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THE KENTUCKY Kernel

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IU's Davis brings
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should be more open
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Todd's salary ranks near national average

By Katie Vass
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Tuition is on the rise in universities across the nation, and so are the salaries of their presidents.

The number of university presidents who earn more than \$500,000 increased from 12 in 2003 to 17 in 2004, according to a survey conducted by the Chronicle of Higher Education.

UK President Lee Todd's salary is slightly less, at \$416,630, according to the Chronicle.

Todd gets a \$275,330 base salary from the state, a \$100,000 performance bonus and \$41,300 in deferred compensation a year.

"All university employees get 10 percent of their pay in deferred compensation for retirement," said Michael Kennedy, a faculty

member of the Board of Trustees. He said Todd receives the performance bonus if he meets "pre-determined institutional goals or strategic objectives."

State law caps Todd's salary, which was \$272,950 until July 1.

"I think he earns his salary without question," Kennedy said.

A rule of presidential

salaries says they cannot be higher than that of the President of the Council of Postsecondary Education. Tom Layzell, who currently holds this position, receives \$283,000 per year.

This law applies to all presidential salaries in Kentucky. At the University of Louisville, though, President James Ramsey earns \$534,781, earning the 10th-highest salary of pub-

lic university presidents in the nation.

According to the Chronicle of Higher Education, the median salary for a public university president is \$328,400. Todd's salary exceeds this median by \$88,230. In the 2001-2002 academic year, Todd donated \$50,000 of his \$100,000 performance bonus back to UK. Of that year's bonus, \$37,000 was also taken in

taxes. For the following two years, Todd has deferred the bonus because of UK's financial problems.

Of 13 of Kentucky's benchmark schools, six of the presidents earn more than Todd, while seven earn less. One of the six who earns a higher salary, President Mark A. Emmert of the University of Washington at Seattle, earns the

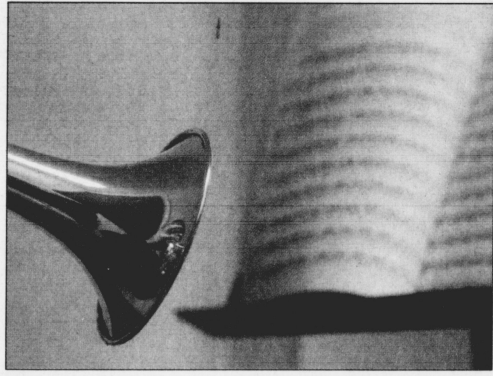
See Salary on page 2

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT



Music sophomore Nathan Cobb finishes his solo jury and continues practicing his trumpet. He spent three hours yesterday practicing for the performance.

KEITH SMILEY | PHOTO EDITOR



Powell slams NATO for absence in Iraq

By Glenn Kessler
THE WASHINGTON POST

BRUSSELS, Belgium — In a fresh sign of lingering tensions over the Iraq war, Secretary of State Colin Powell Thursday rapped European allies who declined to assist a NATO-led Iraq training mission as "hurting the credibility and cohesion" of the military alliance.

A half dozen NATO members have flatly refused to allow officers assigned to NATO bases to participate in the training operation — a move that U.S. officials said was unprecedented. Even as the 26-country alliance decided Thursday to expand the small operation in Iraq from 60 to 300 people, officials from the recalcitrant nations—which include France, Germany and Spain — held firm.

"We will send no troops to Iraq," said German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer. French Foreign Minister Michel Barnier told reporters that "given the current security situation, we think it is more efficient and useful if training takes place outside of Iraq."

The transatlantic rift emerged as U.S. officials have signaled a new approach in their dealings with Europe. The White House announced Thursday that Dush will visit NATO and meet with European leaders on Feb. 22, in what Powell called an effort to "mend these breaches."

NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer said Poland, Hungary and the Netherlands had agreed to send more staff for the mission, which is located inside the heavily fortified

See Powell on page 2

Natural gas costs go up 15 percent

Increase not as large as last winter

By Elizabeth Troutman
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Students may want to conserve energy this winter as natural gas bills are increasing by as much as 15 percent.

Officials at the Public Service Commission said the average gas bill is up by 10 to 15 percent compared to last December. The five major natural gas distributors in Kentucky sell gas to consumers at the wholesale price by federal law. Andrew Melnykovych, communications director for the Public Service Commission, said prices have been on the rise for the past two years.

"As the economy started picking up steam a couple years ago, the supply of gas hasn't kept pace," he said. "You have an economic issue where supply and demand are tight."

Melnykovych said the major increase in gas prices occurred last winter, when prices rose by as much as 40 percent. This winter, distributors are dealing with the lingering aftermath of last summer's series of hurricanes, which resulted in slow oil production on the Gulf Coast.

