

THE Kentucky Kernel

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Celebrating 35 years of independence

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Students e-mail woes to legislators

By Sean Rose
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL
Students fought tuition hikes with e-mails yesterday as Student Government organized an effort sending student concerns to Frankfort. The event, "Listen Up Legislators," was a drive for students to send e-mails to their state representatives and senators.

SG President Becky Ellingsworth said every public university in the state was participating in the event either today or yesterday. It was especially important for UK students, she said, with looming tuition raises depending on the amount of funding that comes from Frankfort. "Unless our voice is heard they're (legislators) going to ignore it, basically," Ellingsworth said.

"This year is especially important that students show their support against tuition increases because the budget that's going through will affect the next two years of UK's funding," she said. During the four-hour drive yesterday in the White Hall Classroom Building, students could come up to laptops and fill in their personal information in a message arguing support for the Top-20 Business Plan and for keeping tuition increases low. SG held a raffle for all students who participated to win an iPod Shuffle. Ellingsworth said they had about 30 students participating.

See Legislators on page 2

UK forum reflects on diversity

By Blair Thomas
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL
As the Cultural Diversity Festival came close to yesterday, one local leader said UK still has a lot of work to do.

Mahjabeen Rafiuddin, associate executive director of the Kentucky Conference for Community and Justice, a state-wide social justice group, said the university's commitment to diversity is moving too slowly.

"I faced my share of racial and gender hardships during my time at UK," Rafiuddin, a UK alumna, said. "I am a Southeast Asian Muslim woman and the faculty and my peers were not quick to accept my different cultural beliefs."

Rafiuddin spoke yesterday during "Reflections on Diversity," a forum in the Center Theatre of the Student Center. The event was organized by the committee for the Cultural Diversity Festival.

Rafiuddin also blamed the Lexington community for the "narrow views" of UK students and administrators.

Lexington Mayor Teresa Isaac also gave her message for UK. "UK, do not see this as an attack, but as an opportunity for change," Isaac said.

"The greatest threat to any of us is the absence of criticism." Isaac said this festival is a necessary opportunity for everyone in the community to celebrate both their differences and their similarities.

"We are fortunate as a community and as a part of this educational program to have so many different groups and religions to learn from. UK has students attending from 100 countries and we have a lot to learn from each other," Isaac said.

Andres Cruz, editor and co-owner of La Voz de Kentucky, a free English and Spanish newspaper, also spoke.

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Something worth fighting for



Erin Weed, creator of the company Girls Fight Back, demonstrates some self-defense techniques to a crowd at Memorial Hall last night. Chris Pulella, a grad student and member of Men Against Violence and Rape At UK, played the role of the "bad guy." Weed began her crusade after a college friend was murdered in 2001 and she now teaches and lectures across the country on the topic of women's violence and self-defense.

BRAD LUTTBRELL | STAFF

helping girls **FIGHTBACK**

Company teaches women to defend themselves

By Dariush Shafa
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL
Erin Weed recalls looking into a journal and reading the words of her friend, Shannon McNamara. In her journal was a letter from McNamara to Weed with the last line "I'm never going to forget you."

"That was a day after when, in June 2001, a man broke into McNamara's home. McNamara fought against her attacker, who murdered her. But because she fought back, there was enough evidence left behind to send her killer to Illinois' death row.

From her friend's example, Weed got her own idea. "I realized after that I was never going to forget her," Weed said.

Weed is now the founder of the company Girls Fight Back, which aims to help women avoid being victims, whether it be through education, self-defense training or providing resources for women to get the help they need.

Last night in front of a large crowd of female UK students - and a few guys - Weed told her story and taught students some simple ways to avoid becoming a victim, and also how to defend themselves.

"I did not have this in college, my friend who got murdered did not have this and I'd be lying if I said I haven't thought, 'What if?'" Weed said. "I didn't graduate college

thinking 'I'm going to go around the world and start this company and tour around the country teaching girls how to open up a can of whoop-ass.'"

Weed was brought to campus through the efforts of Lora Lee Winstead, a public service and leadership senior in the College of Agriculture, who saw Weed speak last year.

"It helps women recognize that women's safety on campus and in general is important. It's important to empower them and motivate them," Winstead said. "It's also important to let women know there are resources out there."

Weed discussed ways women can be a "bad victim" by not making themselves an easy target. She also discussed how women should trust their intuition when they feel uneasy, anxious or fearful in situations where danger can be present.

"I really believe intuition is the best thing we have, men and women," she said. "I think it's so much more successful if we never have to fight in the first place."

When smart thinking and preparation aren't enough, Weed said it's time to take action.

With the help of Chris Pulella, a member of Men Against Violence And Rape At UK and a graduate student in the Patterson School of Diplomacy, Weed demonstrated many different ways women can use hands, feet, elbows and improvised weapons - any-

thing from a hairbrush to a book - to fight off an attacker and defend themselves.

"I think the real goal is to make women know how dangerous they can be," she said. "I think many women just don't believe they're worth fighting for."

With training, that can change, she said. "Along with self-defense comes confidence," Weed said.

Weed, Winstead and others also encouraged women on campus to take part in UK's police-run program STARR, which stands for Self-Defense Techniques and Risk Reduction, a program on campus for women only, which costs \$35.

UK Police Crime Prevention Officer Alan Saylor has taught women's self-defense for more than 10 years and also spoke before the crowd, encouraging them to learn self-defense.

"This is what I do," Saylor said. "If I could help one woman be empowered to do

See Fight on page 2

FYI

- To learn more about Girls Fight Back, find resources, learn about programs or shop for self-defense items, visit www.girlsfightback.com
- To learn more about the STARR women's self-defense program offered by the UK Police Department, go to www.uky.edu/Police/star.html
- For more information on campus safety statistics, visit www.securityoncampus.org

Dining Services hears campus complaints

By Erin Lauther
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

An overhaul of UK's Dining Services and their facilities is a project that needs to be addressed, but getting sufficient funding is proving to be a problem, officials said.

Renovation was the hot topic on the table at last night's open forum held in the Commons Market. Dining Services administrators met with students to discuss the current problems facing dining and how students think these problems can be alleviated.

