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THE KENTUCKY Kernel

Celebrating 33 years of independence

Students learn where they can get faith Page 6



Police investigate 18 vehicle break-ins around campus

By Dariush Shafa
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

A recent string of vehicle break-ins on campus has UK police stepping up patrols and encouraging students to protect their vehicles.

Eighteen break-ins occurred either in a lot at Commonwealth Stadium or the R11 lot off Woodland Avenue behind William T. Young Library between Aug. 15 and Aug. 22.

UK Police Maj. Joe Monroe

said the number of break-ins is not unusual for this time of the semester, though the current number could make this an above-average year.

"We always have an elevated number of break-ins at the start of school," Monroe said, although the average is 10-12 over the first couple of weeks of school. "If we don't have any more, it'll average out. If we do (have more), it'll be an elevated number."

Monroe said UK Police

are increasing patrols in all parking lots and that police detectives are following all leads, as well as looking for items to turn up in local pawnshops.

Though no arrests have been made, Monroe said police think they will catch those responsible. He said the break-ins usually continue for a period of time before police catch the suspect and recover a large quantity of stolen items. Monroe said about 75 percent of the stolen items are usually re-

covered and returned.

Monroe said the concentration of break-ins in only a few places is merely because of the easy opportunity for criminals.

"Those are basically where most of the students park," Monroe said. "Break-ins happen in the middle of the day and in the middle of the night."

Though students can't be around to watch their cars 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Monroe said police are encouraging people to

take steps to prevent having their cars broken into and items stolen.

"Don't leave items lying around visible in the car," he said. "Detach the faceplate of the radio if you have one. That makes it useless."

Police encourage those who have larger items like subwoofers or stereo amplifiers to have a car alarm installed and to park in well-lit areas.

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"If we do (have more break-ins), it'll be an elevated number."

Maj. Joe Monroe
UK Police

Loved ones mourn life cut short

By Danielle Komis
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

LOUISVILLE — Young faces filled many of the pews at St. Albert the Church Saturday.

While some wiped away tears, others sat stone-faced, shocked that a 19-year-old Governor's Scholar who once aspired to go to law school was dead. Brian Anthony Muth, 19, of Louisville, was buried that afternoon at Calvary Cemetery in Louisville after his funeral that morning at the same church where he was baptized and attended school as a young boy.

Muth died early Aug. 24 after being hit by a semi

truck on the outer loop of New Circle Road near Old Frankfort Pike.

He had been arrested and charged with alcohol intoxication just after 1 a.m. by Lexington Police. He was then released into the custody of a friend around 2 a.m., after which he ran into the roadway.

About 300 people gathered Saturday morning at the church to say goodbye to a young man whose high-pitched laugh and strong hugs always made them smile.

Many were family members, relatives, former high school classmates, fraternity brothers and other friends who attended St. Louis Uni-

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MUTH



JONATHAN PALMER | STAFF

(Left to right) Friends Alex Germano, Matt Miranda and Joe Escola, a UK student, carry Brian Muth's casket at St. Albert the Great Catholic church in Louisville Saturday. Germano gave the eulogy at the funeral.



JONATHAN PALMER | STAFF

Megan Herrman, a friend of Brian Muth's from St. Louis University, kisses Muth's casket at the burial ceremony. Including family, childhood friends, former high school classmates, fraternity brothers and other friends from SLU, where Muth attended last year, about 300 people attended the funeral.

Football players charged with indecent exposure

Two current players, one former, yell to children while naked on porch

By Jeff Patterson
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Two reserve UK football players charged with indecent exposure scrimmaged with the team Saturday and will continue to play, said head coach Rich Brooks. Brooks said he had been aware of the incident involving redshirt freshmen offensive linemen Eric Klope and Casey Shumate and former UK fullback Joe Razzano, who left the team earlier this month.

"This is very old news," Brooks said Friday. "We've known about it."

According to a police re-

port, the three were "exposing themselves" on June 11 on the front porch of a house on the 400 block of Oldham Avenue.

Accounts of the incident did not become public until media reports revealed them Friday.

Klope and Shumate then made "sexual comments" to a 10-year-old boy and a 12-year-old boy who were riding their bikes, the report said.

The three came out of the bushes and off the porch.

The two told the kids, "We are big fags ... come up here so we can have a big orgy," the report said.

They also told the kids to "show some respect for UK football players," according to the report.

The boys told their parents when they arrived home, and the police were called to 433 Oldham Ave. The incident occurred at 9:11 p.m., according to the report.