"We are at the mercy of what is going on out there in the gas market," he said. "The wholesale cost is unregulated. You're going to pay the price your gas company is paying."

Kentuckians facing high gas bills have two options to save money, he said. Minimizing consumption and making homes energy efficient can cut costs.

"Beef up insulation," he said. "Make sure warm air

is in the house and cold air stays outside, cover windows with plastic — there are many number of things you can do to keep heated air in."

Gas consumers should not expect a decrease in prices this spring because distributors now pass costs to consumers on a dollar-for-dollar basis. Traditionally, prices decrease significantly during the warmer months, but Melnykovych said that is no longer the case.

"We have reached a new and higher plateau for gas prices, and it looks like we will be there for a while," he said. "Demand isn't slowing down. It is really important for people to conserve energy."

Lisa Smith, communications manager for Columbia Gas, said the budget payment plan is the best plan for managing increasing utility bills.

"I think customers are always concerned about prices of natural gas," she said. "They want to know what they can do to minimize the costs."

Columbia Gas's budget payment plan gives customers the option of taking the expected annual usage cost and dividing payments up equally for twelve months. This strategy lets customers know what their bill will be each month, regardless of market fluctuations.

"It's a smart thing to do," she said. "It doesn't cost a thing, and it eliminates prices in the winter."

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Starlings have left their mark all over campus this winter.

JONATHAN PALMER | STAFF

WHAT A MESS

'Screamers' return to scare birds away

By Michele Fernandez-Cruz
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Physical Plant Department employees are stepping up efforts to keep migrating birds off campus and to keep sidewalks free of bird droppings.

George Riddle, superintendent of the grounds department, said physical plant employees will spend the next few days scouting the campus to calculate the bird population. Throughout the winter, four men working in two shifts on the weekdays will keep the birds moving using noisemakers.

In the past, UK's campus and surrounding areas in Lexington have tried dealing with nonmigratory birds like the starling by using noisemakers that emit loud screams and popping noises. Also known as "screamers," they encourage the birds to move, reducing the amount of bird droppings. Birds tend to congregate in areas on campus with many evergreens, buildings and trees, which provide the most warmth during the winter months.

"We are pretty much doing the same thing we did last year," Riddle said. "We have not had that great of a problem with congregation of birds roosting."

"We're kind of like their hotel," he said. "A small amount of money is factored into the budget each year to deal with the bird problem, he said. Costs vary depending on the number of birds and required supplies."

Ian Stewart, a postdoctoral biology researcher, said he isn't sure the problem can be so easily solved.

"Starlings aren't migrants; they stay around all winter."

See Birds on page 2

Reporter sentenced to house arrest

By Elizabeth Mehren
LOS ANGELES TIMES

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — A veteran television reporter was sentenced Thursday to six months' home confinement for refusing to disclose who had provided him with an FBI videotape showing a local politician taking a bribe.

Chief U.S. District Judge Ernest C. Torres said the only reason he was not sending Jim Taricani, 55, to prison was that the journalist has serious health problems, including a severely compromised immune system resulting

from a 1996 heart transplant.

"I am very saddened and disappointed by what has happened in this case," Torres said, adding that he disliked "sentencing a reporter whom I have admired and respected for many years."

But, the judge said, "no one is above the law. Not presidents, not reporters. Like all citizens, the reporter must obey what the Constitution and the laws say and not what they think they should say."

Taricani was forbidden to discuss his sentence by Torres, who also imposed a series

of tight restrictions so that the home confinement will mirror prison time.

The daylong hearing here took place as federal appeals court judges in Washington, D.C., began deliberations in another press freedom case involving reporters Judith Miller of the New York Times and Matthew Cooper of Time magazine. Both journalists refused to appear before the grand jury looking into who had leaked the identity of an undercover CIA agent in the summer of 2003.

The three-judge panel is

expected to decide early next year if Miller and Cooper can be jailed for contempt.

Taricani — a reporter in Providence for more than 30 years — was convicted last month of criminal contempt for refusing to disclose how he had obtained an FBI surveillance tape in 2000.

The tape was made in conjunction with Operation Plunder Dome, the federal racketeering and corruption scandal that sent former Providence Mayor Vincent A. "Buddy" Cianci to prison for five years.

Powell

Continued from page 1

area in Baghdad known as the Green Zone. NATO also plans to set up a military academy outside Baghdad, but has received no commitments of staff yet.

But Germany provides a disproportionate share of the international command staff, so its directive to German NATO officers could hamper the operation. Joining Germany, France and Spain in refusing to provide staff for the training operation were Greece, Belgium and Luxembourg.

Powell, attending his last series of meetings at NATO as secretary of state, noted at a news conference that mem-

bers of an international staff work and train together.