However, officials stressed that money needed for renovations is hard to get. A project that would have cost \$1 million two years ago now costs about \$1.4 million.

"Everyone is putting the squeeze on everywhere," said Dewitt King, assistant director of Dining Services. "In Frankfort, because we only need a few million dollars, we get shoved to the bottom. Dining Services is not a priority."

The only revenue Dining Services currently receives is from student fees and that alone will not cover the costs, even with this year's increases and changes to the meal plans.

In addition, many students feel that with the new meal plans costing more, students should be getting more for their money. Renovations are a part of that.

"We are cooking with appliances that are over 40 years old," said Jeff DeMoss, executive director of Dining Services. Changes to facility hours and additional meal plan options are a couple of the other improvements that dining wants to make.

"We did research to try to find a plan

See Dining on page 2



"We are cooking with appliances that are over 40 years old."

Jeff DeMoss
executive director,
UK Dining Services

Legislators

Continued from page 1

pate before 1 p.m. and expected around 60 by the time the drive ended at 3 p.m.

She said she was hopeful that the students' e-mails would make a difference to legislators especially since the messages were sent to the

students' home districts.

"They're going to pay more attention to their voters," Ellingsworth said. "It's their constituents that are bringing this to their attention."

She added that much of the power of the event would come from all the campuses across the state that's really going to make a big impact."

"It's not just us," Ellingsworth said. "It's the combined efforts of all the campuses across the state that's really going to make a big impact."

She added that the same event was held last year for the first time and received positive responses from the legislators.

The students involved seemed hopeful as well.

"I think the more awareness there is, the more action will be taken," said integrated strategic communication senior Jamie Kovats.

Rodney Vallejo, a psychology junior, said the effort by SG yesterday was good and that it was "getting our voice heard."

"Now that we're letting them know how we feel about some issues they'll actually start listening to us," he said.

SG is planning a trip to Frankfort next Wednesday to rally for student issues such as low tuition. The rally is open to the public and SG will provide busses to take students to and from the capital.

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Diversity

Continued from page 1

ish bilingual newspaper in Lexington, was the final speaker.

He commended the audience and the community for their efforts and progress towards cultural integration.

"Lexington and UK are more diverse today than ever," Cruz said. "We can walk across the street and get a burrito as big as your head. We can go downtown and have an Irish beer. They sound like small things, but even the presence of diverse

businesses let us know that as a community we are integrating."

Cruz said small steps like these help us to interact across cultural lines everyday and move towards attracting more minorities into UK's educational community.

"Our problem is not with diversity. We are all diverse," Cruz said. "The issue is integrating cultures together without alienating anyone."

The message of the guest speaker was heard by an audience of 32 people — smaller than organizers had expected.

"The low turnout today was disappointing," said Theresa Tuwor, education doctoral student and member of organizing committee. "Next year we will try other ways to

reach students and get them involved in the cause. Events like this help prepare students for roles as citizens who are interdependent."

Engineering junior Daniel Shaw was in the audience and said he didn't agree with some of what the speakers had to say about the school.

"I don't think the problem is as much with the students as they were suggesting," Shaw said. "More and more, I see our generation ignoring our differences and learning how much we need each other to make a difference."

Shaw said the low turnout at the program was not a significant reflection of the lack of interest from the student body.

mean that people aren't interested in being more diverse and more open-minded," Shaw said. "Listening to community members speak does not make people more tolerant. It is something everyone has to do on their own."

Isaac agreed that cultural acceptance does not happen overnight and cannot be forced on people.

"Government can not force an open mind on people," Isaac said. "There is no legislation designed to do that. Every person has to do it on their own, every day. But festivals like this, celebrating diversity and the beauty of other cultures and other people, help us to see the value of acceptance."

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Dining

Continued from page 1

that fit a particular lifestyle," said Jonah Brown, a political science senior and student member of the Dining Services committee. "We couldn't come up with one plan because it left out a lot of different types of students. The best thing we could do was to provide options."

DeMoss said they want to add Flex Dollars to the minimum meal plan that

can be used at places like Chick-fil-A. Increasing expansion of the PLUS Account should be another priority for dining services, though not as important as renovations, Brown said.

UK currently has the fifth least expensive meal plan out of all 12 Southeastern Conference schools and is one of only two that allow students to upgrade their plan at any time during the semester. UK is also among the least expensive when compared to its 19 national benchmark universities.

In the future, DeMoss said that Dining Services hopes to add more options for off-campus students and

make the information more readily available to them.

DeMoss and King both hope that by adding menu options and a new restaurant-like feel to campus facilities, students will prefer to eat on campus and feel like they are getting their money's worth.

"We want to turn Blazer into Ovid's. We want to have different facilities for different types of menus," DeMoss said.

Director of Women's Place Dorothy Edwards, which helped sponsor the event along with other campus organizations, said this event is part of a growing trend on campus.

"It speaks to the power of people deciding to do something," Edwards said. "In the last year, the momentum

around women's safety is increasing."

That momentum is very important to UK's push to make the campus environment safer for women.

"It's imperative," Edwards said. "The only way it's going to make a difference is if enough people do something."

In the meantime Weed continues to talk and teach because she feels it's what she should be doing to honor her friend and survive the future.

"I've recovered through helping others," Weed said. "This is really my healing."

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Fight

Continued from page 1

something they haven't done before, like walk late at night and feel empowered and safe, I've done my job."

