

INSIDE:

UK not thinking about past PAGE A3

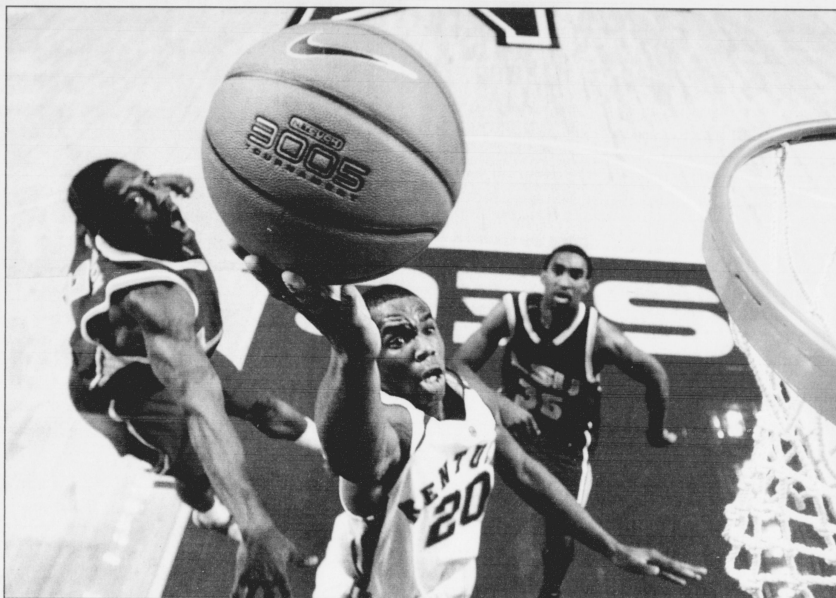
Senior on her last Rupp experience PAGE A4

Complete SEC tournament bracket PAGE A5

WWW.KYKERNEL.COM WEDNESDAY MARCH 7, 2007

POSTSEASON PREVIEW

CELEBRATING 36 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE



UK freshman guard Jodie Meeks leaves the defense behind against Louisiana State University on Feb. 20. Meeks and the Cats open up the Southeastern Conference Tournament Thursday at 1 p.m. in Atlanta.

ANDREW HUGGINS STAFF

RECIPE FOR A RUN



CHRIS DELOTTELL
Kernel columnist

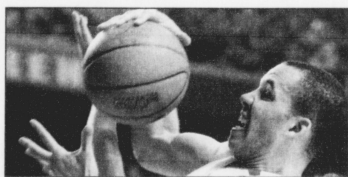
After Sunday's regular-season ending loss at Florida, head coach Tubby Smith and his players didn't seem devastated. They knew that not all was lost in the loss. There's little shame in losing at the O-Dome to the defending champs on their Senior Day, and after the game, the Cats were more focused on the games ahead than the season behind. And with good reason.

After finishing 9-7 in Southeastern Conference play for a second straight season, the Cats likely are eager to forget the regular season. The conference

tournament, which begins tomorrow in Atlanta, is a way for UK to erase the frustration of the regular season and head into the NCAA Tournament on a positive note.

"It's a great feeling," senior forward Bobby Perry said of heading into the conference tournament. "That's the great thing about college basketball. When the tournament comes, anything can happen."

For the Cats, that's a good thing. But in order for anything to happen, these three things need to happen:



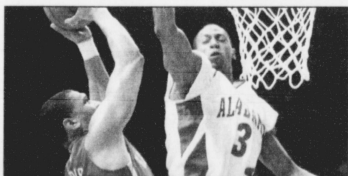
1. Bobby Perry must continue to score

In last week's games against Vanderbilt and Georgia, as well as the first half this weekend against Florida, the Cats may have played their best five consecutive halves on offense. Throw out the second half against Florida, and the Cats have shot the ball as well in the past three games as they have all year. The biggest part of that has been Bobby Perry's outside shooting and scrappy playmaking. He was awesome in the first half in Gainesville, Fla., sticking six of eight shots and scoring 16 points, helping to keep the Cats in the game.

"I was glad to see Bobby shooting well and playing well in all areas," Smith said after the Florida loss. That followed a stellar performance in UK's win against Georgia.

"It was evident from the outset that he was being as aggressive as I've ever seen him," Georgia coach Dennis Felton said after the game last Wednesday. "Obviously they're much tougher to defend when he's making shots."

Perry will need to continue to be aggressive and make shots. He'll need to play as well in the postseason this year as he did last year, when he poured in 45 points in UK's two NCAA Tournament games.



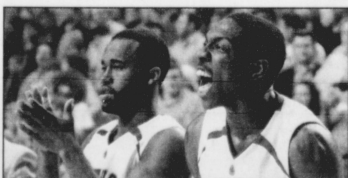
2. Morris must play smart

For Morris, there are two parts to playing smart: he must be mentally prepared to play, and he must stay out of foul trouble. If those two things happen, he can be a dominant force in the post, as he was against Georgia, when he came off the bench and scored the first six times he touched the ball. He was effective again at Florida, making five of six

shots, but was hampered by foul trouble.

"I think Randolph is effective all the time," Felton said after the Georgia game. "He's one of the most skilled big men in the country."

If the Cats are to make a March run, Morris will need to play like one of the most skilled big men in the country. He's shown flashes of that ability, but he hasn't been quite able to pull it off on a consistent basis.



3. Cats must get lucky

Part of March success is simply getting hot at the right time. It happened to Florida last year, when a Gators team that went 10-6 in league play won the SEC Tournament before going on a tear in the Big Dance, en route to the national championship. That's not to say this UK team has that kind of ability, but with the parity in college basketball this season,

more than a dozen teams enter the postseason with a legitimate chance at winning the national championship.

Unfortunately for the Cats, they aren't one of them. But if Perry stays hot, Morris stays awake and luck stays with UK, the Cats have an opportunity to stay around in the postseason for a lot longer than the experts expect.

Tubby, Cats excited about 'fresh new start'

By Jonathan Smith
jsmith@kykernel.com

Whether the UK men's basketball season can be viewed as a success or not doesn't really matter at this point.

There has been talk about how the team has areas in which they need to improve. That talk has now ceased. It's no longer a work in progress.

"We've got to look forward, we can't look back," said UK head coach Tubby Smith. "It's over with and now it's time to move forward."

In the rearview is a 20-10 record, 9-7 in the Southeastern Conference, which landed the Cats the No. 4 seed in the East Division. Tomorrow they will open up the SEC Tournament at 1 p.m. at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta against the No. 5 team from the West, Alabama, a team originally ranked in the preseason top-25.

The Cats limped down the stretch losing five of their last seven games to drop from second place in the division. The slide forced them to play on the first day of the tournament for the second year in a row.

UK's most recent setback — an 85-72 loss to Florida on Sunday — was a microcosm of what has plagued the team all season.

The Cats played an almost flawless first half, shooting 54.8 percent to score 43 points, but were outscored 42-29 after halftime.

Playing a complete game has been very rare for the Cats this season.

"The way we started the game was great," junior guard Ramel Bradley said. "We pressured the ball, forced turnovers. If we just can sustain that for 40 minutes, then we'll be fine."

UK was out rebounded by the much bigger Gators 35-23, tying its largest disparity of the season. The Gators also outscored the Cats 44-26 in the paint.

Much of this was because UK junior center Randolph Morris got in foul trouble, something that has been a bane during his UK tenure. Morris picked up his third foul less than 30 seconds into the second half. After that, Florida promptly went on a 13-2 run to take control of the game.

"It's tough for Randolph to have to battle two big guys (Florida's Joakim Noah and Al Horford) like that," said junior guard Joe Crawford.

"But when we had Randolph in the game, he seemed like the better post player. Even when they double teamed him, he split it and scored. I think it just hurt us when he was out."

After the game, Smith and Bradley talked about the Cats' toughness. Both said it's not there, and for the Cats to extend their new season, they're going to have to get back to their old tenacity.

"If we want to be our team again, that's what we're going to have to do," Bradley said. "We're going to have to scare these guys a little and be the intimidator. I think that's one thing that the past teams that were great had and I think that's something we need."

Although the Cats are trying to put the regular season behind them, the SEC Tournament gives them a chance to play teams that beat them earlier in the year.

The Cats lost to the Crimson Tide 72-61 a few weeks ago, and if they advance to the semifinals, they could play a Vanderbilt team that beat them twice already this season.

But even with revenge as a factor, the players said it's what happens from here on out that they are concerned with.

"It's a fresh new start," Crawford said. "You've got to take the positive out of this. I think we're going to get focused in and try to win this conference tournament."

Last week, UK Athletic Director Mitch Barnhart responded to several media requests about the status of Smith by saying he wouldn't make any judgments about his coach until next season. Soon enough though, maybe as quickly as next week, it will be time to make an assessment of what direction the program is headed in.

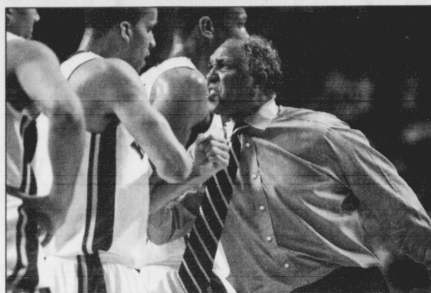
That means there might be no better time than now to perform well in the SEC Tournament and get momentum heading into the NCAA Tournament.

If that happens, UK's memories of the regular season, whether they are good or bad, will be erased.

"If we win the SEC Tournament, we're that team that we're supposed to be," Bradley said. "I think that's the problem heading into the SEC Tournament — that if we're the team that we're supposed to be and we win the SEC Tournament, all of that goes down the drain."

"If we're the team that we're supposed to be and we win the SEC Tournament, all of that goes down the drain."

RAMEL BRADLEY
junior guard



Coach Tubby Smith instructs his team at the beginning of a timeout in UK's 76-57 victory over Tennessee in Lexington on Jan. 28.