"When it comes time to perform a mission, it seems to us to be quite awkward for suddenly members in that international staff to say, 'I'm unable to go because of this national caveat or national exception,'" Powell said. "You are hurting the credibility and the cohesion of such an international staff or organization."

Despite the dispute, Powell was warmly cheered by his fellow foreign ministers on his final visit to Europe as secretary of state. Fischer gave Powell a gift of two cases and a keg of German beer, and de Hoop Scheffer gave him Belgian beer and a model of a Volvo, Powell's favorite car.

During Thursday's meetings, NATO also struggled to extend a peacekeeping force

to the Western provinces of Afghanistan, with no countries stepping forward to make specific commitments to provide troops or equipment to support four troop bases in the region. Italy said it is considering supplying an administrative hub to support the bases, but NATO officials said they were behind in securing commitments of troops, which are necessary for April parliamentary elections.

In a sign of easing tensions over the election crisis in Ukraine, NATO's foreign ministers met with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and issued a joint statement that called for free and fair elections by the end of the month.

U.S. and NATO officials said the mood at the Russian-NATO session was unusually good, with Lavrov for the first

time not complaining about a failure by NATO to live up to its commitments. The atmosphere was especially striking because just two days earlier, Powell and Lavrov had traded charges over Ukraine at the European security forum in Bulgaria.

"I can honestly say what I have in front of me I did not expect last night," de Hoop Scheffer said, referring to the joint statement.

Lavrov appeared in a good spirits at a news conference, praising NATO for easing Russia's concerns about the entry of the Baltic states — formerly Soviet republics — in NATO. But he repeated charges of Western interference in last month's Ukrainian election, stressing that he felt the statement made it clear outsiders should not try to influence the new election.

Birds

Continued from page 1

he said. "Using noisemakers doesn't do anything; all it does is move them from one place to another."

"It's natural behavior to be in flocks."

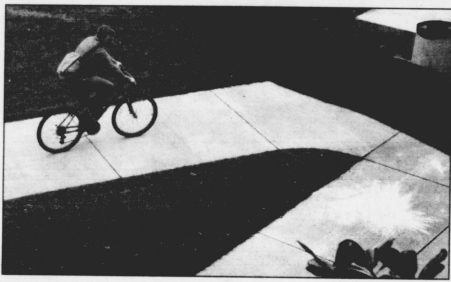
Other methods have been used to reduce the amount of birds. Stewart said people in the 1940s sprayed entire roosts with detergent.

"Detergent soaks the feathers and stops them from staying warm and freezing to death," he said. "You couldn't do that on campus. People would drown on that."

While Stewart said he doesn't encourage such methods, he agreed that bird droppings pose a problem.

"Bird droppings are slippery and messy to look at," he said.

E-mail news@kykernel.com



Communication freshman Jonathan Sofer rides to work and notices a sidewalk where Physical Plant Division employees have attempted to mask the odor from the mess left by a flock of starlings near Kastle Hall.

JONATHAN PALMER | STAFF

Salary

Continued from page 1

highest public university salary in the country. He is paid \$782,000 a year.

In comparison with these public university presidents, the presidents of private universities are earning much more.

Forty-two private university presidents earn over the \$500,000 mark. President William R. Brody at

Johns Hopkins University earns the most, with a salary of \$897,796.

Many believe these salaries are sending the wrong message about colleges' priorities, as salaries skyrocket to the level of some top corporate officials.

"Along with many CEO salaries, it's outrageous people get paid \$10 or \$20 million," Kennedy said.

E-mail news@kykernel.com

NEWS BRIEFS

Video class has showing

UK's art department's *Holy Vasoline Tricks, Pilgrim: Featuring Jasmine, the K-9 Sensation* will be shown at midnight Saturday at the Kentucky Theatre.

Holy Vasoline Tricks is a collaboration of videos scripted, directed, and filmed by students in professor Doreen Maloney's advanced video class. The videos have a wide range of concepts, including relationships, sex and other issues that hit a variety of interest levels.

Tickets cost \$1, and the show is approximately one hour in length.

UK hoops guard suspended

Freshman guard Sade Buley has been suspended indefinitely from the UK women's basketball team, assistant athletic director Scott Stricklin said.

UK had no further comment on the matter, Stricklin said.

Buley played in all seven games for the Cats, and averaged 3.9 points. The Knoxville, Tenn., native was one of head coach Mickie DeMoss' most heralded recruits. She was ranked as high as No. 17 by several recruiting services.

UK faces Charleston Southern at 7 tonight in Memorial Coliseum.