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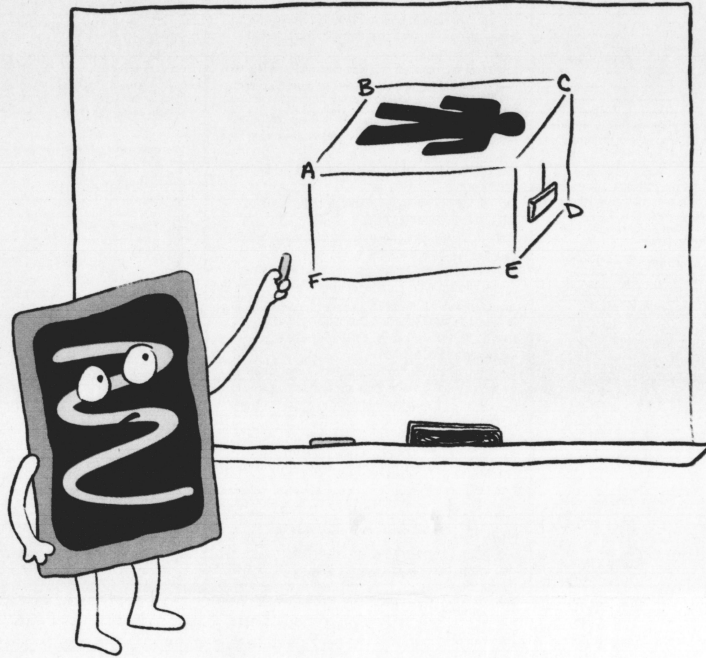
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UK's first black graduate dies

STAFF REPORT

Holloway Fields Jr., the first black student to graduate from UK, died late last week at his home in Fayetteville, N.Y.

Fields directly benefited from another black UK student, Lyman T. Johnson, who successfully sued UK in 1948 for admission into its graduate school. Fields graduated from the College of Engineering in 1951, and he's a member of that college's Hall of Distinction.

Fields was born in Lexington and attended Dunbar High School, where he was valedictorian and student council president. He transferred to UK from the Illinois Institute of Technology after

Johnson's victorious lawsuit desegregated UK.

After graduation, Fields enjoyed a 39-year career with the General Electric Co. He also served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

For 53 years, Fields was married to Harriet Walker Fields, who preceded him in death. Four sons and two daughters survive Fields.

A UK memorial service will be held tomorrow at 4 p.m. in the Student Center Small Ballroom.

The following day, Lexington's Smith and Smith Funeral Home will host calling hours from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. A burial will follow at Lexington Cemetery.

NEWS BRIEFS

Prosecutors show evidence linking Saddam to murders

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Prosecutors presented what they described as a paper trail linking Saddam Hussein to the execution of nearly 150 people, some of them children, in a Shiite village.

Prosecutors introduced papers allegedly showing Saddam signing off on the execution of 148 Shiites from the town of Dujail after a failed assassination attempt against him there in 1982.

High court rules abortion protests not illegal

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ended a 20-year old lawsuit against militant anti-abortion groups Tuesday, ruling unanimously that their use of "physical violence" outside clinics did not violate the anti-racketeering laws.

The decision marked the third time this case had been decided by the Supreme Court, and this time, they made sure it would be the

last. The effect of the ruling will be limited, however, because a federal law enacted in 1994 makes it illegal to block the entrances to an abortion clinic.

Ms. Smith goes to Washington

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court heard the case of Anna Nicole Smith yesterday. The former stripper's lawyers argued that Smith — then Vickie Lynn Marshall — was entitled to nearly \$500 million she had been promised by her octogenarian husband, the late Texas oilman J. Howard Marshall II. They wed in 1994, but he died a year later, leaving a \$1.6 billion estate.

Bush administration lawyers went to bat for her, as they want tax disputes involving estates decided in a federal court, not in a state probate court, the crux of Smith's case.

A ruling on the issue, due in several months, could have a wide effect involving disputes over estates.

COMPILED FROM WIRE REPORTS

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY CRIME REPORT

Selected UK Police reports from Feb. 22 to Feb. 28:

- Feb. 22: Possible break-in in the medicine cabinet at 320 Huguelet Drive at 9:36 a.m.
- Feb. 22: Suspicious person reported in a black SUV harassing students outside Blazer Hall trying to get them into his vehicle at 4:43 p.m.
- Feb. 23: Theft from building reported at Blanding Tower at 12:20 p.m.
- Feb. 23: Two men panhandling for money reported in the Funkhouser Drive parking lot at 3:25 p.m.
- Feb. 23: Two skateboarders reported at the statue in front of Patterson Office Tower at 5:40 p.m.
- Feb. 23: Wallet stolen from a purse at the UK Chandler Medical Center at 6:10 p.m.
- Feb. 23: Two males reported smoking pot between Blanding II and Blanding III at 10:59 p.m.
- Feb. 24: Vandalism to a vehicle reported where rock salt was on the roof of a red Lexus at 410 Rose Street at 10:16 a.m.
- Feb. 24: Suspicious man reported following a female student to her dormitory on Martin Luther King Boulevard at 7:27 p.m.
- Feb. 25: Criminal mischief reported at Commons Market where someone spray-painted images on the tunnel at 7:09 a.m.
- Feb. 25: Theft from automobile reported at the R3 lot at 12:05 p.m.
- Feb. 25: Subject asking for money in lot behind Odoba refusing to leave at 10:33 p.m.
- Feb. 27: Hit and run accident reported at the Sigma Pi Beta parking lot at 11:15 a.m.
- Feb. 27: Subjects trying to remove a car being towed in the Funkhouser Drive parking lot at 2:30 p.m.
- Feb. 27: Possible homeless person living in ductwork at the Business and Economics Building at 4:19 p.m.
- Feb. 27: Tires slashed at the parking structure on S. Limestone at 5:43 p.m.
- Feb. 28: Lexington Metro requested UKPD assistance in locating a black Tahoe or Escalade seen driving around town shooting out windows of vehicles parked in large parking lots at 3:33 a.m.
- Feb. 28: Non-sexual assault reported between two females at the BCTC Oswald Building at 12:10 p.m.
- Feb. 28: Vehicle reported key scratches on both sides at K-Lair at 12:19 p.m.