The mother of the 12-year-old told police she did not want her son "exposed to this kind of behavior."

When police arrived, an officer observed only Razzano, who was sitting nude on a couch on the porch. When Razzano noticed the officer, he "fled inside (the) house to put clothes on."

The police report said he told police "he had been nude because when he woke up,

his father called, so he went out on (the) porch to talk to him."

Razzano was arrested at 9:31 p.m. There was no alcohol or drug involvement, according to the report. His mother, Jodi Razzano, later secured his release with a \$1,000 cash bond.

Klope and Shumate were cited for indecent exposure three days later, on June 14.

Shumate's mother, Tracy Darnell, said they are working to resolve the situation.

"Casey is a good kid," she said. "He's got a good heart, and he loves UK."

"He would never do anything to embarrass the university."

The three are due in Fayette District Court on Sept. 14.

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KLOPE



SHUMATE



RAZZANO

Blazer Courtyard receives a facelift

Dining Services: more changes, remodeling, self-serve food

By Troy Lyle
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Replacing the large, round tables with café chic lounge areas and booths in the Blazer Courtyard food court is part of the first step in a two-year renovation of campus eateries.

"Everything we're doing campus-wide is aimed at putting the wow back in student dining," said Jeff DeMoss, executive director of UK Dining Services. "So far we've only accomplished a small portion of the many changes planned for the entire campus."

After a \$1.2 million renovation, Blazer Courtyard now feels like a trendy coffeehouse, replacing the 1970s-style flooring and cafeteria serving area. The changes will improve dining on campus, said Dewitt King, assistant director of dining services.

"Our goal over the next two years is to add more venues to campus dining, giving students added variety and faster, healthier food options," he said.

Dining Services is asking for student input in every facet of its decision making process, from the proposed new food options to the renovations and new hours of operation at the Blazer Hall food court, DeMoss said.

"We want students to have the food they want and

See Food on page 2

VA Hospital braces for terrorist threat

The Cooper Drive VA Hospital started using safety precautions after Sept. 11

By Dariush Shafa
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals nationwide have heightened security in response to a possible threat against VA hospitals and administrative offices.

Candace Hull, public affairs officer for Lexington's VA Hospital on campus, said the alert from the FBI has been sent to each of the 163 VA hospitals in the country, though there has been no word of a threat to a specific hospital.

"There is no imminent threat," she said.

"No VAs have been named as a specific target. We've just been advised to be alert."

In response to the Sept. 11 attacks, the hospital had already heightened security, including requesting identification from all patients and visitors.

"That's just something we've chosen to maintain," Hull said.

She also said the heightened security presence seems to have a calming effect on staff, visitors and patients.

"I think people entering our facility see the visible police presence and feel an additional sense of security," Hull said.

"I do believe that our staff and patients have an extreme amount of

confidence in VA police and security."

Though she could not elaborate on specific security precautions, she said the VA police and security personnel are up to the task.

"Our VA police staff is prepared to handle any potential scenario that we are faced with," she said.

UK Police have over-all responsibility over the UK Chandler Medical Center security.

UK spokesman Carl Nathe said police are paying close attention to the situation at the VA hospital due to its proximity to the UK Chandler Medical Center.

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs Web site, the VA hospital system has been responsible for providing medical care to U.S. military veterans and their families since the 1900s.

As of October 2002, it had provided health care to more than 6.8 million veterans in 48 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

The VA system now helps with education, death and disability compensation and pension funds.

The VA hospital system is a part of the Department of Veterans Affairs, which was established in 1989.

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Muth

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versity with Muth last school year before he transferred to UK.

As the funeral started, the crowd stood and solemnly turned to face the back of the sanctuary as six of Muth's friends, their faces etched with grief, carried in the coffin of the friend many of them had seen alive less than a week earlier.

UK student Aaron McNulty, the friend who had signed for Muth's release from jail, was one of the six pallbearers.

Muth's father, mother and younger sister clutched one another tightly as they followed the coffin into the church and fought to hold back their grief.

The soothing bubbling of the baptismal font in the back of the sanctuary was soon replaced by the anguished sobs of Muth's mother.

She was ushered to a chair as family and clergy tried to comfort her.

During the ceremony, Muth's older brother, Michael Muth, Jr., spoke as if he were talking directly to his brother.

"I wish that your time hadn't been cut so short," he said. "You've learned to accomplish in 19 years much more than any of us who will live much longer lives ever will."