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Week of December 6th-December 11th

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SPORTS

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Alumni Gym Loft, call 351-7311 for more info

ARTS/MOVIES

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Art Gallery, Student Center

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*UK Tae Kwon Do Club Mtg., 11:00am-12:30pm, Sat 11
Alumni Gym Loft, call 351-7311 for more info

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Adventures Abroad | Europe 101 Leave the shorts; take the gelato

If your grueling studying makes you think you're living out a weeklong marathon of The Learning Channel, then that must make me a corny late-night TV that doesn't realize nobody's watching — the one that gives you a headache before you hear the first joke.



Chris Schuhmann
KERNEL COLUMNIST

I feel I'm capable, so here it goes. Drumroll, please.

The Top 10 Things You Didn't Realize about Traveling in Italy:

No. 10: After six months of French influence, reverse culture shock will begin to twist your ear before you leave the country. Before you even get to Italy, you will undoubtedly run into an American funny boy on the beaches of Nice, France. This clown will probably be from Los Angeles, wear more hair product than Bon Jovi in his glory days, and have the IQ of the smallest, most withered peanut in the box.

For example, during one conversation, he actually asked how to say "thank you" in French.

"Slowly," I replied. Naturally Porcupine Boy thinks you're best buds, and he's "studying" in Rome, where you're headed next.

You'll be seeing much more of each other. This is, of course, just wonderful, as it gives him even more time to tell you about his whole life story, including his wild spring break in Cancun, how blonde his girlfriend is back in Cali, and how many raw eggs he can eat in one sitting.

No. 9: There seems to be a lack of male backpackers hit-

ting the rails in Europe. Therefore, you'll undoubtedly be traveling with girls. You will most certainly be, yet again, the only fella. And you know better than to argue with three women on the go.

Porcupine Boy will have his moments of brief wisdom when he profoundly admits, "Hey man, that's gotta suck." I say this only because I know you can take a joke, ladies, and that on some level, I know you understand.

No. 8: You'll decide to wear shorts as you travel through the conventional space-heater that is Roma. This will include the fact that you visit the Vatican.

As you're standing in line, you will think heavenly thoughts while you stare at the girl in front of you in her black fishnet blouse and red bra. You'll snap out of this when the "Guardian of the Gates" stops you and points to a sign that indicates "No St. Peter's." He's happy now to have done God's good work, and you'll watch, stupefied, as Red Bra strolls right in.

But don't worry — they sell paper pants at all the vendors for \$5. Apparently this sort of thing has happened before. And in buying — and donning — these ridiculous contraptions, you are rendered respectable enough to enter.

You'll then smile and wave hello to Red Bra when you enter the Vatican.

No. 7: Leaving, you'll sell back the ridiculous paper pants to the next tourist who thinks he can roll into God's crib with shorts on. Just who do you think you are, buddy? St. Peter's? Next time, why don't you just try to walk up in your underwear, huh?

No. 6: By Pompeii, you'll begin to realize a few things about Italian culture. For example, the Italian temper is

not a fairy tale and probably originated on Italian roads. They use their horns more than they use their brakes, they constantly have a running dialogue with the ignorant driver in front of them, and traffic lights just look pretty on street corners.

No. 5: Italian trains are always late. Italian girls always look good, and it's only a matter of time before you'll be hit by an overcrowded bus on its way to the Coliseum. You'll also begin to suspect that all Italians, even the bus drivers and ice cream vendors, have ties to the Mafia.

No. 4: In Florence, you will certainly realize that you don't know anything about Renaissance art, architecture or sculpture, but the gelato is grand!

No. 3: By Venice, you'll realize that every Italian really does have ties with the Mafia, especially the bus drivers and ice cream vendors.

No. 2: Venice doesn't stink — Italy does.

And the **No. 1** thing that you didn't realize about traveling in Italy? You will inevitably spend too much money, eat too much pizza and gelato, and get a sunburn on the end of your nose, the back of your neck, and the tops of your feet — but you'll never again expect to walk into an Italian church with shorts on! (Insert lukewarm applause and overexcited musical filler.)

And in the good spirit of late-night television, you realize too late that you've wasted your time, and that you were better off reading a book before hitting the sack.

But don't distress, because the Learning Channel is sure to run another special on Napoleon soon — and perhaps you'll learn something.

E-mail
features@kykernel.com

Mr. Incredible: Incredible dad

There's a pile of movies I want to see, and they've all been released right when I'll be working myself into a near-dead state for finals and projects.



Stephen Burnett
KERNEL COLUMNIST

For starters, there's *National Treasure*, *The Polar Express* and *Mary & Max*.

With the *Kranks*, and a new Walden Media film, *I Am David*, that's supposedly only available in limited release. (Next year, Walden's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* will assuredly be in a lot more locations.)

Look forward to seeing lots of new films after finals. But I also want to see *The Incredibles* a second time.