KEITH SMILEY
STAFF

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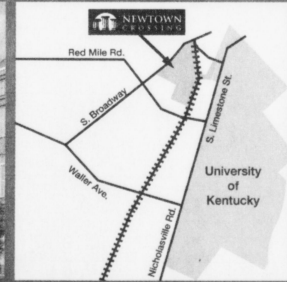
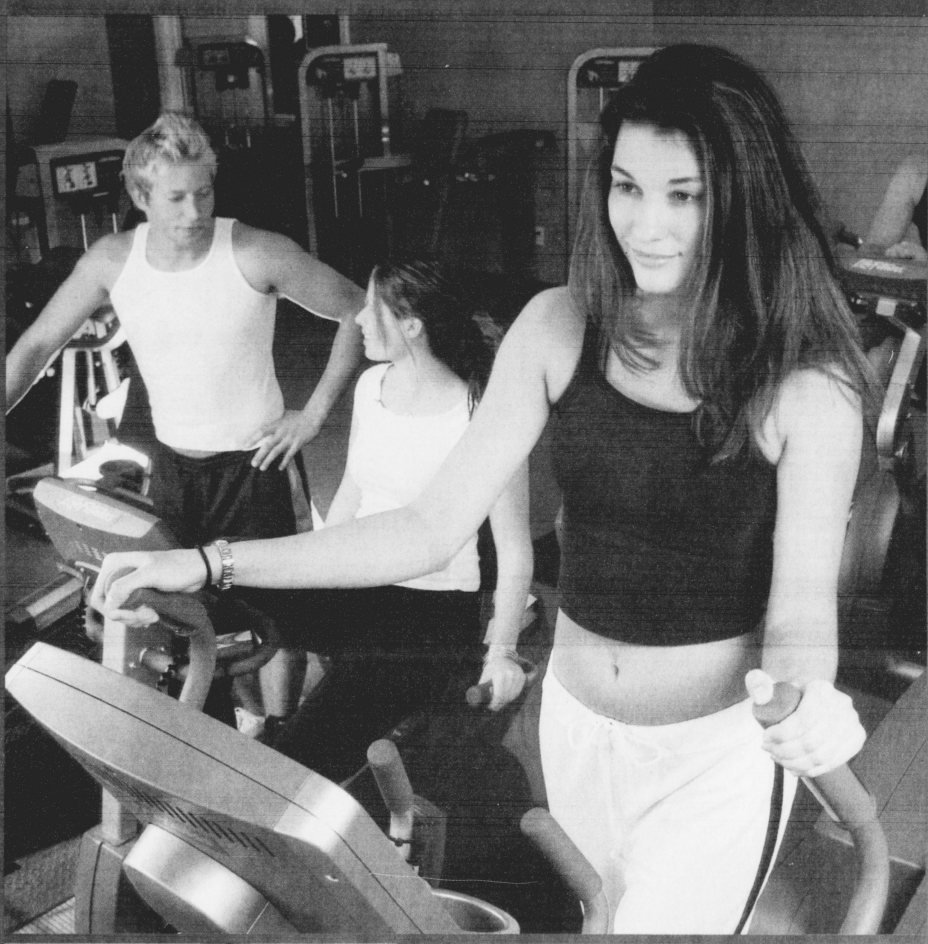
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Last look from the front row

My body is painted blue and I'm in a white bikini among 24,000 Wildcat fans in Rupp Arena. The only thing I can think about as the clock counts down



NICOLE CARTIER
Guest columnist

the last minute of the senior night game are all the memories I've had the past four years in the eRruption Zone.

To me, the eRruption Zone isn't just a student section; it has been a tool for me, something I have made a strong connection with.

Junior guard Ramel Bradley put it best about the eRruption Zone.

"It's what you go to college for," Bradley said. "It's what you dream about when you're a kid, you know, seeing that on TV and experiencing that in person. It makes you feel good in your heart."

Growing up in Southwest Virginia, I was a die-hard Cats fan surrounded by Tennessee Volunteers and Virginia Tech Hokies fans. Because both of my parents are UK alumni, most of my memories of the weekends spent with my dad included the Cats.

Once I set foot in Rupp Arena for the first time, and for the last, my seat has been in the eRruption Zone. This spot has not only allowed me to show my school spirit but it has allowed me to be with my father. When he was ill and in the hospital, my father watched his TV screen as I cheered in front of the camera with a giant sign wishing him a "Happy 48th Birthday!" Even though we were states apart, the eRruption Zone allowed me to be with him just as when I was growing up.

In the past four years, I've witnessed two College Gameday events, I've been Dick Vitale's Valentine (thanks to a sign I made for him) and I've had numerous TV appearances. A friend of mine who is stationed in Iraq told me that he saw me on his screen overseas.

In the Capital of College Bas-



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

Sporting body paint and bikini tops, Nicole Cartier (left), a senior broadcast major and Amberlee Kempf, a graphic design major, cheer in the eRruption Zone during UK's home finale against Georgia last Wednesday.

ketball, the eRruption Zone has allowed me to meet people that will help my future in broadcast journalism. As a broadcast journalism major, I have ambitions to work for ESPN one day. I talked to Erin Andrews, an ESPN reporter, about career moves and tips during one halftime.

"I tried to talk to one of the sideline reporters but she completely blew me off," Andrews said to me. "I knew if I ever got this position, I would never do that to anyone who asked me for help. I made that promise to myself."

Standing in my spot in the eRruption Zone, I've had intellectual conversations with Ashley Judd on the differences between zone defenses and man-to-man. Also, I won't forget meeting and congratulating former UK great Tayshaun Prince after seeing his shiny new Detroit Pistons' NBA Championship ring.

I've even been banned from the jumbo-tron in Rupp Arena. Vince Spoelker, the camera-

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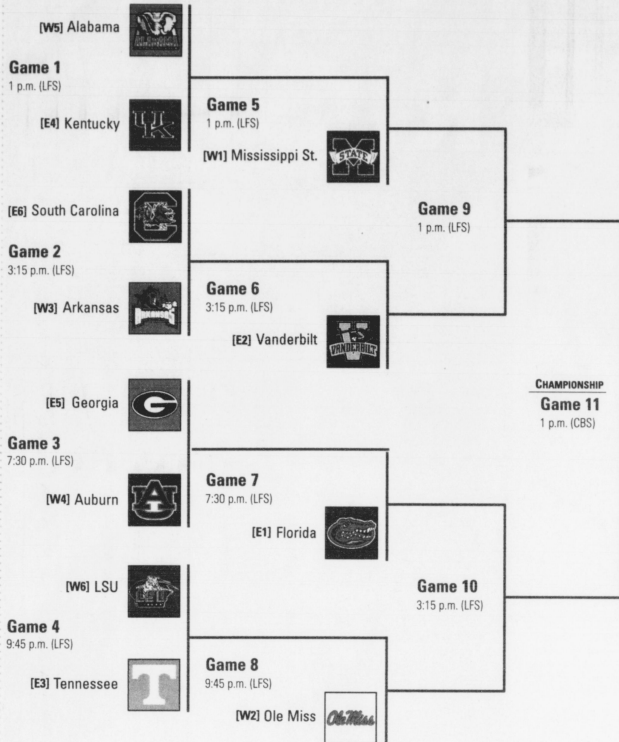
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2007 SEC TOURNAMENT



SEC SEASON IN REVIEW

Eastern Division

Florida (E1)

Record: 26-5 (13-3 SEC)
Key wins: Ohio State, sweep of UK
Key losses: Kansas, at Florida State, at LSU

Everyone came back for a chance to repeat as national champs in 2007, and they spent much of the regular season rolling through the SEC. Their 17-game winning streak was snapped by losses in three of their last five, but the Gators were perfect in Gainesville. Their SEC Tourney performance will determine if they can grab a No. 1 seed on Selection Sunday.

Vanderbilt (E2)

Record: 20-10 (10-6 SEC)
Key wins: Florida, sweep of UK
Key losses: Furman, Appalachian State

The Commodores were a surprise to grab the No. 2 seed and a bye in Atlanta thanks to the leadership of senior swingman Derrick Byars. A late run through the league erased some early ugly non-conference losses, but hiccups against Mississippi State and Arkansas show Vandy's vulnerability.

Tennessee (E3)

Record: 22-9 (10-6 SEC)
Key wins: Memphis, Texas
Key losses: Butler, North Carolina, at Ohio State

With Chris Lofton in the lineup, Tennessee completed with the best in the nation. While he was out of it, the Vols struggled to score and lost ground in the division. Having won seven of eight — including a senior-day win over Florida — the Vols

could face a third game against the Gators in the semifinals.

Kentucky (E4)

Record: 20-10 (9-7 SEC)
Key wins: Indiana, at Louisville
Key losses: at North Carolina, UCLA, Memphis

After last season's frustrations, the Cats looked to rebound in 06-07 but early losses in Maui established the script for the sequel. The Cats handled the teams they were supposed to, yet they suffered losses in big games against Florida and Vandy.

Georgia (E5)

Record: 17-12 (8-8 SEC)
Key wins: Gonzaga, Vanderbilt
Key losses: Western Kentucky, Wisconsin

Although the Bulldogs put themselves in position to climb out of their usual spot in the East's basement, they still struggled to finish off quality opponents. A strong showing in Atlanta could get UGA in the NCAA Tourney, yet that is still a long shot.

South Carolina (E6)

Record: 14-15 (4-12 SEC)
Key wins: at Southern California, Kansas
Key losses: at California-Irvine, Kansas

Despite their last-place standing, the Gamecocks never quit on coach Dave Odom or senior leader Tre Kelley. Still, a not-quite-healthy Kelley was not enough to pull off any upsets in league play. Last year, the Gamecocks made a run all the way to SEC Tourney finals and almost stole a NCAA bid, but it looks as if they will be headed back to the NIT to try for a three-peat.

Western Division

Mississippi State (W1)

Record: 17-12 (8-8 SEC)
Key wins: Vanderbilt
Key losses: Wintrop, at Georgia Mason, South Carolina

A surprise co-champion of the West, the Bulldogs still have dim hopes of earning an at-large bid to the NCAA Tourney. They can blame a weak non-conference schedule and a lack of wins away from the Hump for their outsider status.

Mississippi (W2)

Record: 19-11 (8-8 SEC)
Key wins: Tennessee
Key losses: at Connecticut, at Memphis, at Saint Louis

First-year coach Andy Kennedy inspired the Rebels to earn a share of the West title, but their surprise season will end unless they can pull some upsets in Atlanta. Thanks to the tiebreaker, the Rebels are the No. 2 seed and are rewarded with potential matchups with Florida and Tennessee.