Alex Germano, Muth's friend since grade school, also spoke, describing Muth in his eulogy as someone who appreciated the little things — even Wendy's hamburgers and clothes from Goodwill.

"Look how vintage it looks!" he said, remembering what Muth said when he once found a T-shirt there.

After he was laid to rest near a stream that cuts through the cemetery, friends spoke highly of Muth, who

graduated third in his class from Trinity High School in Louisville, excelled at golf and loved the 2001 comedy "Zoolander."

Mourners scattered into groups, talking softly to one another. Others just stared at Muth's final resting place, seemingly unaware of the strong midday sun beating down on them.

While friends and family said it is hard dealing with such an untimely death, they don't think that placing blame will help.

"That's not how friends and family are thinking about it," said Erica Bordador, a high school friend of Muth's. "That won't bring him back."

Still, friends said that others should learn from the tragedy.

"We can learn from this and create new laws to keep this from happening again," Germano said.

Michael Muth Sr., Muth's father, said parents, law enforcement and students need to brainstorm ways to keep young people safe from the dangers of alcohol.

"If we can get all these groups together then we won't lose people like Brian," he said.

Cara Houlehan, Muth's senior prom date at Trinity, said that Muth was always fun to be around. She recalled a time on spring break in Panama City, Fla., when Muth and some friends thought it would be funny to run into the ocean covered in powdered sugar.

"He went out specially to get it," she said, laughing.

Dominic Davis, a UK sophomore, said he and Muth and some other friends went camping last summer at Red River Gorge and played cornhole, a bean bag toss game, for hours.

"I only knew him a year, but he treated me like we'd been friends forever," he said.

For the past few summers, Muth worked at a local country club's pro shop and had blistered hands from

playing so much golf, his father said.

But last summer, Muth Sr. said the country club wasn't open the entire season, so he got to spend more time with his son than he had in the past.

Maybe the easy schedule wasn't an accident, he said.

"If I hadn't had that time, I would be so empty now," he said.

At the reception held in the church hall after the burial, Muth's fraternity brothers from SLU were crowded around a table by the window of the hall.

Ryan Rooney and Ryan Walde, both members of Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity at SLU, told how Muth figured out how to turn on a campus fountain — an open fountain that was usually turned off.

"He would have to climb down this hole in the ground," Rooney explained.

Muth and others would wait until an innocent pedestrian would walk into the path of the fountain.

Then, with video camera in hand, they would turn it on, trapping the person in between the sprays of water.

"You could just hear this roar (of laughter) from the hole he was in," Rooney said.

One table over sat a group of women who also knew Muth from SLU.

Megan Hermann said she became best friends with Muth after she met him in her economics class.

She spoke of late-night "clock-tower talks" that she and Muth used to have at a clock tower on campus, and laughed when she remembered how he used to pop the collar up on his favorite pink polo shirt.

"He lived for the moment," she said.

Germano said it was this attitude that made Muth so well liked.

"His excitement attracted us to him," he said.

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NEWS BRIEFS

UK student reports rape

A 19-year-old female UK student reported being raped at 5 a.m. Aug. 21 on Rose Lane near campus. According to a UK police report, the rape occurred at the victim's home between 4:15 and 4:30 a.m. The report also states that alcohol or drugs were a factor.

Police are classifying this as a second-degree rape, which is a rape that involves the victim being physically or mentally unable to give consent and where the perpetrator is aware of the victim's inability to make the decision to consent.

No arrests have been made, said Maj. Joe Monroe of the UK police department.

Truck bomb at U.S. Security Company kills seven

KABUL, Afghanistan — A truck bomb ripped through the headquarters of a U.S. security company in the Afghan capital Sunday, killing at least seven people, including two Americans, in the first major attack in the city in more than a year.

The blast, which injured dozens, targeted the offices of DynCorp Inc., a security and information technology company based in Reston, Va., that provides bodyguards for President Hamid Karzai. The attack comes less than six weeks before Afghanistan holds its first presidential election.

Remnants of the former Taliban regime have vowed to disrupt the balloting and have been staging increasingly frequent attacks on U.S. forces, election workers and potential voters. Taliban spokesman Abdul Latif Hakimi claimed responsibility for Sunday's blast and said it was detonated by a Taliban fighter using remote control.

Games end with U.S. winning 103 medals

ATHENS — The Athens Olympic Games came to a close Sunday with triumphs and twists.

The triumphant included light heavyweight boxer Andre Ward and the first United States medal in the men's marathon since 1976, a silver by Meb Keflezighi.