Compiled from reports at www.uky.edu/police.
Compiled by staff writer Megan Boehnke
E-mail mboehnke@kykernel.com

Ash Wednesday Services Today

Catholic Newman Center

12:10 pm & 5:30 pm - Mass and Ashes
7:00 pm & 10:30 pm - Service of the Word and Ashes

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What's New With Student Government

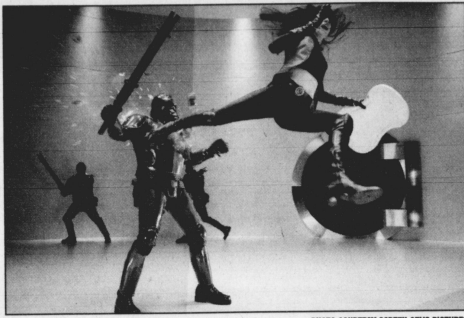
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FRAMEXFRAME | In theaters and on shelves



Milla Jovovich stars as a genetically altered super-human bent on righting the wrongs of her Orwellian society in "Ultraviolet" opening Friday.

IN THEATERS

ULTRAVIOLET

Milla Jovovich reprises her quintessentially hardcore heroine role she played so well in the "Resident Evil" films in this Orwellian action flick from director Kurt Wimmer. Taking a fresh approach to the genre, however, "Ultraviolet" is built on the idea that a genetic disease has mutated humans into ridiculous ninjas. I guess it sounds kinda lame when articulated like that, but you really can't take movies like this too seriously. **Opens Friday at Regal, Woodhill and Lexington Green.**

16 BLOCKS

There's been an unanswered, indeed unasked, question in the movie world for the last few days: Where has Bruce Willis been? I posit a different question: Where has Bruce Willis's credibility gone? But then you might ask: He had credibility? All right, enough questions. "16 Blocks" follows New York detective Jack Mosley, played by Willis, as he escorts a criminal, portrayed by the

one and only Mos Def, from the precinct to the courthouse 16 blocks away. Unfortunately, one of Mosley's former partners has a vested interest in stopping that Sunday drive. **Opens Friday at Regal, Woodhill and Lexington Green.**

AQUAMARINE

"Aquamarine" is likely to be an Oscar contender next year with its dynamic characters and unfathomably original plot. Really. Two 13-year-old girls, Claire and Hailey (What cute names!) discover a mermaid living in a swimming pool and soon their lives are turned into an adventure of a lifetime on the eve of the end of their summer vacation and, indeed, their time together. Isn't M. Night Shyamalan already doing this movie, only minus the 13-year-old girls? This film's release date has actually been on schedule for the last 2,000 years by another more esoteric title; you might remember it as the first seal heralding the dawn of Apocalypse. I'm out of jokes. **Opens Friday at Regal and Woodhill.**

ON DVD

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

I always said Jane Austen novels were highly overrated, so was this film. Mr. Darcy needs to quit being such an utter ninny. Yeah, I said it. Critics will always note that the book was better, but this film's got one thing the flag-ship of mediocre, pretentious literature didn't: Keira Knightley.

WALK THE LINE

The Man in Black brought the rock right up until he died. Following the sordid tale of Johnny Cash and his lady June Carter Cash during the formative years of his career in Memphis, "Walk The Line" has opened the door to Oscars for both Joaquin Phoenix and Reese Witherspoon. That means it must be good, right?

— Compiled by
Asst. Features Editor Ian
Conley
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ONTAP | For the week of MARCH 1 - MARCH 7

TONIGHT
Bleeding Through
7:30 p.m. Bogarts, Cincinnati.
Tickets cost \$15 to \$17.

Edith Frost w/ The Zincs
7:30 p.m. Southgate House,
Newport. Tickets cost \$8 to
\$10.

TOMORROW
Third Day
7:30 p.m. Louisville Palace.
Tickets cost \$30 to \$36.

FRIDAY
Mozartum Orchestra of
Salzburg
7:30 p.m. Singletary Center for
the Arts. Tickets cost \$18 for
students, \$32 for faculty, staff
and senior citizens, and \$35 for
the general public.

Kid Rock
7:30 p.m. Freedom Hall,
Louisville. Tickets cost \$24 to
\$34.

Oklahoma!
8 p.m. Lexington Opera House.
Tickets cost \$54.50 to \$74.50.

Mogwai w/ Growing
9 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost
\$14.

Oh My God w/ Moth
9 p.m. Southgate House,
Newport. Tickets cost \$8 to
\$10.

Yellowbelts
10 p.m. High Life Lounge.
Tickets cost \$5.

Born Cross Eyed
10:30 p.m. The Fishtank.
Tickets cost \$5.

SATURDAY
Cheaters
8 p.m. Louisville Palace. Tickets
cost \$36.50 to \$39.50.

Chris Campbell Band w/ Van
Gogh Sky and Three Wheel
Motion
9 p.m. Verve Concert Hall, Avio.
Tickets cost \$5.

SUNDAY
Page France and Petticoat,
Petticoat
7 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost
\$6.

The Tallboys
8:30 p.m. High Life Lounge.
Tickets cost \$4.

TUESDAY
Aerosmith
7:30 p.m. Rupp Arena. Tickets

cost \$56.50 to \$81.50.

COMING SOON
Tommy Castro
8:30 p.m. March 8. Southgate
House, Newport. Tickets cost
\$15 to \$18.

Long Beach Shortbus
9 p.m. March 8. The Dame.
Tickets cost \$10.

Hellmays w/ Nightmare Music,
The Deehawks, Rubberband
and The Tallboys
10 p.m. March 10. High Life
Lounge. Tickets cost \$5.

George Clinton and Parliament
8 p.m. March 19. Bogarts,
Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$25 to
\$28.

Kenny Chesney
7:30 p.m. March 25. Rupp
Arena. Tickets cost \$53 to \$63.

Nickelback
7:30 p.m. March 25. Freedom
Hall, Louisville. Tickets cost
\$38.50.

— Compiled by Projects Editor
Crystal Little

FREE EVENTS AT YOUR STUDENT CENTER
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TV JUMBLE by David L. Hoyt
2:05-05

Use the clues to help unscramble the four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four words.