Arkansas (W3)

Record: 18-12 (7-9 SEC)
Key wins: at Southern Illinois, West Virginia, at Vanderbilt
Key losses: Texas Tech, at Texas, at Missouri

Last season, the Hogs made the NCAA Tourney for the first time in five years and looked to make some noise this season. After blowing out then-No. 6 Alabama in January, the Hogs were doing that, but three straight losses diffused their momentum. A late blowout of Vandy in Nashville may spark an SEC Tourney run that begins against South Carolina.

Auburn (W4)

Record: 17-14 (7-9 SEC)
Key wins: Tennessee, sweep of Alabama
Key losses: at Wisconsin, Pittsburgh, at Texas A&M

In a wild West, Auburn was in the race for first place until the season's final weekend but had to settle for the No. 4 seed. Led by sophomores Kovortney Barber and Josh Dollard, the Tigers swept rival Alabama for the first time since 1999.

Alabama (W5)

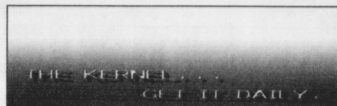
Record: 20-10 (7-9 SEC)
Key wins: at N.C. State, Oklahoma, UK
Key losses: at Notre Dame, at Florida, at Tennessee

A preseason favorite and a member of the Top 25 for much of the year, Alabama faded down the stretch. Injuries and off-court tragedies helped contribute to a disappointing fifth-place finish in the West, and so the Tide won't be dancing unless it advances in the SEC Tourney. The uncertain status of star guard Ronald Steele doesn't make that seem likely.

Louisiana State (W6)

Record: 16-14 (5-11 SEC)
Key wins: Texas A&M, Florida
Key losses: Wichita State, at Texas, plus 11 league losses

Following a Final Four run last year, the Tigers brought back Glen "Big Baby" Davis and much of his supporting cast but struggled in conference play. A late win over Florida won't be enough to erase dropping 11 of their last 13 games. Davis is healthy again and should start in Atlanta when the Tigers face Tennessee in the opening round.



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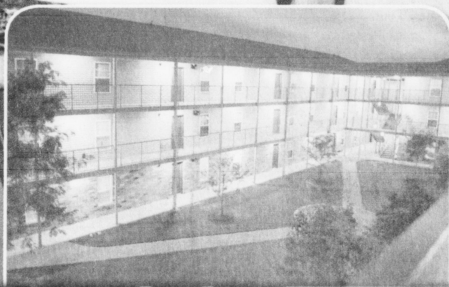
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W A L K T O C L A S S

KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 36 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

UK stands by decision to delay trustees' agenda

By Megan Boehnke
and Juliann Vachon
news@kykernel.com

UK has no plans to change its recent decision to post full Board of Trustees agendas the day of its monthly meetings.

The board did not discuss the decision at its meeting today.

The university decided this week to begin posting full agendas four hours before meetings instead of giving the public four days, as it traditionally has.

Top university officials implemented

the change because trustees were concerned that news stories previewing the meetings made it appear decisions had already been made before the board voted on them, UK spokesman Jay Blanton said last night.

"When the board has to vote on something, we want to be more cognizant of their ability to do that," UK President Lee Todd said.

Board members were particularly upset over articles that ran before the January meeting. The articles quoted university officials as saying they anticipated the board

would OK the hospital's application for state approval to expand construction plans.

"All the board is saying to university officials is let us at least chat about things before we read front-page articles as we did two months ago," said board chairman James Hardyman.

Although trustees did not discuss the issue during today's meeting, Todd and Blanton both said they had conversations with trustees about these concerns prior to the meeting.

"It underscores the point that it be-

comes the board member's choice about what they feel comfortable talking about before the meeting," Blanton said.

"We were hoping that it would be less likely there would be a long story about an issue before it has been voted on," he added.

Todd said the university has been more open since he's been in office, citing access to the hospital and athletics operations.

"I think we're pretty transparent," Todd said. "This is not an intent to reduce (the

See **Agendas** on page B4

INSIDE

Board of Trustees confirms Nick Clooney as Commencement Speaker

PAGE B4

Author:
black, Latino
tension
prevalentBy Jill Laster
jlaster@kykernel.com

From slavery to the civil rights era to today, the sometimes contentious relationship between whites and blacks has been well-documented.

But there's another conflict among minorities that is just as prevalent, author Nicolas Vaca said.

Tension between Latinos and blacks has existed for a number of years and the conflict takes place in many aspects of American life, including politics, jobs and high schools, Vaca said.

"The subtitle of my book is 'The Unspoken Conflict Between Latinos and Blacks and What it Means for America,'" he said. "I can tell you since I wrote this book, it hasn't been so unspoken."

Vaca spoke on his book, "The Presumed Alliance: The Unspoken Conflict Between Latinos and Blacks and What it Means for America," last night at the Student Center as part of UK's annual Culture Diversity Festival.

Vaca gave examples of conflicts between youths to demonstrate the larger tension.

"It's not a recent phenomenon," he said about the fighting between Latino and black high school students. "It's been going on for a while."

There are many sources for problems between the two groups, Vaca said. The rise of the Latino population in the United States, competition for jobs and established prejudices were all issues that contribute to the tension, Vaca said.

Another major divider between the two races is language, Vaca said.

"Language is a huge barrier between Latinos and African-Americans," he said. "It's going to be even more of a significant issue as the population grows."

However, cities and states with smaller Latino populations, like Lexington and Kentucky, can deal with language barriers before it becomes a significant problem like it is in his home state of California, Vaca said.

"The thing about coming to a place like Kentucky ... is that you'll have an opportunity to confront this issue in a way we never can in California," Vaca said.

Alberto Garcia, one of the students attending the lecture, said he

See **Diversity** on page B4

UNBREAKABLE WILL



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

UK shortstop Brooke Marnitz broke her ankle during her sophomore season against Louisville, but has overcome the injury to lead the Cats to an 11-4 record. UK will take on Louisville today at 5:30 at the UK Softball Complex.

UK softball player
overcomes hard timesBy J.D. Williams
jwilliams@kykernel.com

In the middle of the outfield grass in Louisville, Brooke Marnitz considered quitting softball once and for all. Months before, the shortstop had recovered from a broken wrist, but now she lay in agony after her foot twisted as she tried to chase down a pop fly.

"It was the most intense pain I've ever felt in my life," the shortstop said of the broken ankle she suffered against the Cardinals in April 2005.

Her foot, instead of pointing straight forward, was turned to the right at a 45-degree angle.

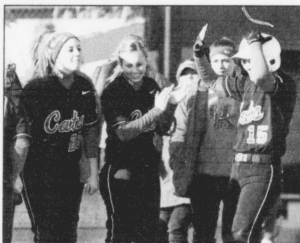
"The ankle injury really bothered me," said Chris Marnitz, her father. "It was hard seeing her like that."

Marnitz would return to the field, however, and now as a senior, she has helped lead the Cats to an 11-4 start. Tonight, the Cats host Louisville at 5:30 p.m., and the pain of that meeting two years ago has not disappeared completely.

"It's awful every single day I wake up," she said. But, she persisted through the practices and games with the help of her teammates, she said.

"As hard as we work, I've hit points where I ask, 'Why am I doing this to my body?'" Marnitz said. "But it's my teammates and the memories we've created that keeps me going."

That determination carried her through a tough rehabilitation that was full of physical and mental stress. It has paid off, as she has elevated her game to become one of the top performers in the country.



BLUETT HESS | STAFF

Brooke Marnitz celebrates with teammates after hitting a home run in UK's 12-5 victory over IU/PUI in Lexington on Sunday.

While playing against Southern Mississippi on Feb. 10, she set the NCAA record for hits in consecutive at-bats by recording her 12th straight hit. Marnitz said she was as shocked as the members of the crowd in Waco, Texas, were when she broke the record.

"I did not know I was close to breaking a record, the announcer said it," Marnitz said. "I was surprised."

Now, still battling the injuries of her past, she is looking forward to the season ahead and staying healthy, something that her trainer said she's doing a good job at thus far in the season.

"If there's a problem she'll come and see me," said

See **Softball** on page B4

SG to vote on
condemning
board agenda
changeBy Blair Thomas
bthomas@kykernel.com

Student Government will introduce a resolution at its meeting tonight denouncing the new Board of Trustees policy that prevents full meeting agendas from being posted until 9 a.m. the day of the meetings.

The board enacted the policy Monday in response to trustees' concerns that media preview stories of the meetings make it seem as if decisions had been made prior to board meetings.

"Our legislation is in support of a reversal of the board agenda policy," said College of Communications Sen. Tegan Alexander. "Though the board hasn't violated any laws, they are infringing upon the public's right to be informed, especially when it comes to a governing body that affects nearly 40,000 students and the community."

Senate President Brent Burchett will co-sponsor the bill with Alexander.

"The decision is disrespectful to students and the entire UK community," Burchett said in an e-mail. "I understand their rationale to control negative press, but President (Lee) Todd and a few members of the board are blatantly violating the spirit of the Public Meetings Act. This is just another example of the president trying to run a public university as a corporation."

SG President Jonah Brown said he "sees both sides" of the decision and wants Student Government to help get the information discussed at Board of Trustees meetings to the students.

"As a board member I get a copy of the agenda in advance, and through Student Government, we could get the issues to the students," Brown said in a Kermel article yesterday. "Students shouldn't have to rely only on the Kermel or the (Lexington) Herald-Leader to know what is going on."

SG will also discuss committee structure for the last time tonight after more than a month of deliberation.

The Senate will have a second vote to amend the constitution to allow the number of committees to be determined by the Senate. If that passes, senators will then vote

See **SG** on page B4

UK study follows up on drug to aid smoking withdrawal

By Erica Mitchell
news@kykernel.com

Galen Winthrow has a love-hate relationship with smoking.

"Smoking is a harsh mistress," said the philosophy and political science sophomore. "One second she is the cure-all drug but when she leaves your system, the anxiety, the stress, the shakes start."

Winthrow would like to quit but more factors than nicotine play a role.

"I'd love to quit, but withdrawal can be excruciating," Winthrow said. "If you have papers, tests, a job or anything else you need to do, it can drive you insane."

But a new pill may help ease the side effects of giving up cigarettes.

UK is looking for participants for a follow-up study on modafinil, a drug that may help alleviate nicotine cravings, concentration problems, hunger and weight gain — all symptoms that make giving up nicotine difficult for smokers, said Dr. Catherine Martin.