The strangest twist came in the marathon, which was won by Italy's Stefano Baldini. Brazil's Vanderlei de Lima was leading with about three miles left when he was mugged by a bystander. Lima recovered to gain the bronze medal.

Team USA finished first in the medals race with 103, 11 more than Russia. With 35 golds, 39 silvers and 29 bronzes, the Americans surpassed their totals of 97 in Sydney four years ago and 101 in Atlanta eight years ago.

China, third in overall medals with 63, had the second-most golds, 32.

At Closing Ceremonies in the Olympic Stadium — where the Games opened Aug. 13 — IOC President Jacques Rogge told the crowd of 70,000, "You have won. You have won by brilliantly meeting the toughest challenge of holding the Games. There were unforgettable, dream Games."

Compiled from wire and staff reports.

Food

Continued from page 1

dining done their way," he said. "Our main goal is for students to enjoy dining on campus again."

Additional changes are planned for Blazer, including self-service specialties such as pizza, soup and salad and international foods, said Jim Wims, assistant vice president for student affairs.

Blazer's hours have also changed:

it is now open from 11 a.m. to midnight, as opposed to 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

"(It's) all in response to student's desires for more accessible, demonstration oriented cooking," he said.

Blazer Hall isn't the only place students will be noticing changes. The Student Center's food court will be updated later this semester, DeMoss said.

"We're planning on leaving the KFC and Long John Silvers concepts, but we will be adding several new branded concepts ranging from burgers to the Pacific Rim," he said.

The new concepts, designed to offer students greater variety, should be com-

pleted over winter break and ready to go as students return for the spring semester.

Dining Services isn't completing all the proposed renovations at once since Kentucky requires approval for any project over the cost of \$399,000, DeMoss said.

"The important thing for everyone to realize is that all of this is going to take time," Wims said. "Look at Blazer Hall as an example; students should be excited about what they are going to see in the future."

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Dr. Christopher Bader, a professor of anthropology and sociology, says his research may seem strange for Baylor University. But many scientists now think study of UFO believers leads to better understanding of religions.

Sociologists study believers of UFOs

Many scientists think UFO belief rivals extreme religions

By Jeffrey Weiss
Knight-Ridder Tribune

DALLAS — Christopher Bader was one of those kids who loved tales of the improbable. He grew up to become his own improbable tale.

He's a sociology professor at the conservative and Baptist Baylor University, a Presbyterian who has a particular interest in people who say they are UFO abductees or victims of religion-linked ritual abuse. His study of the two groups was published in a recent issue of the *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*.

"My students ask me all the time: 'Do you believe in UFOs? Do you believe in ritual abuse? Do you believe in Bigfoot?'" He said. "My answer is that I just don't care whether they're real or not."

Studying the sociology of religion is nothing like delving into theology, he said.

"We're not studying God. We're studying what people who believe in God and live on earth do," he said.

"God" and "religion" are defined broadly by sociologists of religion. Belief in UFO abductions and in ritual abuse both include a large dose of faith.

The scientific mainstream has not accepted any claims of alien abductions. And many who claim to have survived ritual abuse say they discovered the abuse through the recovery of long-repressed memories. The length of time between the alleged event and the recovery of the memory often makes it hard to investigate the claims.

So are there UFOs grabbing people? Are there Satanic cults abusing people? In many cases, people believe without the kinds of evidence that would convince outsiders — it's a matter of faith. And that means people who belong to support groups for UFO abductees or for survivors of ritual abuse can be studied as members of "new religious movements."

The only connection between the UFO folks and the ritual abuse folks is that the

two groups gained attention in the 1980s, as Dr. Bader was starting his academic career. Sociologists such as Bader study small groups like these because they believe this is a way to understand how successful faiths develop. After all, the largest religions all started with a few people considered unusual by their neighbors.

"It really is no crazier than anything else," he said of the outside-the-mainstream stuff he studies. "I appreciate it as a belief, and a sincerely held belief."

Not that he expects belief in UFO abductions to morph into a major faith anytime soon. "Not in my lifetime," he said.

Most of his work involves less controversial belief systems — why churches and denominations succeed or fail in drawing members. But when Baylor hired him a couple of years ago, he told his new bosses that part of his studies could seem a bit, well, odd for a Baptist school.

"But when I talk about Satanism in class, I'm not recruiting," he said.

