instead of being merely offered the internship credit, we think the peer instructors should automatically receive course credit for their work. It won't cost anything to the program, and it is only fair to the peer instructors.

Many of these UK 101 peer instructors are highly motivated individuals already, but offering them fair compensation is a way for UK to show that they take their position seriously.

UK 101 is making a positive difference in the student body, but that difference can be even greater if its peer instructors received their deserving compensation for their efforts.

## ■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### SG senators acted unethically by selling tickets

I can no longer remain silent about the latest debacle by Student Government Senes, Jesse Parrish and Blake Burnett. While reading Wednesday's Kernel, I was flabbergasted at the hollow excuses offered by Parrish in his letter to the editor.

"Ticket sales not medicinal, just poor judgment" concerning his and Burnett's behavior.

His response to comments made by his peers makes it apparent that the two men are unaware their actions represent not only every member of Student Government but the student body as a whole. Not only did this poor choice make SG President Nick Phelps and Senate President Tyler Montell look bad as leaders of SG, it made the students look bad because we foolishly put these boys in office.

In response to Parrish's rebuttal to the comments that Montell and Phelps made in an article in Tuesday's Kernel regarding the incident, I say grow up!

You messed up, you took an event meant to support an amazing cause and you exploited it. The decision to donate the profit after getting caught does not redeem your actions. Yesterday's letter to the editor was merely

an attempt to save yourself.

If these men honestly think that what they did was ethical, their behavior not only reflects poorly on their morals but also their intellect. Jesse Parrish and Blake Burnett are not victims (as Parrish's rebuttal may lead some to think). In fact, they are culprits, and it is time for them to man up and take responsibility for their actions.

The true victims here are the members of Student Government who are doing everything possible to improve UK, the student body who depends on Student Government to act in their best interests and the Greek organizations. When my peers make poor judgments and then attempt to validate their mistakes, it is no surprise that the public thinks our generation is narcissistic. This type of conduct supports that assumption. While all of this irritates me, the most disturbing aspect of this entire ordeal is that these dishonest men are the people who in ten years may be running this country.

Judith Novak  
Political science and communications senior

### Columnist misrepresented Jena 6 controversy

While I agree with Robert Kahne that racial prejudices are alive and well today, I think he insults the entire generation that came before us when he claims that "we are going to have to fight just as hard for racial justice in our generation as our parents did in theirs" in his column yesterday titled "Jena 6 case shows racial inequality in U.S. criminal-justice system."

To pretend that today's situation is on the same scale is almost as absurd as the rest of his column.

Using accounts of the assault from the "Free the Jena 6" Web site to plead his case is silly. Is Mr. Kahne aware that on Sept. 24 the Associated Press reported that students of all races regularly used the "white tree"? Is it possible that a contributing columnist for the Kernel fell hook, line and sinker for a piece of propaganda?

It is not too much to ask that a journalist adequately research all aspects of a story before sharing his glorified, over-dramatized views.

According to Mr. Kahne, "although there were two sides to this fight, only one side was charged with any wrongdoing." According

to any sane body, the alleged fight of six on one represents a huge disparity of force.

In most states a victim of such an ambush would be legally justified in responding with lethal force to defend himself. That was not even the case here. Six men continually beat an individual into unconsciousness. Am I really so ignorant as to believe that the Jena 6 case is the first time such actions have been followed by attempted murder charges? I assure you I am not. Furthermore, is \$90,000 bail really that outrageous when you look at this case as a racially motivated attempted murder?

I sleep better at night knowing those accused of attempted murder are sitting in jail. I would prefer bail be much higher. It's not nearly as upsetting as the thought of the assaulted man who was nearly beaten to death.

I want racial equality as much as the next person, but I am not willing to go the route of dishonest reporting to get it.

Nathan Klar  
Department of Biology



BRAD FLETCHER, Kernel cartoonist

## Historic act will improve chances for gaining higher education

During last month's congressional recess, I was able to visit nearly every county in the Sixth District.

Talking with my fellow Central Kentuckians face to face is one of the pleasures of this job, and I always make it a priority to find out which issues concern you most. Once again, many of you put improving education high on your list.

UK 101 is making a positive difference in the student body, but that difference can be even greater if its peer instructors received their deserving compensation for their efforts.

Education reform is a broad subject, but simply put, it has two major goals: First, prepare students to be able to compete and succeed in the global marketplace; and second, make higher education affordable for all who choose to go to college.

The historic College Cost Reduction and Access Act — which Congress sent to President George Bush on Sept. 18 and signed into law on Sept. 27 — will provide a much-needed boost toward reaching these goals.

Just how important to Kentucky's education is this act? Critically important, it turns out, because the problems it seeks to fix are severe.

According to a report by the National Center for Public Policy and

The act provides the single largest investment in college financial aid since the GI Bill was enacted in 1944.