Martin, the principle investigator in the study being conducted by the Psychiatry Research Center, said the drug was originally used to treat excessive sleepiness associated with narcolepsy, obstructive sleep apnea-hypopnea syndrome and shift work sleep disorder.

"Modafinil is a promising medication for helping with addiction," Martin said. "It may help with nicotine withdrawal symptoms and it may help with some predisposing symptoms that contribute to people starting and continuing to smoke."

Participants in the trial will be randomly assigned to receive either modafinil or a placebo. Investigators will monitor participants for changes in behavior for 13 days out of a 20-week period.

The study is a double-blind placebo controlled trial, where neither the participants nor the investigators know who receives the actual drug, which is designed to reduce bias and self-deception.

The Department of Psychiatry has already tested modafinil on smokers in two human laboratory studies. Afterward, researchers concluded that modafinil and nicotine are safe to use together. The studies also showed smokers had decreased cravings, hunger and improved concentration on days when they took modafinil, Martin said.

The new study is a larger clinical follow up to the previous one.

Smoking increases the risk of lung cancer, heart disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (emphysema) among other things. About 28.7 percent of adults in Kentucky smoke and more than 8,000 people in Kentucky die of tobacco related illnesses each year, according to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

But the health benefits of quitting don't make it any easier for many.

"Stopping smoking is one of the most difficult challenges smokers face," Martin said. "We think modafinil may help smokers stop smoking."

Daily smokers between the ages of 18 and 45, in good health and interested in participating in the study can call (859) 257-9341 or (859) 230-3220 for more information.

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Horoscopes

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

Aries (March 21 April 19) - Today is a 6 - It does look like somebody else can get farther more quickly than you can, for a while. Be a team player and provide support. You'll get your glory later.

Taurus (April 20 May 20) - Today is a 7 - Develop a routine that you can teach to someone else. You don't have to do everything to insure that it all gets done.

Gemini (May 21 June 21) - Today is a 7 - By now you should be able to tell which direction you should be going. You've figured out where the treasure is buried. Next, you get to start digging.

Cancer (June 22 July 22) - Today is a 7 - Try out an idea you've been thinking about to simplify paperwork. The odds are good it'll save time, which you can spend in more pleasurable pursuits.

Leo (July 23 Aug. 22) - Today is a 6 - The main way you increase your fortunes now is by keeping them safely hidden. Just think how much you'll save when you pay cash for your next major purchase.

Virgo (Aug. 23 Sept. 22) - Today is an 8 - Your objective should be home and family. You're doing it all for them. Let this be known. The support you receive gives you the energy to carry on.

Libra (Sept. 23 Oct. 22) - Today is a 7 - Keep asking questions, and odds are good you will discover the truth. It's too late to worry about whether or not you want to know what it is.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 Nov. 21) - Today is an 8 - Don't even try to explain what you're doing. The people who

are in agreement will trust you already - the others already don't.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 Dec. 21) - Today is a 6 - Your friends think the world of you, and with good reason. You make them think and you make them laugh. You are fulfilling your mission.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 Jan. 19) - Today is an 8 - An amazing thing will happen as you finish a tedious task. You will discover a treasure you didn't know was in there.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 Feb. 18) - Today is an 8 - Your recent adventures increase your self-confidence. You also realize you've assumed new responsibilities. Get used to it. That's the burden of being a leader.

Pisces (Feb. 19 March 20) - Today is an 8 - You'll be delighted to discover you have some left over. Don't spend it on a little treat now, save it up for a big one later.

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LOVE LIVES

THE DISH

Tom & Gisele's European Love Tour!

After showing new beau Tom Brady, 29, around Paris, Gisele Bündchen has a few pointers for other sightseers.

"Paris is a great city," the supermodel, 26, tells us. "I was there working for a couple of days. Everyone should try the hot chocolate L'Africain at cafe Angelina!"

While there, Bündchen was spotted calming Brady's nerves with supportive words just before his ex Bridget Moynihan - with whom he split in November - told the world on February 18 that she is pregnant with his baby. It was his turn four days later to support the model, watching her strut her stuff when she made her return to the runway with Dolce & Gabbana's show at Milan, Italy's fashion week. He was good to have there, since she confided to US preshow, "I'm a bit nervous, because the shoes are really high and the runway is really long!"

Simon & Terri -- Happily Unwed

First comes love, then comes marriage, right? Not for Simon Cowell and his longtime girlfriend, Extra's Terri Seymour. "When I respect somebody, I say I'm not going to marry you, out of respect," the American Idol judge, 47, recently told Jay Leno on The Tonight Show. "I think it's the decent thing to do. A lot of showbiz marriages don't work out." But Seymour has hung in for four years and counting. "It's my longest relationship, by a mile," Cowell confessed to February's Playboy. What first attracted him to the television correspondent? "There's something I call the daytime test," explained the

British bachelor. "If you take a girl out at night, it's a breeze. You can drink, it's dark. The daytime is a whole new area. She passed the daytime test." Ok, you sweet talker!

Kelly & Mark's Life of Laughter

"He makes me laugh more than anyone," Kelly Ripa has said of her hubby, Mark Conuselo, 36. They have been married for more than 10 years (and have three kids: daughter Lola, 5, and sons Joaquin, 4, and Michael, 9), but the TV host, 36, can still easily recall falling for him the minute they met on the set of All My Children. "I fell in love with him right away," she admits. What hooked her? "He was... smart, gorgeous, witty and charming."

Christy's Ireland Rendezvous

"I could dictate my own schedule, stay in New York and be home in time for dinner," Edward Burns, 39, has said of calling the shots as writer, director and star of his comedy The Groomsman. But he didn't mind leaving the Big Apple for Ireland to screen the film at the Jameson Dublin International Film Festival on February 21 with his wife of three years, model Christy Turlington, 38, by his side. When did he know he'd be her groom? "A month after I met her," he has said.

Jack Black His Son Is Such a Cutie!

"I haven't read any books on how to be a good father, but I'll just try to be honest with him," Jack Black says about raising his son, Samuel, 9 months, with his cellist wife, Tanya Haden, 35. "It's going to be scary when my son's a teenager. I'm going to be in trouble!" Still, the couple -

who celebrate their first anniversary March 14 - are doing well so far. "The baby's fantastic," gushes the actor, 37, next up in the fall comedy Margot at the Wedding with Nicole Kidman.

But with such a busy career (he's voicing the 2008 cartoon Kung Fu Panda and touring with his band, Tenacious D), how does the family man find time for fun? "I don't play video games any more," Black admits. "I do still find time to squeeze in a little Internet Scrabble - I can still hear the baby from the other room. If he cries, I can come running."

Eric & Rebecca -- A Model Couple

"She needs to call me McSteaney three times a week for things to run smoothly," Grey's Anatomy hunk Eric Dane, 34, recently joked about his wife of more than two years, Rebecca Gayheart, 35. But they both got plenty of attention at the GIM Ten celebrity- and car-themed fashion show in Hollywood February 20. "Celebs walking the runway leaned over to say hi to them," a witness says of the couple. "They looked very happy to be out together and were glued to each other all night."

Christina's Man Is Her Biggest Fan

As so many Hollywood romances crash and burn, what's Adam Goldberg's secret to staying with Christina Ricci, 27? "Just don't leave the house!" the Zodiac costar, 36, jokes to us. "We like to watch movies at home." And what's his take on her turn in Black Snake Moan? "I think it's by far her best work," he says. "You completely forget that it's her."

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Bush sees 'encouraging signs' in Iraq

By Michael Abramowitz and Jonathan Weisman
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — President Bush said Tuesday that there are "encouraging signs" that his new strategy in Iraq is working and bluntly challenged a Democratic Congress to provide funding for the war with no restrictions on commanders.

The president's appraisal, his first detailed assessment of the war since unveiling his new plan for Iraq on Jan. 10, was immediately attacked by congressional Democrats as a new attempt to raise false hopes about a deteriorating situation in Iraq. Advisers said Bush's comments were based on briefings from commanders on the ground and were designed to counter the argument from many Democrats on Capitol Hill that his Iraq strategy is destined to fail.

Bush said the Iraqi government has completed the deployment of three additional Iraqi army brigades to Baghdad and has lifted restrictions on U.S. forces going into certain neighborhoods in the capital. He said the government of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki has also started delivering on promises to meet political benchmarks, such as a new law to distribute oil revenues throughout the region.

"It is too early to judge the success of this operation. ... This strategy is going to take time," Bush told hundreds of veterans gathered at the American Legion conference in Washington. "Yet even at this early hour, there are some encouraging signs."

Bush's comments seemed calculated to exploit divisions among Democrats who were swept into power by opposition to the war but have not agreed how to oppose it effectively. Congressional leaders are struggling to reconcile lawmakers who want to cut off funding and quickly end U.S. involvement in Iraq with others wary of interfering with the war.

Appearing before a friendly audience, the president said that some lawmakers think the mission in Iraq can succeed without the additional 21,500 troops he has or-

dered to the theater. Other lawmakers, Bush added, "seem to believe that we can have it all: that we can fight al-Qaida, pursue national reconciliation, initiate aggressive diplomacy and deter Iran's ambitions in Iraq — all while withdrawing from Baghdad and reducing our troop levels. That sounds good in theory, but doing so at this moment would undermine everything our troops have worked for."

Congressional Democrats gave little credence to Bush's assessment of the situation in Iraq or of their legislative plans. Rep. Patrick Murphy, D-Pa., whose combat tour in Iraq propelled him into politics, was in Baghdad last week and said Tuesday that he saw little change. Iraqis "are still sitting on the sidelines," he said, watching idly as their fellow countrymen thwart progress toward reconciliation and tear down the electrical grid, while they wait for U.S. troops and money to intervene.

"At some point, you have raise the BS flag," the gruff former Army paratrooper said. "Every single Iraqi home has an AK-47 with 50 rounds of ammunition. It's the will of the people that's the problem."

Rep. Nancy Boyda, D-Kan., who returned from Iraq Monday night, said U.S. commanders were cautiously optimistic as they described efforts to protect marketplaces and allow life in Baghdad to regain a semblance of normalcy. The Baghdad morgue's nightly body count had dropped to 10 from 100, but none of the officers, including Gen. David Petraeus, were ready to draw conclusions, she said.