His paper, published in the peer-reviewed journal, is the fruit of years of tentative contacts with support groups for people who say they've been snatched by aliens or ritually abused. Members of these groups are suspicious of outsiders. Much of his paper details how he gained their trust — and eventually, some information about them.

Eventually, he was able to get 55 of the UFO folks and 51 ritual-abuse survivors to anonymously fill out forms about their ages, education and other demographic information.

That information fills a hole in the study of these groups, he said. Most academic attention has focused on the beliefs or on psychological effects on the believers. Bader's goal was to identify the kinds of people who subscribe to these beliefs.

What he came up with has its limits, he admits. The sample size is small, and there's no way to know for sure if they represent the average UFO abductee or ritu-

al-abuse survivor. But the results are in line with research done on other small, new religious movements, he said.

Many academics who study such movements tend to consider members of these particular groups as rubes, he said. "They assume that these are some country bumpkins who believe that the UFOs are plucking them off their tractors. That's not what people who are interested in new ideas are like."

It turns out that the folk who filled out Bader's forms are a lot like most Americans who seek out unusual faith experiences: They're generally female, white, affluent and well-educated when compared with the general population.

Of the 51 UFO abductees, 32 were women, 48 said they were white and six identified as Native American (three chose both categories), 34 attended some college, and 29 were white-collar workers. Most said they found some positive aspects to their experience.

Of the 48 ritual-abuse survivors, all were white women, 44 had attended college, and of the 21 then employed, 18 were white-collar workers. This was an unhappy population, and most reported they had dozens of multiple personalities.

What they have in common, Bader said, is that they mostly follow the pattern found in other new religious movements.

"The theory tells us that it doesn't matter about the personality of the god involved," he said. "The point is that a certain demographic is interested in things outside the mainstream."

Bader's own interest in such things started when he was very young.

"I read 'The Amityville Horror' when I was in the fourth grade and I couldn't sleep for a week," he said. "When I was a kid, I used to try to find Bigfoot in the woods or worry that UFOs would come to my room and get me."

He'll admit to never losing his fascination with the mystery associated with tales of the supernatural.

"If we ever caught Bigfoot and put him in a cage," he said, "I'd be really depressed."

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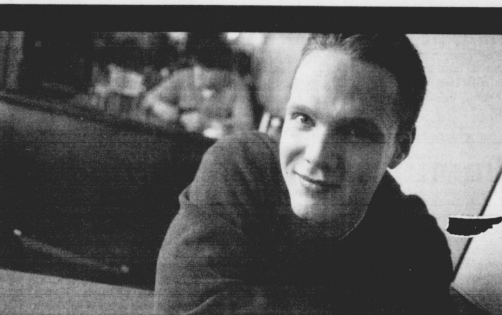
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KERNEL FOOTBALL

PREVIEW

COMING SEPTEMBER 3

GWU deals with security

Students learn to live with daily with threat of terrorism nearby

By Amy Argersinger
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - Thousands of students returned this weekend to George Washington University, fully prepared to encounter the high-security clampdown in the shadow of the school's close neighbors — and potential terror targets — the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

Arriving with their families in Foggy Bottom, students endured traffic jams, long lines and frayed tempers, but nothing more horrific than a typical college move-in day.

"I have three kids here, so it's just a nightmare in terms of logistics," complained Jack Adler, a father from New York in ball cap and shorts, sweating on 21st Street NW Saturday after several trips up and down the stairs of an old dorm.

Adler noted, however, that none of the vaunted security set up around the neighborhood had slowed them for a second. Police never even stopped to inspect their U-Haul trailer, he said.

"We don't look like terrorists," Adler surmised with a shrug.

For years, GWU has traded on its proximity to power-

federal icons such as the White House and the State Department just a few blocks from campus, a potent lure for the kind of policy-wonk teenager who dreams of a career in government.

This summer, though, its prime location seemed poised to turn into a curse. Intelligence from overseas suggested that al-Qaida members might have set their sights on the District of Columbia-based headquarters of the two international financial institutions, just a few blocks from the campus.

So as city police moved to protect the buildings with checkpoints and parking restrictions, GWU suddenly found itself at the white-hot center of a Code Orange zone.

All of which was believed to bode ill for Move-In 2004, when the university is welcoming its second-largest freshman class in history, about 2,600 strong. They will be among the 7,100 students now living on campus — the most ever, thanks to the completion of a major residence hall.

Families were warned that police might search their cars, especially trucks and sport-utility vehicles. Yet when Jim Tully pulled into the neighborhood, his Mercedes SUV loaded with

daughter Kristen's earthly possessions, he never had to stop.