Clue: Ben's adjective
NTEEGL

Clue: "Dirty" motion
CNDIGAN

Clue: Favor's show
RIDAHWE

Clue: "Big" relative
HRRTBEO

Answer: _____

Yesterday's
Jumble: PRIME METAL EQUATE HMCND
Answer: _____
When he broke the sound barrier, he ended up talking — A MILE A MINUTE

COMEDY CARAVAN
HBO SHOWTIME BET

Wednesday, March 1st
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DJ Becanike Show: More retro than thou	Mike Peters Underground in quality hip-hop	Patrick Front Jazz	Patrick Jason Richardson Gospel	Walter Smith Going Blues	Patrick Zeurcher The Grand Imperial	Dien Ho The alternative to the blues	The Reagan Blues
Letsa Late Show: More retro than thou	Underground in quality hip-hop	Patrick Front Jazz	Patrick Jason Richardson Gospel	Walter Smith Going Blues	Patrick Zeurcher The Grand Imperial	Dien Ho The alternative to the blues	The Reagan Blues
Patrick Front Jazz	Patrick Jason Richardson Gospel	Walter Smith Going Blues	Patrick Zeurcher The Grand Imperial	Dien Ho The alternative to the blues	The Reagan Blues	The Oldschool Hip-Hop	Sonic Soul Hip-Hop

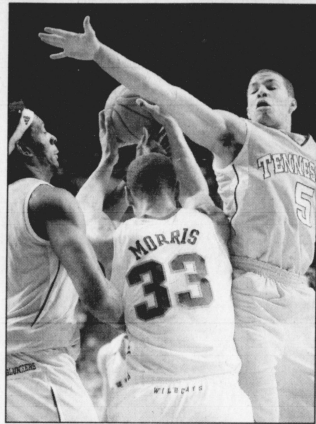
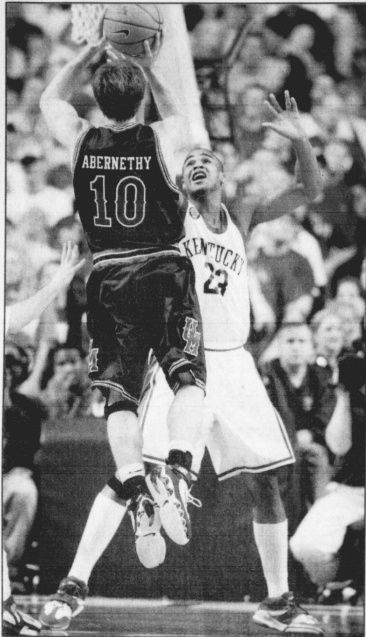
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MEN'S BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK

Thomas, Perry hope for deja vu



PHOTOS BY KEITH SMILEY | STAFF
Above: Tennessee sophomore guard Chris Lofton puts pressure on UK sophomore center Randolph Morris during the UK-Tennessee game on Feb. 7 at Rupp Arena.

Left: Junior forward Shera Thomas tries to block a shot by Ole Miss junior guard Todd Abernethy during UK's win over Mississippi on Feb. 22.

By Josh Sullivan
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Last year in Knoxville, Tenn., UK needed forwards Shera Thomas and Bobby Perry to step up. They did. After forward Chuck Hayes left the game with a broken nose, Thomas cleared seven rebounds and chipped in seven points in 21 minutes, while Perry added seven boards and eight points in 13 minutes.

Now more than ever the Cats need that same production from Perry and Thomas. "We stepped up big (last year in Knoxville), and we've got to do it again at their place," Thomas said.

Thomas put extra pressure on himself and Bobby Perry to give the Cats a stronger inside presence against UT after Louisiana State outrebounded UK 38-25. Thomas also said he's already forgotten about the last-second shot he badly missed against LSU that could have sent the game into overtime.

"I beat myself up for about 24 hours," he said. "I

have a 24-hour rule. I don't get too high or too low. If we win I'm happy for 24 hours then I move on."

Cats in bubble trouble

With Saturday's loss at LSU UK moved one step closer to missing the NCAA tournament for the first time in 15 years. At 18-10 overall and 8-6 in the Southeastern Conference, the Cats desperately need a revenge win tonight in Knoxville to strengthen their case for an at-large bid.

Several tournament prognosticators agree that UK needs to win at least one of its final two regular season games — tonight at Tennessee and Sunday against Florida — and one SEC Tournament game to be assured of a spot in the 68-team field.

"These last two games we've got a chance to play two top-15 teams and prove to ourselves that we can compete with top tier teams and prove that to the committee," said senior guard Patrick Sparks. "The ball is in our hands. We control our own destiny."

If the Cats want fate to smile on them come Sele-

ction Sunday, their first objective should be finding a way to stop Volunteer sophomore guard Chris Lofton. The Maysville native diced UK's perimeter defense on Feb. 7, burying seven of 10 3-pointers on his way to 31 points to lead the Vols to their first win in nine games against UK.

"He shot over everybody," said head coach Tubby Smith. "He scores on anybody. We really need to stick with him closer, do a better job of limiting his touches."

Hobbs and Bradley update

One familiar face will return to the UK bench tonight while another should return to the rotation soon.

After missing the last two games because of a surgical procedure, associate head coach David Hobbs will be back on duty against the Volunteers.

"We could have used his experience in Baton Rouge," Smith said.

Meanwhile, Ramel Bradley remains sidelined because of the broken hand he suffered when he punched a goal support in practice

last week. Smith expects the sophomore guard and Brooklyn ambassador back soon.

"He's out there shooting and conditioning, staying in shape," he said. "He should be fine. As soon as we get word he can go, he'll be on the court."

Macy quits at Morehead

Former UK great Kyle Macy resigned as head coach of the Morehead State men's basketball team yesterday after a 4-23 season, the worst in his nine years at the school.

His departure lacked the politically correct blandness typical of most resignations.

In a blunt statement Macy said, "I leave with great pride in what I have been able to accomplish at a school that only verbally supports their sports programs. Those in charge have unrealistic expectations of success considering the lack of funds budgeted. In spite of their lack of commitment, I was able to accomplish many things."

E-mail
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DeMoss named SEC's best



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF
UK head coach Mickie DeMoss yells from the sidelines during UK's game against Ole Miss on Feb. 16. She was named Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year yesterday.

By Chris DeLottell
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

When she was hired as head coach in 2003, Mickie DeMoss inherited a UK women's basketball program that had won seven of its last 42 Southeastern Conference games.