It's great — not just because of the usual Pixar Animation Studios commitment to soaring stories, great characters, fast-paced plotting and stunning visuals, but because of yet another Pixar-generated record in mainstream entertainment: Mr. Incredible is the best celluloid father we've seen in a long time, after decades of "dork dad" stereotypes, most of them on TV.

Originally, TV dads were stereotypical in a good way. Andy Taylor, Ward Cleaver and Mike Brady were near-perfect fathers. They went to work mostly off-camera, they taught their kids about values during the show's running time, and rarely did anything remotely ridiculous or denigrating.

When feminism got more popular, that characterization shifted just a little, then went clear to the opposite extreme. Suddenly in pop culture, Mom knew everything and did most of the moral value-teaching at home. Dad became a total idiot, if he was there at all.

Take *The Beavis and Butt-Head*. Who was the foil of that vast empire of illustrated children's books? Good old Papa Bear. His head looked pretty much like the rest, but with considerably less brain capacity.

Papa Bear stuffed his face with junk food right along with the kids, Mama Bear had

to teach them all the virtues of healthy consumption. When Papa Bear and the kids had a bad addiction to TV, Mama Bear had to teach them how to exercise instead. When Brother and Sister Bear got into a fight one rainy afternoon, Papa Bear just joined right in and screamed uselessly; Mama Bear took control.

What a great message to both Mama and Papa non-bears nationwide: Mom, you have to be smart and perfect all the time. Dad, you're a loser; let's all laugh at you.

The same thing repeated itself in sitcoms throughout the '90s, but better media dads are slowly coming back.

Cliff Huxtable was one of the first — a great dad, but frequently lectured by his wife, mostly about his frequent eating of hoagies and other salt-intensive goodies. Rarely would he ever lecture her about anything and be right.

Sure, it was funny, but a little clichéd — and still slightly demeaning to fathers.

More recently, family movies have strangely come back way ahead of family TV shows, and Pixar has been at the forefront.

But *Toy Story* and its sequel sort of fell into the "dork dad" trap anyway: You never saw Andy's father. The only dads seen were poor role models. Like Sid's dad, crashed on the couch in front of the TV, or Buzz Lightyear's dad, the Evil Emperor Zurg.

Later, in *Monsters, Inc.* and especially *Finding Nemo*, the nation's good fathers came in. Sully was a caring but powerful father figure. Marlin the clown fish was nervous and had to learn to take risks, but loved and rescued his son.

And Mr. Incredible is a superpowered talents, his wife Helen opposes him, and it turns out she's the one who needs to learn from him.

And Bob loves Helen (who's also retired supergirl, Elastigirl), and they model one of the best husband-wife relationships we've seen in any film genre in a long time.

A *Cosby* writer would be tempted to have this guy fall all over another woman. But when Mr. Incredible is hanging out with another woman on top-secret assignment, he's not interested. Later, Bob reassures Helen nothing was going on: "How could I betray the greatest woman in the world?"

Unlike Claire Huxtable, Helen Parr never lectures Bob about his overeating. Instead, she fits into his old super-suit. Bob works out to slim down on his own with no dieting aids.

Incredibles writer/director Brad Bird did have some fun with the whole "husband's midlife crisis" thing. But having superpowers lets Mr. Incredible get over it more easily along with top-secret jobs that result in more time to spend with the children and enough money to buy a new sports car.

But what's more important, property or family, when the supervillain kidnaps baby Jack-Jack and is rocketing up over the Parrs' home? A stereotypical Dork Media Father would spend a second or more whining about what to do. Not here. Mr. Incredible grabs the first thing he can find to hurl at the kidnapper — the aforementioned sports car.

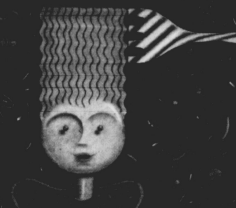
And Mr. Incredible learned he had to work with his family to save the world. But each family member learned a lesson of some kind, not just the dweeby comic-relief dad.

Maybe your dad was a real jerk — or never there. But maybe with the guys — and fathers — at Pixar doing a little to regain the profession of fatherhood, all the nation's wonderful dads can regain their honor and get rid of the true idiot in media: Stupid stereotypes for fathers.

"Mr. Incredible is not real!" you may shout. Fine, that's your opinion, but like in all good movies, the character certainly seemed real enough to me. He kind of reminds me of someone I know. Thanks, Dad.