The security checkpoint officer "just took a quick peek in," said Tully, of New York City. "I thought police handled it very well."

Indeed, save for the occasional box truck passing through, police didn't seem to be stopping very many vehicles at all.

"It really hasn't been that different," said Rebecca Sawyer, assistant dean of students. "We typically close down F Street, and we typically have police monitoring vehicles."

One of the few major changes, she said, was that "we started at 6 a.m. instead of 8 a.m., and that seemed to help with the traffic flow."

Still, traffic was backed up for nearly three blocks in places, and the sidewalks were an obstacle course of ironing boards and over-stuffed backpacks. And the few parking spaces were strictly rationed by teams of volunteering upperclassmen.

Outside Thurston Hall, GWU's largest freshman dorm, a silver-haired dad cursed as he tried to wedge his SUV and trailer into a slim corner of the street.

"How'm I supposed to park this?" he shouted. "Come back around the block," a volunteer reassured him. "It'll be clear in five minutes."

Yet Adler — a veteran of

many GWU moves, with a senior and twin sophomores — said he saw nothing different about this move-in day, certainly nothing worse.

"I've found it easier this time because my daughter has a boyfriend," he said, gesturing towards the strapping, goateed Anthony, who was unloading yet another bag from the hatchback.

"Look at him!" Adler said warmly. "He works like a horse."

Some parents acknowledged twinges of concern about leaving their children in such a high-alert neighborhood.

Sharon Tully, the mother of a Boston freshman and no relation to the Tullys of New York, said she would hang on tight to GWU's 24-hour emergency hotline number.

"Especially during the election — you never know what might transpire," she said.

Students, though, dismissed such fears.

"Paranoid," sighed 18-year-old Sarah Zubair of Seattle, rolling her eyes in the direction of her parents.

"I did get alarmed," admitted her mother, Nancy, "when I read the World Bank is right across the street."

"But we're right in the heart of the action," said Sarah.

"At least," she added, wryly, "if we get bombed, you'll be the first to know. You'll see it on CNN!"

Family says suspect in plot is innocent

By Greg Smith
KNIGHT RIDGER TRIBUNE

NEW YORK — The family of a 21-year-old Pakistani man arrested in an alleged subway bomb plot charged Sunday the suspect was entrapped by a police informant who played on his sympathy and gullibility.

Shahawar Matin Siraj and James El

Shafay, 19, were arrested Friday and charged with conspiring to blow up subway stations, police precincts and the Verrazano Bridge.

But Siraj's family told the New York Daily News on Sunday that an Egyptian-born police informant from Staten Island enlisted Siraj's help by claiming he was dying of cancer.

"It's 100 percent entrapment," said Siraj's uncle Saleem Noorali. The police informant "is a very good friend, and he (Siraj) very much sympathized with him. Too much."

Police said Siraj and El Shafay have no known ties to terrorist groups and were never in possession of actual explosives. The case against them

rests in part on the testimony of the informant, identified by Siraj's family only as "Dawadi," and recordings he made, sources said.

But Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said Siraj and El Shafay were motivated by "hatred of America" and had cased several potential targets, including the Herald Square

subway, the Verrazano and three NYPD precincts.

They even allegedly gave a diagram of the Herald Square station to the informant.

Dawadi first met Siraj when he came into Noorali's Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, bookstore, Islamic Books & Tapes, in September, Noorali said.

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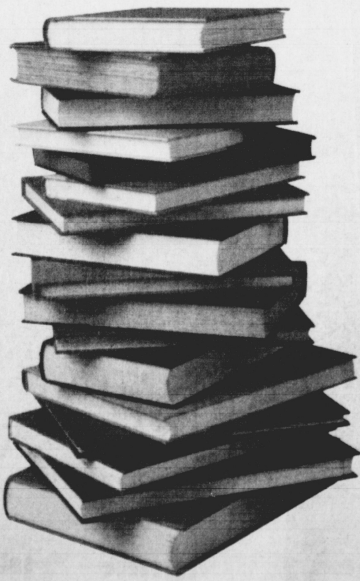
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FBI broadens leak probe

FBI conducts interviews to determine whether Pentagon officials leaked secrets

By Warren P. Strobel
Knight-Ridder Tribune

WASHINGTON — An FBI probe into the handling of highly classified material by Pentagon civilians is broader than previously reported, and goes well beyond allegations that a single mid-level analyst gave a top-secret Iran policy document to Israel, three sources familiar with the investigation said Saturday.