"They were really downplaying expectations," Boyda said, and for good reason. A recent bombing in a Baghdad book market filled the morgue again and set back the commanders' efforts to allow residents some measure of security.

The president had offered relatively little public assessment of the situation on the ground in Iraq since his Jan. 10 speech outlining a new strategy including the additional troops and a greater emphasis on Iraqi forces taking the lead in securing Baghdad.

The White House has been clearly cognizant of the damage done to its credibility by its repeated promises of improvements being undone by rising sectarian violence in Iraq. Indeed, the president's remarks came on a day when at least 118 Shiite pilgrims were killed in bombings and shootings across central Iraq — attacks immediately claimed by Sunni insurgents.

White House aides have said it will not be until the summer that a full assessment of the new strategy is possible. But in recent days, senior officials have been sounding a more guardedly optimistic tone in private settings, and Bush went public with it Tuesday — though even some in his own party cringed at even the modest horn-tooting.

"We don't have the credibility to make that observation," said prominent GOP lobbyist Ed Rogers. "For the president to make that observation instantly makes people want to challenge that and wave the bloody shirt." Some experts who follow Iraq closely said some of Bush's claims will surely be challenged. For example, Bush spoke of how the Iraqi government had recently budgeted \$10 billion for economic reconstruction and capital investment as a positive sign. But budgeting that money has not been the problem — it has been the ability of the Iraqi government to actually spend it, according to many experts who follow this issue.

"I am really cautious on this," said one senior U.S. official involved with Iraq policy, referring to signs of improved governance by the al-Maliki government. "This is something to keep an eye on as an emerging trend — I don't think it's more than that."

Retired Gen. Barry McCaffrey, who has traveled frequently to Iraq, said he is encouraged by the presence of the new American commander, Gen. David Petraeus, and ambassador Ryan Crocker. "My head tells me we are in a very dangerous situation — and in a general sense it is moving in the wrong direction," he said. "My heart tells me that Petraeus and Crocker may be able to talk 100 key Shia and Sunni leaders from moving back from the precipice."

6.3-magnitude quake kills at least 70

By Paul Watson and Dinda Jouhana
LOS ANGELES TIMES

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Thousands of terrified Indonesians were searching for shelter Tuesday after an earthquake killed at least 70 people and damaged or destroyed hundreds of buildings on Sumatra island.

The 6.3-magnitude quake was centered 30 miles northeast of Padang, in West Sumatra, and struck Tuesday at 10:49 a.m. local time, the U.S. Geological Survey said. Hundreds were injured, most by falling rubble.

Many survivors escaped more serious injury because they fled buildings when the tremors struck and were outside two hours later when a powerful aftershock toppled scores of buildings, said Gusmal, a district official in Solok, the hardest-hit area. Like many Indonesians, he uses only one name.

"The first one was not that bad, but it made me tremble," shop owner Alam Nasrah Ikhlis said by telephone from the seaside city of Padang. "I heard this thunder-like sound and the ground was shaking. I ran out of my shop. I saw everybody was panicked. They filled the street. It was so crowded. People were screaming and yelling, trying to go to a safer place."

The tremors left large cracks in shopping malls, government buildings and other structures, he added. Fearing a tsunami, like the Indian Ocean disaster that killed more than 229,000 people in several countries in December 2004, many survivors ran for higher ground.

Nasril, a civil servant in Solok district, was riding his motorcycle to the office when the rogan began to shake so violently he fell off. As people screamed around him, he saw a large wave cross nearby Lake Singkarak.

"I thought it was a tsunami," he said. "But as the quake diminished, the wave went down. People were running toward the hills." Some of his neighbors' homes collapsed and dozens of houses near the lake were badly damaged, added Nasril, who planned to sleep outside with his extended family Tuesday night.

"I heard rumors spreading that there will be even stronger aftershocks later, so people are still alert," Ikhlis said.

In Solok, dozens of injured were treated on a hospital's front yard, where some victims lay on a plastic mat laid on the grass. There are enough doctors, with sufficient medicine, to treat quake victims in Solok, but the town might need more ambulances to move the injured, Mayor Syamsu Rahim told an Indonesian television network.

"We are still counting numbers of homeless," said Saryadi, a provincial emergency worker. "Hundreds of buildings are in various states of damage. For sure, most people are still waiting outside their houses."

Rescue teams continued to search for survivors Tuesday night, and the provincial government was rushing more tents and medicines to the quake zone, he said.

University student Mely Oktia Darni was at an Internet cafe 10 minutes from home when the quake hit.

"I thought it was just a light quake, but when it grew stronger, I panicked," she said. "The lights went out. And I saw the electricity pole was falling. Then I paid my bills and I ran out."

She tried to run to her house, where her mother was sick, but so many frightened people were in the street that it was too hard to get through the crowd.

"The second quake was stronger and almost all of my stuff at home fell down," Darni said. "Many items are broken — glasses, vases, furniture."

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Continued from page B1

public's) access to board members." Blanton also said the press can request a rough copy of the agenda the day before the meeting and direct any questions to UK officials and trustees.

Which topics to discuss with reporters "becomes the decision of the board member," he said.

UK journalism group speaks out against change

UK's chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists sent a letter to Todd and Hardyman asking them to "reverse or amend" the new agenda practice.

SJF believes the decision to delay the release of the agendas is "in violation of the democratic principle of the public's right to information," the letter said.

"The public would be unable to make informed decisions due to the untimely release of detailed information concerning important board issues."

The letter also said that reversing the decision would establish more trust between the public and the board.

"This can only be an opportunity to create a stronger bond between the public and UK," it said.

Nick Clooney to give commencement speech

By Julian Vachon
jvachon@kykernel.com

Nick Clooney — father of movie star George Clooney and brother of late singer Rosemary Clooney — will speak at the UK commencement ceremony in Rupp Arena in May.

The Board of Trustees voted yesterday to give Clooney, a retired Cincinnati television news anchor and a member of the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame, an honorary doctorate at the ceremony.

Clooney spoke on campus in September about his experiences traveling to Darfur with his son. Clooney described a genocide in the region and his role in publicizing the situation in the United States.

John Herbst, chairman of the commencement committee, said Clooney's work with the conflict in Darfur was one of the main reasons he was chosen as the speaker.

more than \$3 million in gifts and pledges — one-third of which is from Toyota.

Toyota Motor Engineering and Manufacturing North America of Erlanger gave the university \$1 million for the creation of a new advanced manufacturing research and development institute.

The board also approved naming optometry and visual science professor Jayakrishna Ambati, statistics professor Dick Kryscio, anthropology professor Peter Little and Plan pathology professor Peter Nagy as university research professors for 2007-08.

The university research professorship awards \$35,000 to professors demonstrating outstanding achievement in research, enabling them to work full time on research or to fund research activities while still teaching.

Appointees will carry out their proposed plans for research next year.

The College of Agriculture's new equine science bachelor's program will create additional campus space at the Maine Chance Farm off Newtown Pike.

Trustees approved the creation of a new \$1.1 million, 12-stall equine isolation facility for horses involved in experimental studies.

The isolation facility will eventually expand to house 24 stalls, feeding facilities, animal handling, and research and support areas.

Trustees also officially approved naming the new \$30 million practice facility located behind Memorial Coliseum the "Joe Craft Center."

DIVERSITY

Continued from page B1

thought Vaca raised interesting points about issues relevant to Lexington.

"What he talked about is real," said Garcia, a political science senior. "It's in our face."

There needs to be a program on campus for Latino students, Garcia said.

"Latinos haven't seen the same kind of support on campus," Garcia said.

Veleasha Smith, director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center and organizer of the event, said Vaca's book and presentation made her reevaluate her take on race relations.

"I really appreciated what he had to say," Smith said. "It made me look at things I hadn't noticed before."

Marketing freshman Whitney Kelly also said the talk was interesting and encouraged her to try to find Vaca's book.

"If I can get my hands on it, I'll definitely read it," Kelly said.

SOFTBALL

Continued from page B1

Amanda Makii, the team's trainer. "She does not come too often."

One thing Marnitz is doing often is swinging the wood. Her .458 average ranks third on the team for players that have started all 15 games.

Marnitz is also ranked in the top 10 in five Southeastern Conference categories: batting average, home runs, runs scored, slugging percentage, total bases and RBI.

Marnitz has never been named to an All-SEC team, nor has she played in an NCAA Tournament game. She hasn't even experienced a winning season. But with the quick start for both her and the team, she

**UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
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REPORT**

UK Police reports from Feb. 27 to March 5.

- Feb. 27. Arrest for Alcohol intoxication at the corner of Euclid Avenue and Rose Street at 12:07 a.m.
- Feb. 27. Theft of purse reported at UK Hospital at 5:42 a.m.
- Feb. 27. Arrest of suspicious person on Graham Avenue behind Furkhouser Building at 5:55 a.m.
- Feb. 27. Theft reported at Anderson Hall Tower at 7:53 a.m.
- Feb. 27. Arrest for Alcohol intoxication at UK Hospital at 8:33 a.m.
- Feb. 27. Theft of cash from a purse during a concert at Singletary Center reported at 1:31 p.m.
- Feb. 27. Theft of purse from the Classroom Building at 3:03 p.m.
- Feb. 27. Physical assault of patient reported at UK Hospital at 3:56 p.m.
- Feb. 27. Theft reported at the Nursing Learning Center at 5:44 p.m.
- Feb. 27. Theft reported at UK Hospital at 10:12 p.m.
- Feb. 28. Theft reported at the Allied Health Building at 9:38 a.m.
- Feb. 28. Theft reported at the Student Center at 1:36 p.m.
- Feb. 28. Theft reported at the UK Police Department at 2 p.m.
- Feb. 28. Theft reported at the Stone Research Building at 3:14 p.m.
- Feb. 28. Theft of textbook from Krwin Tower reported at 5:32 p.m.
- March 1. Fraud of services reported at Kentucky Clinic at 2:03 p.m.
- March 1. Theft reported at the Student Center at 2:47 p.m.
- March 1. Alcohol intoxication reported at UK Hospital at 5:28 p.m.
- March 1. Alcohol intoxication reported at 6:24 p.m.
- March 2. Arrest for Alcohol intoxication at the corner of S. Upper St. and Bolivar Street at 1:31 a.m.
- March 2. Alcohol intoxication reported at UK Hospital at 2:50 a.m.
- March 2. Theft reported to UK Police headquarters at 3:05 p.m.
- March 2. Theft of a Lincoln town car reported at Kentucky Clinic at 4:12 p.m.
- March 3. Arrest of suspicious person at Parking Garage No. 5 at 1:16 a.m.
- March 3. Theft of CD player from car reported at UK Hospital at 7:53 a.m.
- March 3. Possible burglary reported at the Pi Beta Phi House at 11:41 p.m.
- March 3. Theft of bike reported to UK Police headquarters at 5:32 p.m.
- March 4. Sexual assault reported at Cooperstown Apartments at 7:04 p.m.
- March 4. Alcohol intoxication reported at stadium lots at 7:16 p.m.
- March 4. Indecent exposure reported at W.T. Young Library at 11:30 p.m.
- March 5. Theft of diamond ring reported at UK Hospital at 12:13 p.m.
- March 5. Theft of diamond ring reported at UK Hospital at 12:18 p.m.
- March 5. Assault reported at UK Hospital at 1 p.m.