Three years later, DeMoss has been named the 2005-06 SEC Coach of the Year.

The award was announced yesterday by the conference and comes on the heels of UK's best season since 1999-2000.

The Cats (20-7, 9-5 SEC) finished fourth in the conference and earned the program's first bye in the SEC Tournament since the event expanded to 12 teams in 1992.

In typical fashion, DeMoss deferred credit for the award.

"It's an honor to be recognized by your peers, but it all boils down to the players," she said. "If you can't convince your players to play hard and play together, it doesn't matter how good a coach you are."

While DeMoss credited the team, her players praised the job she has done.

When the team was informed that she had won the award, they erupted in cheers.

"Everyone was really excited," said freshman guard Carly

Ormerod. "I just think she deserves it 100 percent."

"That means a lot for the team," sophomore guard Samantha Mahoney said. "She had my vote on that."

UK was predicted to finish ninth in the preseason SEC coaches' poll and has a roster that features nine freshmen and sophomores and one graduating senior.

Mahoney and Ormerod also received awards from the conference. Mahoney was named second team All-SEC. She leads UK in scoring at 11.9 points per game and has scored in double figures in seven consecutive contests.

"Sam has really been steady for us this season, especially late in this conference run," DeMoss said. "Sam is a very gifted player ... She has done a great job of accepting (her) role and she certainly deserves this honor."

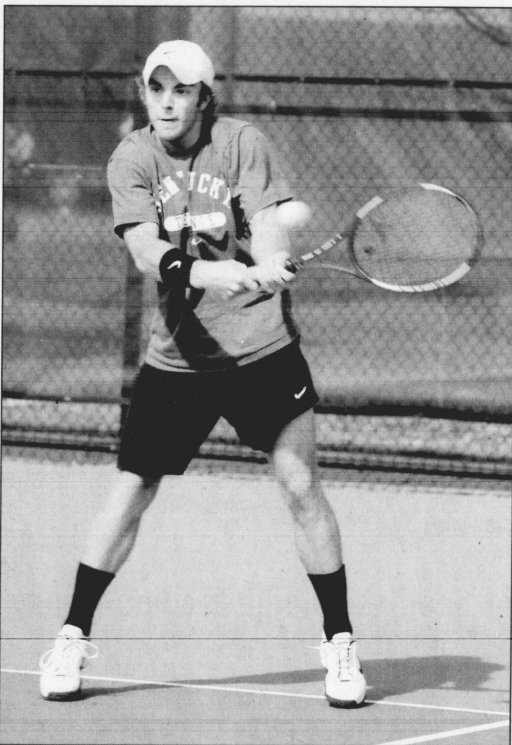
Ormerod, who has started all of the team's games, was named to the All-Freshman team.

"Carly has just been phenomenal," DeMoss said. "She has made a difference for this team. She has been huge for us all year."

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Tennis trounces Tennessee Tech



ANDREW HUGHES | STAFF
Senior Nate Emge returns the ball in a doubles match against Tennessee Tech yesterday. Emge and his partner, Alex Hume, won the match 8-3. The Cats defeated the Golden Eagles 6-1.

UK STAFF REPORT

Playing in its first outdoor match this spring, the No. 33 UK men's tennis team improved its record to 5-3 on the season after defeating Tennessee Tech 6-1 yesterday at the Hilary J. Boone Tennis Center. The Cats were led by senior Alex Hume who swept the Golden Eagles' Shunsuke Shimizu 6-3, 6-4, to match his career-best nine match winning streak.

UK won the first two doubles matches to clinch the doubles point. Playing at the No. 3 spot, freshmen Bruno Agostinelli and Kenny Hodge won their second match in a row by defeating Tech's Tiago Giloi and Borja Zarco 8-2.

Seniors Nate Emge and Hume put the Cats up 1-0 with an 8-4 victory over the Eagles' James Bennett and Juan Carlos Rabaza.

In singles action, UK claimed victory in five of six matches. Playing at the No. 1 spot, Hume won his ninth match in a row by beating Shimizu, tying the mark he set in 2005. Hume now has 21 victories on the year.

UK will travel to Auburn Friday to open Southeastern Conference play. The match with the No. 35 Tigers (6-2) starts at 2:30 p.m.

Upcoming Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
March 3	@ Auburn	TBA
March 5	@ Alabama	TBA
March 8	Indiana St.	1 p.m.
March 8	Murray St.	6 p.m.
March 10	LSU	TBA
March 12	Arkansas	1 p.m.
March 16	@ UC Irvine	TBA
March 24	Miss. St.	TBA
March 26	Ole Miss	1 p.m.
March 31	@ Georgia	TBA

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IN OUR OPINION

Lower the hurdles to SG ballot access

Last week, Student Government's Operations and Evaluations Committee unanimously passed an act to lower the amount of student signatures needed to run for SG president, vice-president and senator-at-large candidates.

Well played, SG. The act, if passed by the full Senate, would lower the number of signatures needed to run for SG president and vice president from 1,000 to 500 and from 400 to 200 for senator-at-large candidates, a move that will give more students an opportunity to run for office.

"I don't think it's Student Government's job to go and talk to students," Sen. Ben Carter, chairman of the committee, said Wednesday night. "I think it's a distraction."

As much as this editorial board would love to resort to a knee-jerk reaction and ridicule Carter for such a seemingly ridiculous statement, we can't — because he's right. All candidates must obtain the required number of signatures before they can file to run for office; a higher number of figures favors Greek candidates, who have a large pool of potential signatures from which to draw.

"Non-Greeks are taken out of the process," Carter said. Yes, they are.

But this significant reduction in required signatures will give all candidates, not just those involved in Greek organizations, a more evenly balanced chance at candidacy.

This editorial board has lambasted SG in the past for its Greek partisan politics, and now, we've got to laud its effort to reverse the organization's bias. By giving more students a shot at running for office, SG is proving that it cares about the student body, as it rightly should.