The probe, which has been going on for more than two years, also has focused on other civilians in the Secretary of Defense's office, said the sources, who spoke on condition they not be identified, but who have first-hand knowledge of the subject.

In addition, one said, FBI investigators in recent weeks have conducted interviews to determine whether Pentagon officials gave highly classified U.S. intelligence to a leading Iraqi exile group, the Iraqi National Congress, which may in turn have passed it on to Iran. INC leader Ahmed Chalabi has denied his group was involved in any wrongdoing.

The linkage, if any, between the two leak investigations, remains unclear.

But they both center on the office of Undersecretary of Defense Douglas Feith, the Pentagon's No. 3 official.

Feith's office, which oversees policy matters, has been the source of numerous controversies over the last three years. His office had close ties to Chalabi and was responsible for post-war Iraq planning that the administration has now acknowledged was inadequate. Before the war, Feith and his aides pushed the now-discredited theory that former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein was in league with al-Qaida.

No one is known to have been charged with any wrongdoing in the current investigation. Officials cautioned that it could result in charges of mishandling classified information, rather than the more serious charge of espionage.

The Israeli government on Saturday strenuously denied it had spied on the United States, its main benefactor on the global scene.

The American Israel Public Af-

fairs Committee, the powerful pro-Israel lobby that top officials said is suspected of serving as a conduit to Israel for the mid-level analyst, also has denied any wrongdoing.

That analyst, Larry Franklin, works for Feith's deputy, William Luti, and served as an important — albeit low-profile — advisor on Iran issues to Feith and Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz. Franklin, a former Defense Intelligence Agency analyst who lives in

"Obviously any time there is an allegation of this nature, it's a serious matter."

Scott McClellan
White House spokesman

West Virginia, could not be reached for comment Saturday.

Investigators are said to be looking at whether Franklin acted with authorization from his superiors, one official said.

Two sources disclosed Saturday that the information believed to have been passed to Israel was the draft of a top-secret presidential order on Iran policy, known as a National Security Presidential Directive. Because of disagreements over Iran policy among President Bush's advisors, the document is not believed to have ever been completed.

Having a draft of the document — which some Pentagon officials may have believed was insufficiently tough toward Iran — would have allowed Israel to influence U.S. policy while it was still being made. Iran is among Israel's main security concerns.

Two or three staff members of AIPAC have been interviewed in connection with the case. In a prepared statement, AIPAC said any allegation

of criminal conduct was "false and baseless." It is "cooperating fully," with investigators, AIPAC's statement said.

Israeli officials insisted they stopped spying on the United States after the exposure of Jonathan Pollard, who was arrested in 1985 and sentenced to life in prison for spying for Israel.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan declined to discuss the continuing investigation.

"Obviously any time there is an allegation of this nature, it's a serious matter," he told reporters traveling with Bush in Ohio.

In a statement issued late Friday, the Pentagon said it "has been cooperating with the Department of Justice on this matter for an extended period of time. It is the DoD (Department of Defense) understanding that the investigation within the DoD is limited in its scope."

But other sources said the FBI investigation is more wide-ranging than initial news reports suggested.

They said it has involved interviews of current and former officials at the White House, Pentagon and State Department.

Investigators have asked about the security practices of several other Defense Department civilians, they said.

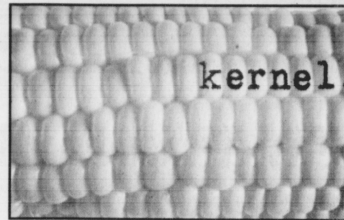
Franklin's name surfaced in news reports last year when it became known that he and another Pentagon Middle East specialist, Harold Rhode, met in late 2001 with Manucher Ghorbanifar, an Iranian arms merchant who played a role in the 1980s Iran-Contra scandal.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said publicly last year that nothing came of the meeting, which reportedly was brokered by former National Security Council official Michael Ledeen.

Rhode could not be reached for comment Saturday.

Feith has long been close to Israel. In 2000, he helped author a paper, "A Clean Break," that advised incoming Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to adopt a much tougher approach to the Palestinians and Israel's Arab neighbors.

A former Feith employee, Karen Kwiatkowski, has described how senior Israeli military officers were sometimes escorted to his Pentagon office without signing in as security regulations required.