Compiled from reports at UK Police Department.
Compiled by staff writer Alice Haymond.
E-mail ahaymond@kykernel.com.

SG

Continued from page B1

on a committee structure put together by College of Engineering Sen. Josh Odoi and College of Law Sen. Tom Rauf.

"This is a compromise of Tom's plan and the original plan that I have been working on since last semester," Odoi said. "It is a good structure and will best serve the needs of the students and we expect the Senate to be behind it."

Senate organization could come up again if the Senate decides this structure doesn't work or if the next SG President wants to change the focuses of the committees.

SG will take a first vote to make another constitutional change tonight that would allow for an increase in the amount of money allotted for the Lyman T. Johnson Odyssey Scholarship funds.

"This will allow us more flexibility in the budget of this scholarship," said College of Social Work Sen. Michael Brewster at the Feb. 28 Operations and Evaluations committee meeting. "With this amendment the amount will never sink below \$1,500."

SG changed its budget at the beginning of last semester to allow more money to be spent on the scholarships it sponsors.

Also tonight, Sen. Jason Robinson will ask for approval for a Senate Special Project that would supply students with free DART cards, used to pay for copying and printing, during finals week.

**'Poetry on the Patio'
becomes weekly event**

By Bridget Thompson
news@kykernel.com

Singer-songwriter, Dan Zane, calls his listeners to "...imagine a 21st century America where families, friends and neighbors gather together at the end of each day in parks and town squares, and on street corners and porches to tell stories and jokes..." He says he can see and hear it now. And you can see and hear it too — tomorrow, at noon.

On the Student Center patio, the first ever Poetry on the Patio will host an open gathering of students and well-renowned poets to share their poetry and words.

Chuck Clenney, an English junior, said his goal is to show the diversity, the ideas and the talents of students and poets in Lexington.

Each week Poetry on the Patio will feature a professional poet for the first half hour and then three-minute time slots for students to share their own poetry, thoughts and ideas.

"We are integrating what's been done in civilizations for thousands of years, only more organized," Clen-

ney said.

Sponsored by the Cat's Den, this one-hour-a-week event promotes unity through diversity.

"If there is no community, how can there be unity among students?" Clenney said.

Clenney was inspired by the many talented poets he saw through previous events hosted by the Cat's Den and felt it should become a regular occurrence.

"I would like to see people walking by and stop and start talking," he said.

Clenney also feels this weekly event will contribute to the top 20 university status that UK is working toward. He feels it is important to have open minds and promote a progressive atmosphere on campus.

This Thursday's event will feature UK professor and renowned poet Nikky Finney. Jeff Worley, editor of Odyssey Magazine, published by UK, is reading the week after spring break.

"Come by and fill your bellies with snacks and wisdom," Clenney said.

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The following paid positions are available:

Editor in Chief and other positions dealing with editing, photography and design.

Editor in Chief submits a proposal and is chosen after interviewing with the UK Media Board. These applicants should have some previous publications experience.

Qualifications:
Students must be in good academic, financial and disciplinary standing with the University at the time of application and during the term as a staff member.

Applications may be picked up in Room 026 Journalism Building and must be returned by 3 p.m. on Thursday, March 8, 2007.

THE Kentucky Kernel

is accepting applications for the following positions:

Editor in Chief of the 2007-08 Kentucky Kernel

Requirements:

- Applicant must be enrolled full-time on the UK Lexington campus for the semester prior to and during the term as editor.
 - Applicant must be in good academic (minimum 2.0 GPA), disciplinary and financial standing with the University at the time of application and during the term as editor.
 - Applicant must have a minimum of one year's publications experience and be familiar with the operation of a daily newspaper.
 - Persons applying for the position who have not worked at the Kentucky Kernel must provide a recommendation from previous employer, adviser or both.
- Editor in Chief of the 2007 Summer Kentucky Kernel**
- Requirements:**
- Applicant must be enrolled full-time on the UK Lexington campus for the semester prior to and following the term as editor.
 - Applicant must have publications experience and be familiar with the operation of a newspaper.
 - Applicant must be in good academic (minimum 2.0 GPA), disciplinary and financial standing with the University at the time of application and during the term as editor.
 - Persons applying for the position who have not worked at the Kentucky Kernel must provide a recommendation from previous employer, adviser or both.

Applications may be picked up in Room 026 Journalism Building and must be returned by 3 p.m. on Thursday, March 8, 2007.

Bolivia's rural women remaking cities, lives

By Monte Reel
THE WASHINGTON POST

EL ALTO, Bolivia — The women attending Esperanza Mita's community meetings moved here from tiny mountain villages and worn-out mining towns, and now they are fashioning a modern metropolis out of whatever they have in hand.

Toilet paper serves as decorative bunting on the walls of their meeting hall. A rocky vacant lot, surrounded by several leafless trees, serves as their "central plaza." A nearby soccer goal, recently used by neighborhood vigilantes to hang a thief, is considered a local law enforcement tool.

For all the ways they have changed this city, though, the women have altered their own lives even more.

"We don't have educations, so we get together and talk about how we can teach ourselves skills," said Mita, 51. "A lot of the women just need to work out some of the fears that they have about living in a city, and they all do it, little by little."

For the first time in the world's history, more people next year will live in cities than in rural areas, according to U.N. population experts. Women are leading the urban push, leaving the countryside at higher rates than men, lured in large part by domestic service jobs. They tend to gravitate to places like this: a sprawling expanse in a developing nation struggling to provide basic infrastructure.

Because of people like Mita, this former hamlet is now larger than the neighboring city of La Paz. El Alto had a population of about 11,000 in 1950, exploded to about 400,000 people by the 1990s and could surpass the 1 million mark next year, according to city officials. The majority of houses lack indoor plumbing and sewer service. Collecting local taxes to pay for services is difficult because about 70 percent of the economy is off-the-books.

It was in those conditions that Mita started organizing women's meetings several years ago. About 30 of her neighbors get together to talk, many of them dressed in the same shawls and pleated skirts they wore in the indigenous communities where they were born. Newcomers are often shy; the lifestyle changes they are going through can be so overwhelming that they don't know where to start. Unlike some of the men, who had held jobs that exposed them to broader social systems, many of the women had rarely strayed from immediate family and neighbors before moving here.

"The women have to make a lot more changes than the men when they move to a city like this," acknowledged David Apaza, whose family is part of the migration wave to El Alto. "In the countryside, they've lived the same way for hundreds of years, but everything is different here."

The process of change can send women's personal relationships into dizzying spins, but it also can give them collective opportunities previously unknown. One of the most important things they have found in these unpaved streets, many said, is something unimaginable in the countryside: a voice.

El Alto stretches across a plateau more than 13,000 feet above sea level. In the evening, one's gaze is drawn to the distance — snow-covered peaks, the lights of La Paz flickering in a bowl-shaped valley



EVAN ABRAMSON / THE WASHINGTON POST
Celadonio Mita, left, makes dinner, one of the chores he has taken on now that his wife, Esperanza, spends three hours a day commuting to La Paz. "He cooks," his wife said. "He also washes clothes. We do things together because we both have to work so much."

below. The immediate surroundings are less inviting: an imprecise grid of dirt streets, block after block of low-slung adobe and brick houses, abandoned tires, stray dogs nosing through trash piles.

Mita's neighborhood is known as Villa Mercedes G, and she lives there with about 10,000 other people. She commutes each day in a series of minibuses to a housekeeping job in La Paz. The trip — an hour and a half each way — consumes nearly a third of her monthly salary of about \$50. One recent evening, she arrived at her simple two-bedroom brick home as the sun disappeared behind the mountains. In the electric light of the kitchen, her husband, Celadonio, stood before a stove spreading dough to make fritters for their dinner. His sun-browned hands were gloved in white flour. His left hand was missing a finger, the result of an accident when he worked in a copper mine.

"He cooks," Mita said, and behind the frame of her glasses her eyebrow arched playfully. "He also washes clothes. We do things together because we both have to work so much."

Times have changed since Mita became one of El Alto's urban pioneers, seeking opportunity after the mine where Celadonio worked closed in the mid-1980s. Her evolution — replicated thousands of times over by the multitudes who follow the same route — started as soon as she reached El Alto's point of entry and main commercial drag, La Ceja.

Then, as now, it was a sensory riot. Minibuses loaded beyond capacity nudge humpers while jockeying for space. Street vendors hawk tea, watches, T-shirts, chickens and just about everything else. At night, men and women spill out of dance halls, the dark mud underfoot sucking at their heels. Witnessing a spontaneous street fight is the norm, not the exception.

It's a heady gateway for newcomers from mines or subsistence farms who never carried a coin in their pocket. The transition

into a monetary society — which usually occurred over generations in most developed nations — happens immediately here. "When a woman moves here, she can't be a housewife and take care of her family like she used to — she has to work to survive," Mita said.

Her women's group meets about once a week. The variety of topics is wide: nutrition, cooking with the different types of foods available in the city, the challenges of raising children in an urban environment. Delinquency is a problem, they say. Some blame it on the hours they have to work away from home.

Although La Paz is Bolivia's seat of government, El Alto is its capital of political activism. Unrest among El Alto's residents — more than 80 percent of whom describe themselves as indigenous — has led to massive protests and strikes that forced the resignations of successive presidents in 2003 and 2005.