The 1,000-signature requirement is especially onerous in light of the normal turnout for SG elections. Last year, fewer than 3,000 students voted, meaning that each presidential candidate needed more than a third of the total voters to sign their ballot petitions. That is beyond excessive.

Moreover, we agree that candidates aren't spending their time best by scrounging for signatures. A requirement of some sort is necessary to make sure that candidates are serious about their commitment — so that the ballot isn't full of people who simply whizzed into the SG office one day and blithely signed a candidacy form — but 500 signatures is certainly a sufficient threshold.

With a more reasonable signature requirement, candidates could spend the time preceding the election talking to students instead of soliciting them. They could also use their time to come up with creative solutions to campus problems and flesh out their proposals on their Web sites.

Let's just hope this isn't a passing fad, and that the trend of making SG more open continues well into the future.

Lessons of black history are relevant all year long

In a chronological sense, the beginning of March means the end of Black History Month. But the fact that we set aside one month especially to celebrate black history doesn't mean that we shouldn't keep in mind the lessons of civil rights and the accomplishments of black Americans all year long.

Having a sense of history is important in itself — the adage that history repeats itself proves true all too often. If we forget the legacy of the struggle for racial equality, we may be blind to situations of injustice that arise in the future.

There is another pressing reason to celebrate and absorb black history: The fight for civil rights isn't over. We've made a lot of progress, but we have a long way to go. The aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in August exposed this vividly, much to the nation's collective disturbance — poverty still exists here, and it disproportionately affects people of color.

Black history is also relevant to current happenings on UK's campus. Last month, The Kernel pro-

filed four individuals who have been involved in advancing equality on UK's campus:

■ Ricardo Nazario-Colon, the director of UK's Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center, who is helping diversify the cultural environment at UK.

■ William Turner, who has been vice president for university initiatives and associate provost for the past year and a half, who attended UK during the height of racial tensions during the late 1960s.

■ Rosalind Welch, who has been preparing future leaders as president of UK's Black Student Union.

■ Doris Wilkinson, a UK professor of sociology and UK's first full-time black female faculty member, who entered UK as an undergraduate when it desegregated in 1954.

We have set aside the month of February to pay heed to leaders like these and their accomplishments, but their legacy affects us year-round. It would be foolish for us to forget that.



CHUCK KENNEY, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Even offensive speech should be allowed

Believe it or not, you cannot find anywhere in the U.S. Constitution a right not to be offended. It simply doesn't exist.



Andrew Martin

KERNEL COLUMNIST

When I look at the debate over whether to publish the cartoons of Mohammed and the subsequent carnage in the Middle East or the imprisonment of author David Irving for Holocaust denial, I'm astonished to recall that John Milton's concept of a "marketplace of ideas" has been with us for roughly 362 years.

Some people cannot tolerate speech with which they disagree. And it's very disconcerting when columnists or letter writers express (in a free press, no less) how they wish the government would spare them the offense of being offended and impose limits on free speech.

Many believe the government should limit or constrain speech that advocates unpopular or dangerous ideas. Such limitations usually involve unwelcome comments about religion, one's country race or ethnicity, gender or lifestyle choices.

And so, it is the responsibility of the government to "do something."

For instance, many countries wanted to suppress anti-Semitism, so they passed laws making Holo-

caust denial a punishable crime. This would clearly violate the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, but it is on the books in 15 other countries, including Austria.

Last week, British historian David Irving was sent to an Austrian prison with a three-year sentence for a 1989 speech in which he claimed certain aspects of the Holocaust never took place. Citizens of those countries are compelled by their government to be in the Holocaust and some of those employed by Hitler's National Socialists is repugnant. Most reasonable people accept its truths, and there's little reason for officials to worry about the dangers posed by people like Irving.

Although it's important for people to understand the reality of the Holocaust, doing so by employing techniques indistinguishable from those employed by Hitler's National Socialists is repugnant. Most reasonable people accept its truths, and there's little reason for officials to worry about the dangers posed by people like Irving.

Still, to some the punishment fits the rhetorical crime. They say Irving holds dangerous ideas, and sometimes speech has to be curtailed in order to prevent its harmful effects.

There's the crux of political correctness: government can neutralize dangerous ideas if it stigmatizes or punishes certain speech. But such an idea is in and of itself dangerous.

The problem with government stigmatization and regulation of speech is that no foolproof or universally agreed-upon method of filtration exists. One may agree with the speech censored today but tomorrow find his or her own opin-

ions suppressed.

Being humans of limited ability, people have to be willing to take the good and the bad; and the pros of an open society far outweigh those of censorship, selective or not.

Many critics of the Mohammed cartoons have stated that free speech comes with responsibility. That's true. So does protesting.

Anyone who chooses to berate publishing inflammatory material but not burning the Norwegian and Danish embassies in Lebanon, calling in bomb threats to newspapers, putting a \$1 million bounty on the cartoonist behind the illustrations, carrying out a primal urge to riot, rampage and destroy property has a skewed scale of values and is immune to common sense.

Not only does censorship stymie the dignity of people who have a right to express their opinion, but it can turn a Nazi sympathizer like Irving into a martyr, giving him more potency than he would have otherwise.

It's also worth noting that in liberal democracies where free speech is celebrated there is less persecution of different groups or individuals than in authoritarian regimes.

While individuals and societies can and must strive to be civil to one another, the commitment to free expression must trump other considerations.

When in doubt, always err on the side of liberty.

Andrew Martin is a journalism and political science senior. Email amartin@kykernel.com.

Dubai port controversy is just another needless media feeding frenzy

Anyone who follows the news knows that the media tend to overreact when it comes to trivial matters that, in the end, have very little impact in the grand scheme of things.



Wes Blevins

KERNEL COLUMNIST

Recently, Dubai Ports World paid \$6.8 billion to acquire P & O Ports North America from London-based Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company. The deal includes the sale of port operations of several terminals at six U.S. ports: New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans and Miami.

It's important to note that the ports themselves will not be, nor have they ever been, in foreign hands. U.S. Customs, Coast Guard and Homeland Security agents will maintain control of port security and cargo inspections. A Customs official told Fox News he doesn't foresee any changes in his department's operations as a result of the sale.