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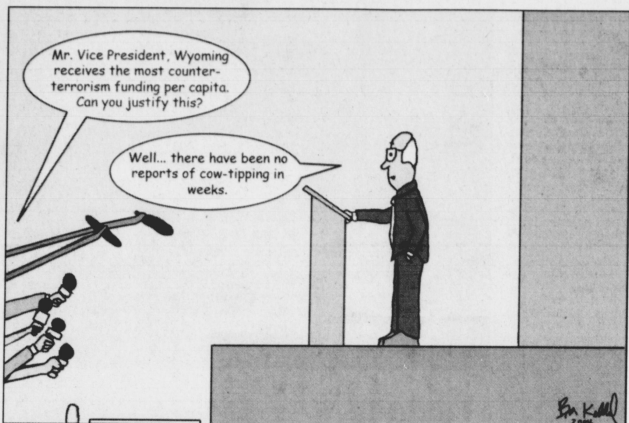
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BEN KIRKLAND, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

IN OUR OPINION

Ethics key for next police chief

Former UK Police Chief Fred H. Otto III made his share of mistakes — and his successor would do well to avoid them.

A good start would be to have higher personal ethics than Otto did.

Otto resigned Nov. 23, ostensibly to "pursue educational opportunities," but an Open Records request filed by the Kernel showed that Otto had been reprimanded a month earlier by Ken Clevidence, associate vice president for campus service, for "questionable ethical behavior."

Not only did Otto use a police department graduate assistant for help with his graduate homework at Eastern Kentucky University, but he also changed his story with Clevidence. He denied the allegation of wrongdoing altogether, and later he tried to justify

his actions by saying he would share his work with UK Police or submit it for publication.

UK's next police chief obviously should not engage in such unethical behavior. But we think Otto's replacement needs to make some other important changes.

The new chief should make the police station more accessible to students through outreach programs and other initiatives.

Self-defense programs taught by police officers, like those announced earlier this year, should be more widely available to students.

As we said earlier this year, the campus safety alerts that are sent to students should be informative rather than vague by explicitly informing students about dangerous areas on campus and giving

specific advice about how to remain safe.

And unlike Otto, UK's next police chief should strive for openness with the media.

Though police records are currently available to media, it is an unnecessary hassle to obtain them.

At many other police stations, reporters can walk in, ask for records and promptly receive them. But to get records from UK Police, the Kernel has to e-mail Maj. Joe Monroe so that he will send them to us, and the whole process can take about a day.

A more open, less obstructive relationship with media would benefit the UK student body as a whole.

And keeping students' best interests at heart, while remaining ethically upstanding, is just what UK needs in its next police chief.

Don't stage an intervention, it's just finals week

They say that college is supposed to comprise some of the best years of our lives.



Crystal Little
KERNEL COLUMNIST

I don't know who the ubiquitous "they" are, or on whose authority they've ascertained this, but judging by the hellish semester I've nearly completed (only narrowly unscathed), they are utterly mistaken.

In a word, wrong. Juggling class, working one or more jobs, studying for finals and all the other everyday things that we do — paying rent, feeding the dog/cat/goldfish, remembering to get the oil changed — is difficult, to say the least.

In fact, it's downright stressful. Quite understandably, dead week and finals compound this stress.

Over the course of this week, I've written three papers and am currently taking a reprieve from freaking out over two take-home finals by writing this column.

(It's sad when you escape from school by working, no?)

So if these are indeed supposed to be events from the best years of my life, I'm quite ready to commit suicide now, as things can only go down from here — the only question is in what manner and where to get the gun, pills, razor-blade or other means of ending said life in an effective manner.

I actually think that graduating and

entering the "real world" as a functioning member of society will ultimately be far superior to the current state of my collegiate career.

Just like everyone else this week, I'm going on little to no sleep. I'm eating at the oddest hours thus far of the semester (PB&J at 3 a.m. during a paper-writing break). And I'm starting to feel senility set in at the ripe old age of 21 — I meant to call my best friend, two-and-a-half hours away in my hometown and automatically dialed the Kernel office. What? Exactly.

But it's not just during dead week and final exams. My schedule is normally a bit wonky, to say the least.

And it's to the point that, as I drive home after a night of staring at news copy and pass The Fishtank, I wonder about the kids my age standing outside (and inside). Where do they find this elusive leisure time? Do they have jobs? Do they go to classes regularly? And will I ever get to see an episode of "Desperate Housewives" before the first season comes out on DVD?

That makes me one very sad — and by sad, I mean pathetic — college student.

An anomaly even. I'm not out partying. I'm not on a date. I'm not even having pizza and beer. Who am I, and why am I in college? It really is quite sad when I start viewing my time in college as a stepping-stone of sorts to a career, instead of potential fun.

It's quite sad that I no longer get excited about some classes that will challenge me to think unconventionally

and maybe even teach me something.

Or maybe I'm just jaded.