The migration of rural families to El Alto has sparked the unrest, said Mayor Fanor Nava Santisteban. Thousands come here from the countryside each year carrying little but high expectations.

"They come directly from rural areas, and when they get here, they have a lot of needs and demands," said Santisteban, who moved to the city 23 years ago from the mining community of Llaillagua. "They arrive, get together, form groups and make their demands known."

The women have been part of that, in many cases becoming far more active in civic life than they had been in the countryside. Over the past several years, the number of women helping to lead the neighborhood federations, which serve as entryways to civic activism, has increased to about 20 percent of the total.

It might not sound like much, but Mita and the other women have definitely noticed the change.

"It feels like we are starting to get some power," she said. "That's new."

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Ghanaian independence day recalled with pride

By Tiffany Harness
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — On a rainless evening 50 years ago, thousands of people packed the old polo ground in Accra, capital of the soon to be independent country of Ghana. Ernest Tetteh was in his final year of high school and recalled that the atmosphere turned electric as midnight neared.

"People were very expectant," he recalled, noting the long struggle for independence during British rule in the West African colony. "People from the hinterlands, everybody came to Accra to join in the celebration."

Tetteh stood with his family and classmates waiting for the arrival of Kwame Nkrumah, independence leader and champion of African unity. Tetteh remembered how Nkrumah energized Ghanaians with a slogan of "self-government now" and an appeal "that anybody who does not have a job, anybody who sleeps on somebody else's patio should come follow him."

Finally, Nkrumah swept through the crowd and climbed a wooden dais. One of several other leaders with him shouted "Attention! Attention!" Tetteh said, "and that is when Nkrumah declared that at long last, Ghana, your beloved country, is free forever."

On March 6, 1957, Ghana became the first country in sub-Saharan Africa to break from colonial control, inspiring independence movements across the continent. Ghanaians marked the anniversary Tuesday with celebrations in the country of about 22 million and in several U.S. cities, including Washington. Events continue this week and through the year under the theme of "cham-

poning African excellence."

The festivities have also brought on solemn discussions about Ghana's difficult journey since 1957 and Nkrumah's unfulfilled dreams.

Tetteh, now 69 and a resident of Silver Spring, Md., remembered that during the colonial era, "the strings of the administration were totally in the hands of the British government. They controlled finances, social welfare, defenses — every aspect of government." The system left Ghanaians with "no pride whatsoever," said Tetteh, who served as counselor of information at the Ghanaian Embassy here in the 1970s before retiring and settling in the United States.

Many people thought life would instantly become easier after the British left, he said. "But a lot of people expected that it was going to be really hard work. There was expectation that we needed to harness every energy to build the country."

Ghanaians, especially older people, consider March 6, 1957, as the beginning of an era of "euphoric hope," said Kwame Karikari, 60, who heads a nonprofit media foundation for West Africa. He was interviewed by telephone from Accra.

"I was going to school in my village. I remember clearly the cooking, the new clothes, the marches" that were part of that first celebration, Karikari said. "I also remember a number of tense political atmospheres... These were exciting moments."

Karikari said Ghana's successes in recent years include political stability and greater protection of individual rights. But poverty remains "serious, widespread, deep and frightening," he said, and young Ghanaians are streaming out of the country in

search of jobs.

Ghana's ambassador, Kwame Bauwahu-Edusei, said Ghanaian immigrants are commemorating the anniversary with a focus on "economic emancipation" and programs to encourage development through investment.

"We had a big euphoria 50 years ago with political independence," he said. "But what has really disappointed because we've come to realize that political independence that is not complemented by economic empowerment doesn't really trickle down into your pockets and your lifestyle."

Ghana's economic slide began during the Nkrumah years, as he tried to eliminate the last vestiges of colonial rule with ultimately disastrous economic policies, Tetteh said. At the same time, his dedication to African unity and support of independence movements led him to some questionable decisions on domestic matters.

"We were stretching our hands everywhere, trying to train freedom fighters from other African countries, trying to go into an atomic energy project and other things," Tetteh said. As if to prove that Ghana was truly independent, he said, Nkrumah took several hasty steps, including issuing a new currency bearing his likeness.

Nkrumah was overthrown in 1966 by his military. Coups, repression and deepening poverty followed. Nkrumah died in exile in 1972.

Kevin Gaines, director of the Center for Afroamerican and African Studies at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, said some Ghanaians might say Nkrumah was "a bit of a grandiose dreamer, that his larger vision for African continental unity was sort of a quixotic thing. But that is and remains the source of his popularity throughout the black world."

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

Smoking ban not as bad for business as owners feared

When Fayette County's public smoking ban went into effect in April 2004, it faced a litany of concerns from a variety of Lexington's constituencies. The Kernel argued that the ban violated the rights of private business owners to decide for themselves whether or not to allow smoking in their establishments.

And those bar and restaurant owners argued the smoking ban would severely inhibit business.

"I can't afford to lose 30 percent of my business," Lynagh's Pub co-owner Gina Scott said to the kernel, citing a study that showed a similar ban in New York City reduced bars' business by 30 percent. "I can't afford to lose 10 percent of my business. I can't afford to lose any business."

Nearly three years after the implementation of the ban, it appears it didn't have the negative effects on business that owners originally feared, according to a study released by UK's Gatton College of Business and Economics.

Many bar owners and managers agree with the findings of the study.

"Business isn't as bad as everyone expected it to be," Lynagh's manager Terry Fisher told the Kernel last month. "Actually, it's gone fairly well."

While we maintain our opposition to the smoking ban on grounds of owners' and patrons' right to choose, it is refreshing to see the ban hasn't

KERNEL EDITORIAL

had a negative impact on local bars and restaurants.

It also appears that some owners have shown an ability to adapt to the law to keep business levels at a healthy level. Two Keys Tavern employee Ryan McGuffin told the Kernel, "Business died down at first, but got better when we opened the bar on the patio."

"That accommodated the smokers and helped our business," McGuffin said.

One thing is clear about Lexington's smoking ban: Despite our objections, it likely isn't going away anytime soon.

It's nice to see Lexington's bars and restaurants thriving in spite of the ban. It's also nice to see business owners with the capability to adapt their businesses to accommodate their smoking patrons while making indoor environments safer for non-smokers.

Apparently, Lexington businesses were better prepared to deal with the implications of a smoking ban than their New York City counterparts. By adapting and thriving in the face of what was perceived as potentially hostile legislation, Lexington's bar and restaurant owners have provided a model for success for businesses in other cities as more and more smoking bans pass nationwide.

Students must play role in hiring of new diversity chief

UK administrators have a great plan in place for the process of hiring a chief diversity officer. Bring students into the mix.

The vice president for institutional diversity will be responsible for providing institutional leadership, advising and policy-making on matters of diversity at UK.

"(Provost Kumble Subbaswamy) wants a person who will eat, sleep and dream diversity," education professor and selection committee co-chair John Harris told the Kernel.

"Students will be the end product of diversity here, so it's important for them to have a voice in choosing the person for this position," Dean of Students Victor Hazard said in a Kernel article.

"This helps prepare students for the diversity they will face after graduation," Hazard said.

On that note, administrators held a forum Feb. 22 to outline UK's priorities in the search. Students were invited, but only four showed up —

KERNEL EDITORIAL

and two of those were covering the event for WRFL.

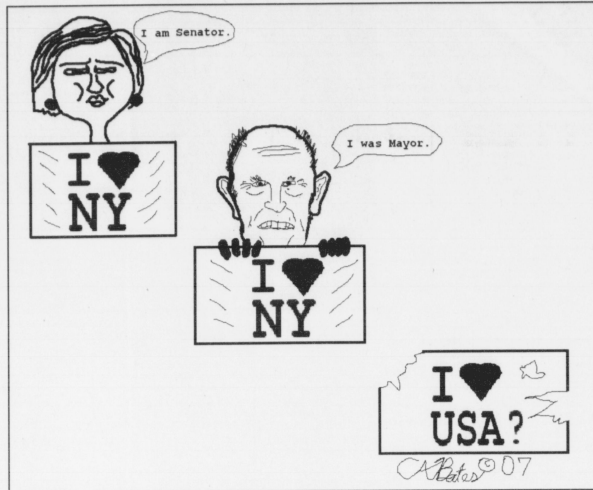
To be fair, the event wasn't exactly heavily advertised. The Kernel was informed of the event only the day before, so how much advance notice could UK students have received?

In the future, administrators should be more forthcoming with information about such forums. And students must show more willingness to attend the events to give their input concerning this vital position.

When candidates come to UK, students will have a chance to address them.

"The challenge will be getting the candidates before the right audience, an audience that will ask tough questions," Hazard said.

"We want students to come forward and have a voice," he added. So do we.



ANDY BATES, Kernel cartoonist

Exercise your rights as students, and pay attention to SG election

If there's one thing I've learned in my years at UK, it's that Student Government has a lot — sometimes too much — in common with actual politics. This year, however, I challenge our leaders on campus to take a nobler path than their national counterparts.



CHAD REESE
Kernel columnist

Luckily, the bar still isn't set particularly high. Already, a remarkable year and a half ahead of schedule, the 2008 presidential election has begun in full force, from Senator Joe Biden's amazement that an African-American could be "clean" and "articulate" (referring to Sen. Barack Obama, another Democratic presidential candidate) to Anne Coulter's neither lean nor articulate reference to former Sen. Jonathan Edwards as a "faggot."

That's right: Our national leaders, both politicians and would-be politicians, have apparently decided that 2008 (and 2007 by proximity) will not possess even the appearance of dignity. Fortunately for UK, that may not be the case this year for our own Student Government.

After significant renovation, the

SG Senate has made conscious efforts this year to improve the legislative process for the coming semester, and two spirited presidential candidates have announced their intention to run.

Furthermore, some of the most significant problems faced by UK in recent years (campus safety and double-digit tuition hikes, to name a couple) will need to be addressed by the next group of student representatives elected.

In short, the time is more than ripe for our elected officials here on campus to keep politics out of their respective races this year, while providing the student body with encouraging reasons to vote and generally participate in Student Government. Year after year, UK watches as a dismally small percentage of its students participate in the democratic process and then proceed to complain that only a small percentage of students are represented.