Nevertheless, critics on both sides of the aisle slammed the deal within hours of its announcement. Democratic Sens. Hillary Clinton and Robert Menendez, New York and New Jersey respectively,

said they will introduce emergency legislation to block the sale and to ban foreign government-owned companies from controlling U.S. port operations. Apparently, the two are unaware (or chose to ignore) that Chinese, Singaporean and British companies already manage some port operations within the United States.

Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., said Dubai Ports World is "a company right out of the heartland of al-Qaida." Never mind the U.S. State Department's Web site, which says: "The U.A.E. contributes to the continued security and stability of the Gulf and the Straits of Hormuz. It is a leading partner in the campaign against terrorism, providing assistance in the military, diplomatic, and financial arenas since September 11, 2001. The U.A.E. military currently provides humanitarian assistance to Iraq."

Most dramatic of all was North Carolina Republican Sen. Myrick. In a letter to President Bush that would make Daniel Webster proud (note the sarcasm here), Myrick said, "In regards to selling Ameri-

can ports to the United Arab Emirates, not just NO — but HELL NO!"

So what is all the fuss about? It's true that two of the Sept. 11 hijackers were U.A.E. nationals. Critics also point out that in the years before 2001, the U.A.E. was lax on money laundering, allowing substantial funds to be filtered to al-Qaida.

But in the nearly four and a half years since Sept. 11, the U.A.E. has "sought to crack down on potential vulnerabilities in the financial markets and is cooperating with the international effort to prevent money laundering, particularly by terrorists," according to a 2005 State Department report.

The U.A.E. also provides the United States with key military assistance. As a White House "fact sheet" points out, "the U.A.E. provides U.S. and coalition forces unprecedented access to its ports and territory, overflight clearances and other critical and important logistical assistance."

U.A.E. ports also host more U.S. Navy ships than any other nation outside the United States. These

ports, interestingly enough, are operated by Dubai Ports World. The \$100 million given by the U.A.E. to assist with Hurricane Katrina relief is yet another highlight of the close relation between the two nations.

In truth, if Dubai Ports World had been Tokyo Ports World, or Sydney Ports World, the sale would likely have been largely ignored in the media or buried in the back pages. What kind of message does it send when so many of those in power in the United States don't want to do business with one of our few true allies in the Middle East?

The U.A.E. is in the business of business. Because the United States provides many partners with which to conduct business, it's reasonable to think the U.A.E. will go all out to ensure those partnerships remain.

In the end, this media storm will blow over, as newsrooms await the next perceived blunder by the Bush administration. They probably won't have to wait long.

Wes Blevins is a journalism senior. Email wesb@uky.edu.

Submissions

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

E-MAIL

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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.

Online Poll Question

Do you think the UK men's basketball team will get a spot in the NCAA tournament this year?

Yes

No

Vote online at kykernel.com

UK 6, EVANSVILLE 3

Cowgill homer trumps Purple Aces

By Jonathan Smith
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

For the UK baseball team, yesterday's game was a maddening trial of perseverance. Despite solid contact, the Cats watched as line drive after line drive found its way into the gloves of Evansville defenders.

But the Cats' two biggest hits could not be hauled in by the Purple Aces in UK's 6-3 home-opener win in front of 987 fans at Cliff Hagan Stadium.

After Evansville jumped out to a 3-0 lead, UK first baseman Ryan Strieby's bases-clearing triple in the third inning tied the game. Then leftfielder Collin Cowgill did his teammate one better, sending a 3-2 pitch over the same left-center field wall in the seventh inning to break the tie and put the Cats ahead to stay.

"He left it up, and I just got enough of the barrel on it," Cowgill said.

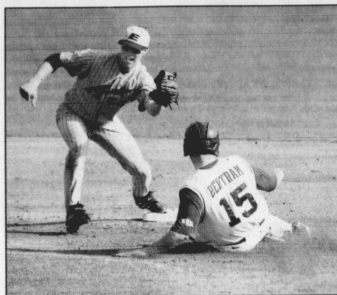
Cowgill's third home run of the year should have never happened.

Centerfielder Antone DeJesus led off the inning with a single, and stole second on the third pitch of Cowgill's at bat.

On the next pitch Cowgill attempted to bunt DeJesus to third, but fouled it back. Cowgill felt the need to make up for not executing the bunt.

"I was disappointed not to be able to help your team out like that," Cowgill said. "But I guess it worked out better in the end."

Brock Baber took over for the Cats (6-1) in the eighth inning in relief of starter Greg Dombrowski. Baber pitched a perfect eighth, but opened the door for the Aces (6-4) in the ninth.



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

Evansville freshman infielder Andy Smith tags UK senior infielder Michael Bertram out as he slides into second base during UK's 6-3 win over the Purple Aces yesterday. The Cats face Cincinnati today at 3 p.m.

He walked the first batter of the inning and Eric Jones followed with a single up the middle. Robbie Minor then laid down a sacrifice bunt, advancing the runners to second and third. Baber, who throws with a three-quarters submarine motion, induced Andy Smith and Jeff Zelenovich to fly out.

This was Baber's seventh career save, moving him up to seventh on the UK all time career saves list.

"He came in and did a great job," said UK head coach John Cohen. "I'm really pleased with him."

The Cats fell behind in the first inning when Jeff Fontaine clubbed a three-run home run.

The Cats did not threaten until the third inning when third baseman Michael Bertram got things started with a single. After Bertram was gunned down

at second base on shortstop Ryan Wilkes sacrifice bunt attempt, Wilkes moved to second on a wild pitch, and DeJesus laid down a perfect push bunt between first base and the pitcher. Cowgill walked to load the bases and set up Strieby's fireworks.

"It was actually a change up, up in the zone," Strieby said. "I was a little out front of it, but I was able to get pretty good metal on it."

"It almost got out of here. I thought it was gone."

With his 2-for-3 day at the plate, Cowgill has hit safely in all seven games this year. DeJesus went 3 for 5, extending his hitting streak to 13 games, dating back to last season.

The Cats' return to action today against Cincinnati (4-5) at Hagan Stadium.

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