But I do know I'm definitely ready for this kind of stress to be over. I'd much rather juggle a career with concerns regarding a house, a mortgage and a white picket fence instead of class, deadline pressure and an average of four hours of sleep each night — and attempt to successfully field questions about the text I didn't read during class the next day. It's often difficult to sound coherent when that happens.

I often wax philosophical about how I'm missing the "true" college experience, but I'm beginning to think it doesn't exist.

My own has been more than enough to prepare me for the lessened pressure of the real world.

That's a heartening thought: Things can go up from here — and college is designed to ready us for "reality," whatever it is.

So in the end, I guess I wouldn't trade my own college experiences for anything else. Quasi-successfully dealing with a far too-full plate has prepared me far better for life after academia than playing quarters or Beer Pong — not that those aren't admirable pursuits.

It's just that in crucial crunch times like dead week and finals that I begin to realize how much I'm looking forward to graduation. It means no more papers to write, no more exams to worry about.

And maybe I won't buy those bullet pens just yet.

Crystal Little is a journalism senior.
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Music not to blame for club shootings

When former Pantera guitarist Darrell Abbott was murdered on stage Wednesday night in Columbus, Ohio, fans of heavy metal music lost an icon. Unfortunately, two of the most dangerous factions in our country gained a martyr in Nathan Gale. Gale was the human pile of garbage that gunned down Abbott and three others before being killed himself by Officer James Niggemeyer, who was thankfully nearby when the shooting took place.



Josh Sullivan
KERNEL COLUMNIST

The anti-gun and pro-censorship lobbies typically have very different political backgrounds. Gun haters tend to be ignorant liberals or socialists who think gun bans are the immaculate cure for violence in America.

Proponents of musical censorship lean toward right-wing religious fanaticism and support government regulation of artistic expression to curb the "pollution of fragile minds."

They look different on the surface, but these groups share a common, ugly bond. They are the enemies of the concept of individual liberty and responsibility.

Over the next several days the media roundtables will be full of empty suits with empty skulls blaming everyone and everything but the man who committed the act.

Several segments have already aired on various cable networks in which the discussion of the incident centered on whether or not Pantera's lyrics drove this guy to become a murderer — and the crescendo will only get louder.

First of all, Pantera's music hardly advocates random violence against innocent people, but that's beside the point. Many people are simply afraid of anything they don't understand or enjoy, especially if it's loud and ferocious. The point is, everyone is responsible for his or her own actions.

There are millions of Pantera fans worldwide who are valuable, honorable individuals, yet censorship proponents will use this solitary lunatic to rail against what they perceive to be the message of heavy metal music. They'll stoke the fires of musical censorship just as Tipper Gore and Charlton Heston did in the early '90s under the guise of "protecting the children."

Contrary to what Hillary Clinton would have you believe, it does not take a village to raise a child. It takes strong individuals who teach children the difference between right and wrong. Government censorship of artistic expression won't achieve that end.

The anti-gun socialists will have an even bigger field day because of this massacre. Online message boards dedicated to the incident are already replete with comments about the evils of gun ownership. One message reads, "Our screwed up society wouldn't be so screwed up without our awful guns."

Gun haters blame guns themselves, rather than the people who use them for evil. They think a society where the Second Amendment didn't exist would be safer for all of us, despite the overwhelming evidence to the contrary.

In 1997, the handguns of private law-abiding British citizens were confiscated after Parliament passed one of the world's most stringent anti-gun laws. Since then, Britain's murder rate has reached its highest per capita level in 100 years. British law enforcement agencies report the criminal misuse of handguns has risen by 40 percent since the ban went into effect. For the first time ever, London's crime rate has surpassed that of New York City.

The British government sided with anti-gun activists and tipped the scales in favor of criminals and against responsible citizens, and look where it's gotten them.

In our own country, the most violent cities tend to have the most restrictive gun ownership policies. Washington D.C. is the murder capital of the nation, boasting the highest per capita murder rate of any U.S. city. Oddly enough, individuals are not allowed to carry or even transport a gun in the city for any reason.

Illinois law does not allow citizens to carry weapons, and wouldn't you know it, Chicago enjoys the fifth-highest murder rate in the country.

Gun laws don't just violate the Second Amendment — they simply don't work. Officer James Niggemeyer showed what good a gun can do in the hands of the right person. Without Niggemeyer's swift intervention, many more would have likely been killed. Gale reloaded his pistol at least once and had a hostage gripped in a headlock as he continued firing into the fleeing audience before Niggemeyer ended his fun with a single shotgun blast.

The more armed, responsible citizens we have out there to balance the scales, the safer we'll be. Most criminals know they'll have the advantage when preying on innocent victims.

As scary as it may sound to the feeble-minded masses, the answer isn't fewer guns — it's more guns in the hands of the right people.