To be brutally honest, many students on campus have extremely strong feelings one way or another regarding SG, but the most common feeling about what could be the driving force behind real change on this campus has remained, for far too long, apathy. For instance, during the 2006 freshman elections, no winning candidate received more than 330 votes.

I could spend all day speculating on the reasons why college students

find a game of Dance Dance Revolution more thrilling than participating in a process won and defended by the blood and lives of our heroic countrymen and women, but the terrible truth of this situation is that no one cares.

Thus, I issue you your challenge, Student Government candidates for the coming election. Challenge your constituency likewise to care, for without a mandate from the student body, your authority is hollow.

Challenge us by running honest, straightforward campaigns that give us hope in our country's future leaders, for you are the mirrors of political opinion in the eyes of many students.

Challenge us by providing ideas for progress instead of rhetoric, for UK is in dire need of real student leadership.

Challenge us by leading an open, energetic and meaningful dialogue about why SG matters, and why our participation is important.

At this point, it doesn't matter why students have an uncaring (at best) and negative (at worst) image of SG. What matters is that all of us, "electors" and "electees" alike, make a statement by framing the debate of this election in a meaningful context. Although we must still choose what to do with it, the moment is ours.

Chad Reese is a philosophy and political science junior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

LexTran leaves students out in the cold

When students leave for college, there are certain luxuries they leave behind. No longer are they dropped off at the doorstep of their classroom buildings, and no longer are their minds at ease on the distance they will travel to reunite with room temperature.

This was probably the most difficult issue I was faced with when winter came. I do not have a problem with the cold so much as the time I am forced to spend in it. Every day, I wait outside the University Commons Apartments for a bus that always fails to arrive at its expected hour.

People who hear me speak of my frustrations tell me to catch the bus at an earlier time — but this is something I have tried. Once again, I am let down by the LexTran bus service. Even the earlier bus times that I attempted to catch were late or sometimes failed to even show up.

I am trying to receive an education; I do not want to waste my valuable time waiting for a bus to arrive when scheduled. I have waited for 45 minutes in 20 degree weather for this bus. I even took into account the road conditions before becoming outraged, and the bus was still late. This is inexcusable, and one thing is for sure, I will not be using LexTran for a further means of transportation.

Numerous times, I have called the 24-hour phone service that LexTran provides. On one occasion my phone call was answered; however, this was at the start of the year and an action has yet to take place. The other three times I have attempted to call, I was put on hold for 50 minutes, only to be hung up on when my call was finally taken.

There is no getting through to this company, so I decided it was time to publicly declare their inefficient services.

Katy Fanning
Journalism freshman

Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to 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 opinions@kykernel.com

McIntosh presidency will increase students' trust in SG officials

Editor's note: Nick Phelps and Brittany Langdon, the other SG presidential ticket, had a column in Monday's Kernel. It is available at www.kykernel.com.

If your Student Government representatives made time to ask how they could improve your UK experience, what would you tell them?



SCOTT MCINTOSH
Kernel columnist

Emily Fortney and I have been listening carefully in our conversations with UK students over the past several years. We share your frustrations about the many ways SG has fallen short in its responsibility to represent your interests, but we also share an enthusiasm for the potential of SG to be a productive and meaningful organization next year. Here are some thoughts on how we can accomplish that goal.

First, eliminate paid positions in SG. Over \$25,000 last year was paid for SG officials' "service" to UK students. In addition, the president and vice president received stipends from the Provost's office totaling nearly \$10,000. This is not only excessive, but also inappropriate. Given the production that UK students have seen from SG in recent years, the organization is in no place to be paying its own members. Students should get involved with SG out of a desire to

serve UK students, not for the notch on their resume or the paycheck.

We plan to eliminate salaries for SG staff and Senate officers, replacing them with an opportunity to earn internship credit instead. Further, Emily and I will donate our stipends back to Student Government. In total, we will create an additional \$35,000 that SG can use to provide more meaningful programs and services to UK students.

Student Government needs to focus on providing tangible benefits, making it easier for students to identify the ways that SG is making their UK experience more enjoyable. Those benefits should include:

■ Bringing more national restaurants to campus and lobbying for more student discounts at Lexington businesses

■ Increasing the maximum grant student organizations can apply for and taking a more personal approach to the grant application process

■ Expanding Safety Net and Students Educating and Empowering to Develop Safety (SEEDS) programs through Women's Place, and providing a golf cart for SAFE CATS to expand its services to include the K-10

■ Fostering a culture of diversity to ensure that all students feel welcome and connected, and to promote open dialogue and diversity of thought

■ Implementing a real dead

week, free from papers, projects, and presentations

■ Sponsoring an optional music download service that will give students access to unlimited downloads for a low fee of \$5-8 per month

■ Advocating an expansion of student health insurance benefits to include an option for more comprehensive coverage to fit the needs of graduate school and non-traditional students

■ Working with the Student Activities Board to co-sponsor a spring "Welcome Back Bash" similar to Campus Ruckus that will give students another opportunity to get connected and involved in Student Life

As we restore accountability and students start to take advantage of new opportunities available to them through Student Government, we will begin to change perceptions.

Emily and I look forward to meeting you soon (if we haven't already). We will be visiting your student organization meetings throughout the month — first to listen, then to share our ideas. We look forward to the dialogue and strongly encourage you to take an active interest in this year's election.

Scott McIntosh is a candidate for SG President and can be reached at ScottMcIntosh@uky.edu or (859) 421-1899. Emily Fortney is the vice-presidential candidate on the McIntosh ticket and can be reached at edfor2@uky.edu.

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Coughlin busts out of slump, named player of week

By Eric Lindsey
elindsey@kykernel.com

For Sean Coughlin, it was only a matter of time until he broke out of his early-season slump.

After struggling early on to put up numbers like he did last season, the senior catcher exploded last week to earn Southeastern Conference Player of the Week honors. The SEC honor is the third of Coughlin's UK career and his first this season.

In addition to the SEC award, Coughlin was also named to the College Baseball Foundation's Weekly National Honor Roll.

"I'm very proud of the fact that the SEC has recognized me three times now for my play on the field," Coughlin said. "I'm just glad I could do it for my team because they've been my biggest supporters, and they've been there for me even when I was struggling at the beginning."

In five games last week — victories against Oakland, Xavier and Wisconsin-Milwaukee — Coughlin went 9-for-18 at the plate, with 12 RBI, five runs scored and six extra-base hits. Included in Coughlin's huge weekend was the first triple of his career Sunday against UW-Milwaukee.

The monster week came as a relief to the Morrison, Colo., native who admitted he had been struggling early in the season.

"I've been putting a lot of pressure on myself to perform," Coughlin said. "I came to the realization that I can't try to do too much at the plate."

Before the Oakland game on Feb. 27, Coughlin was only 8-for-31 at the plate with seven RBI. But after the

five-game stretch in six days, Coughlin bumped his average up to .347.

"He's so strong that he doesn't have to create a lot of effort in his swing," said head coach John Cohen. "When he goes to effort, that's when he starts hitting balls to the left side. When that happens from him, he's seeing the baseball really well."

The early-season slump came as a surprise to Coughlin after his breakout season last year.

After transferring from Central Arizona College, Coughlin batted .325 with 17 home runs and 55 RBI in his junior season. Those numbers helped garner several preseason honors this year, including a first team All-American selection by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association.

Despite the accolades, Coughlin wasn't seeing the success he saw last year, which prompted him to spend extra time in the batting cages with the coaching staff.

"Coach Cohen has been real helpful with my swing along with coach (Nick) Mingione and coach (Brad) Bohannon," he said. "They've been real supportive and they've been giving me the opportunity to play so I really appreciate that."

Though the numbers weren't impressive through the first seven games, Coughlin's leadership never faltered, and that, Cohen said, is a big reason why the Cats are off to their second-best start in school history.

"You can't look at the numbers only," Cohen said. "He does a lot of things for our club that don't necessarily show up in the stats sheet."

Coughlin and the Cats will look to extend their 12-game winning streak when they host Cincinnati at 12 p.m. today.



ELLIOTT HESS | STAFF

The UK baseball team congratulates Sean Coughlin for scoring a run in the Cats' 7-3 win over Wisconsin-Milwaukee on Saturday. Coughlin broke out of a 8-for-31 slump with 11 hits last week. Those numbers earned him Southeastern Conference Player of the Week honors.

Ignacio to defend her title at national championship

By Leila Kalegi
sports@kykernel.com

Every athlete dreams of becoming a national champion. However, not every athlete gets to experience that dream coming true.

Senior diver Taryn Ignacio experienced that thrill last year when she became UK's first ever national champion on platform.

Ignacio will have a chance to defend her title after placing second overall in last weekend's NCAA Zone B diving competition. She advanced to the championships this weekend at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis with a total of 618.60 over 10 dives.

Ignacio set school and NCAA diving records with a score of 335.20 last season in the platform diving finals. After the preliminary round, Ignacio was in fourth place,

but dove strong enough to take the lead and win for the Cats.

"In that final eight, there were seven divers that could have won, and that's what us coaches were talking about, 'Who's going to win this?'" said Mike Lyden, UK diving coach. "The best divers in the country were there and they were all on their game at the time. Taryn had a little better game that day."

When Ignacio competes this weekend, she won't be focusing on the pressure of repeating last season's outcome, she said.

"I'm not really that nervous just because I've already accomplished my goal," Ignacio said. "The best outcome would be to repeat, but if I do well for me, I'll be happy."

Lyden said he is confident Ignacio will perform well this week at nationals if she dives like she did last weekend.

"I'm hoping I see a lot of

what I saw last weekend at zones," Lyden said. "She was on her game this past weekend, and if she dives like she did this past weekend she'll be right in the hunt again."

While Ignacio hopes to replicate her accomplishment from last year, junior Kari Retrum would like to make a first of her own.

Retrum qualified for the championship on the one-meter board, and she might earn a spot on the three-meter.

"I'm excited she's (Retrum) gotten to nationals," Lyden said. "She's been here three years, and I knew she had the abilities and she showed that this weekend."

Lyden anticipates the two divers to be very competitive.

"I'm excited," Lyden said. "I've got two girls going to the dance. And we're hoping to have two girls final on all three levels."

Senior diver Taryn Ignacio spins in one of her dives during the Southeastern Conference championships on Feb. 4. Ignacio finished in first place in the platform, the event she will compete in this week. She is the defending national champion in the event.

ELLIOTT HESS
STAFF



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