Higher Education, Kentucky ranks 27th in the nation in affordability of higher education (earning us an F). For this reason, all of us should be interested in and informed about the College Cost Reduction and Access Act.

The act provides the single largest investment in college financial aid since the GI Bill was enacted in 1944.

The relief is much needed. College tuition has reached record highs, with tuition at four-year public colleges increasing 35 percent in the last five years, according to the report.

College students are taking on increasing amounts of debt before they ever enter the workforce. In Kentucky, a typical need-based student loan borrower goes into debt by \$13,026 in order to pay for his or her education at a 4-year public school.

This new law lowers college costs for low- and middle-income individuals by cutting interest rates on student loans in half from 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent, making loan payments more manageable and increasing federal student aid.

The bill also includes loan forgiveness programs for those serving in the public sector. Furthermore, by cutting excess subsidies paid to lenders in the student loan industry, the College Cost Reduction Act benefits millions of students and families at no new cost to taxpayers.

For Kentucky, this bill provides \$433 million more in student loan and Pell Grant aid to students and families over the next five years, benefiting 129,400 Kentucky students.

In addition, this bill will save the average Kentucky student over \$4,000 in interest over the life of a loan.

With the enactment of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act, we are making a national commitment to education that will have far-reaching benefits for Kentucky.

Generations of Kentucky students will enter the workforce unburdened with heavy debt and well prepared to compete in the global marketplace.

Ben Chandler represents Kentucky's 6th district in the United States House of Representatives. Email opinions@kykernel.com.

## Business-like university systems encourage 'sleepwalking' students

"Buy your degree here!" This should be the new motto for many universities and colleges across the country.

It seems that some students currently are sleepwalking through college, and are going through the motions without actually learning anything.

This implies that students can simply buy a degree with minimal academic effort.

According to a report in USA Today on Nov. 4, 2006, student acceptance rates have gone up all over the country for public colleges and universities and even more for some selective private institutions.

Take for instance Western Kentucky University. The student acceptance rate at WKU has gone up to 93 percent according to the report. The reason for this is simple: business. Higher education has become a huge and profitable business that many want to get their hands on.

The drive of many universities to improve racial diversity on their campuses has also led to an increase in acceptance rates. A university or college may feel it must have a certain percentage of different races or ethnic backgrounds so the institution isn't categorized as racially biased. This could potentially lead to the acceptance of students who might not meet academic requirements, but meet diversity requirements.

It's a competition. Colleges and

universities compete for high school graduates. And once they receive a commitment from a new student, it seems as if the institution doesn't care much about how that student progresses in their education.

At a large university, students often

It seems that some students are sleepwalking through college, and are going through the motions without actually learning anything.

ten have a choice of whether or not to go to class. With large class sizes and many professors not taking daily attendance, many students do not feel the need to attend class. So why not sleepwalk your way through?

Students who put mediocre effort into their higher education can often walk away with a B or in the worst case a C in a class. D's and F's are almost becoming obsolete at these money thirsty universities.

One of the main goals for higher education institutions is student retention. They want students to stay at their institution and pay to study there. But if students flunk out or aren't accepted, the institution runs the risk of losing money. So if students receive good grades in class, they are likely to stay and prolong their studies at the university or college.

This just doesn't seem fair to students who put forth optimal effort and who greatly care about their

secondary education and the grades they make to get the same degree as someone who sleepwalked through college while getting a decent grade they really didn't earn. With today's job market demanding a college education and a degree to go with it, students really don't have a choice but to invest in college. For those in the secondary education business, this puts dollar signs in their eyes and opens the door to make hoards of money.

There is a logical solution for institutions behaving this way. Acceptance standards need to be raised for colleges and universities across the country. Students who don't belong at college shouldn't be there. Secondly, good grades should not be given out in order to retain students, they should be given out because students actually earned those grades. Also, students need to remain motivated enough to not let themselves fall into a sleepwalking state. The responsibility lies in the hands of the students to make the most out of their education experience by putting in maximum academic effort.

Yes, I know this is not the case at many well-respected institutions, but this is happening at other universities in the state of Kentucky and the country, which makes it a problem.

Hopefully, we will all see a future where the motto of places of higher learning can become "Earn your degree here!"

Jacob Rice is a journalism sophomore. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.



**STEP ONE**  
**OPEN THE BOX.**



**OPEN UNTIL**  
**3AM**  
**THURSDAY - SATURDAY**

*Raising*  
**Cane's**  
CHICKEN FINGERS

**Come in and see us at:**

**UK Campus - Upper & Euclid**

**Sun - Wed 10:30am - Midnight**

**Thurs - Sat 10:30am - 3am**

[www.raisingcanes.com](http://www.raisingcanes.com)