The tragedy in Ohio will lend ammo to the gun-haters and censorship goons. But we must recognize that their cries of "for the good of the people" really just mask a dogma that fears individual liberty and forgives individual responsibility.

Josh Sullivan is a journalism senior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

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ONLINE POLL QUESTION

Should UK provide students with ISBN numbers of all textbooks to be used in the upcoming semester?

Yes

No

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Hoosiers heat up rivalry

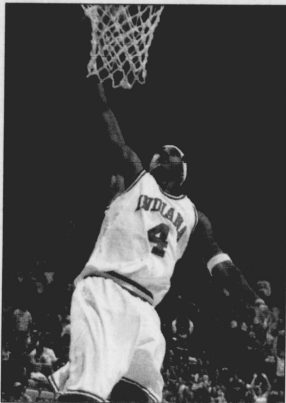
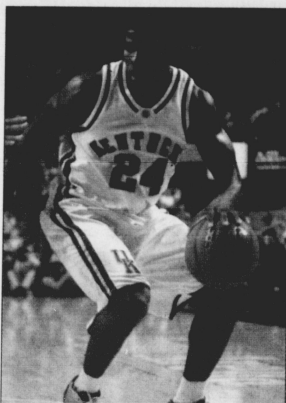


PHOTO COURTESY OF IU ATHLETICS

IU junior guard Bracey Wright

Indiana (2-3)		Yr.	Ht.	PPG	RPG
F	Pat Ewing Jr.	So.	6-8	5.8	5.4
F	D.J. White	Fr.	6-9	9.0	3.6
G	Robert Vaden	Fr.	6-5	12.2	6.2
G	Bracey Wright	Jr.	6-3	15.2	4.0
G	Marshall Strickland Jr.	Jr.	6-2	9.8	4.8



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

UK junior forward Kelenna Azuibu

Kentucky (5-1)		Yr.	Ht.	PPG	RPG
F	Kelenna Azuibu	Jr.	6-5	15.7	5.3
F	Chuck Hayes	Sr.	6-6	11.5	10.0
C	Randolph Morris	Fr.	6-11	9.5	4.8
G	Patrick Sparks	Jr.	6-1	11.3	4.8*
G	Rajon Rondo	Fr.	6-1	7.3	2.5*

*Assists per game

Davis adds to series history

2000 - Freedom Hall
UK 88, IU 74

UK took a 3-5 record to Louisville but shot 69 percent from the field to defeat head coach Mike Davis' Hoosiers. After falling to the Cats for the first time, the first-year coach said his team quit on him, adding, "I'm not the man for this job. I can't coach this team."

2001 - RCA Dome
UK 66, IU 52

Five days before the game, Davis said "I hate Kentucky — with a passion." The quote made a perfect locker room decoration, and Cliff Hawkins and Tayshaun Prince responded by scoring 17 points each to spark a second-half run and lead the Cats to the victory.

2002 - Freedom Hall
UK 70, IU 64

With the Cats leading the No. 6 Hoosiers by one point in the game's final seconds, Davis ran onto the Freedom Hall court slapping himself on the forehead to protest what he thought to be a foul on UK's Jules Camara. Referee Bert Smith hit Davis with two technicals and Keith Bogans made five-of-six free throws to clinch the UK win.

2003 - RCA Dome
UK 80, IU 41

Chuck Hayes scored 22 points and added 10 rebounds to lead the Cats in the most lopsided contest in the history of the 47-game series. Davis kept his team in the locker room for more than an hour after the game, and sent assistant coach John Treloar to address the media.

—Compiled by Ben Roberts

Delta Zeta Proudly Welcomes Their Newest Initiates

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Sarah Banks
Lauren Baxter
Kelly Bora
Meredith Beiting
Mandy Borntreger
Josie Burton
Kelsey Cantrell
Amanda Chasteen
Ashley Collette
Kelly Cornelius
Molly Cosgrove
Kelly Demsey
Britney Dixon
Missy Dunne
Lindsay Eaton
Annie Fugazzi
Lauren Fussinger
Kari Goodrow
Kelly Graybill
Lauren Green
Susie Groves
Anne Hammes
Katie Hunter
Claire Kunkle
Melissa Lafonatis

Kelly Laukhuff
Rachael Long
Whitney Monroe
Lindsay Nail
Julie Northrop
Sarah Crear
Lizzy Petrun
Arienne Piland
Kim Pryor
Savanna Ratliff
Erin Rhinehart
Megan Riddle
Sarah Robinson
Stefanie Rogers
Sarah Scott
Natalie Segers
Amy Smith
Casey Smith
Samantha Taylor
Sara Tracy
Tiffany Vanhoose
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Courtney Walker
Jennica Whitfield
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UK basketball news
over the break

Continued from pg. 5.

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