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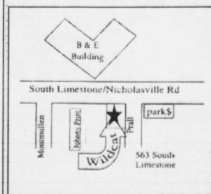
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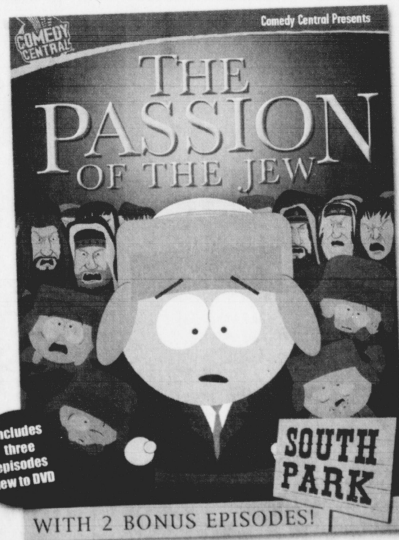
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Finding faith on campus

Spiritual matters may raise questions; finding a place to worship made easy

By Danielle Komis
The Kentucky Kernel

Stained glass windows, organ music and group prayer may not be at the forefront of students' minds if they slumber until noon on Sunday mornings. In fact, some students who once went to church may stop attending services once they come to college.

Alex Thomas, an English sophomore, said that while she went to a Baptist church regularly during high school, she doesn't attend consistently in Lexington.

Thomas acknowledged it wouldn't be difficult to find a church, considering the plethora of places to worship in Lexington.

"You could find a place just driving," she said, but added that she didn't see herself doing that. "I'm just not as religious as I used to be."

Thomas' situation is similar to that of other college students. At UK, many students may simply not know where to find a place of worship a r o u n d c a m p u s .

They also might not realize that c a m p u s ministry programs can help them find a place that fits their spiritual needs. Agriculture Education sophomore Candice Pike said she went to her boyfriend's Baptist church in Shelbyville about once a month before she came to UK. Once in Lexington, she tried to find a Baptist church that she liked but didn't find one that suited her.

Pike said her busy schedule also keeps her from attending services. Ideally, Pike said, she would like to attend a small church because she likes knowing everyone's name.

"It's more like a family," she said.

Daryl Schneider, a second-year mechanical engineering graduate student, said that in high school he went to church every Sunday with his family. Once he came to college, he just stopped going.

It wasn't any rebellion or not wanting to be part of the Catholic faith or anything," he said. Part of the reason for not attending was his busy schedule and late Friday and Saturday nights.

"I like sleeping in on Sunday mornings," he said.

While many college students put a premium on sleeping in, many churches, in turn, try to cater to this preference.

Southland Christian Church on Harrodsburg Road has a Sunday evening service geared to college students. The Newman Center and Holy Parish, located on campus, holds evening Mass on Sundays.

The Islamic Center, located on Limestone, has main weekly prayer on Friday afternoons.

For students without cars, getting to a church outside walking distance from campus may be difficult. Though the majority of ministries do not conduct services on campus, campus ministries do give students rides to local churches and help them find a church that suits their preferences.

These groups, including the Christian Student Fellowship, the Jewish Student Organization/Hillel Foundation, and the Catholic Newman Center, have a schedule of events ranging from Bible studies to Red River Gorge outings. Many of these groups are also conveniently located on campus.

Bill Hughes, campus minister at the United Methodist Center's Wesley Foundation on Columbia Avenue, said all of the campus ministries work together to get students involved. "We pray for the success of each other's ministry," he said. Incoming students fill out religious preference cards at freshman advising conferences that help each ministry identify students and get in touch with them. Rob McDowell, campus minister at the Christian Student Fellowship - Located at the corner of Columbia and Woodland avenues (859) 233-0313

"(College students) want something real and relevant and honest — not fake."

Rob McDowell
Campus minister



HILLY SCHIFFER | STAFF

Marketing and finance sophomore Colleen Santo pours out the spirit at the Catholic Newman Center's freshmen welcome cookout yesterday.

er to get students involved.

"They want something real and relevant and honest — not fake," he said. "That's our goal."

He also noted that many students stay away from ministries and church because they equate faith with the rules and regulations that may have existed in their former churches.

McDowell emphasized college as an important time in students' lives.

"It's really the first time you would make your faith your own," he said. "Don't leave your faith at the door — God is at college."

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Cartoonists say President Bush is all ears

As Bush presidency ages, his ears have grown in editorial cartoons

By Mike Peters
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DALLAS — The ears have it. That's the consensus of America's editorial cartoonists as they look at President Bush.

"You can always measure Bush's standing in a cartoon by his ears," said Mike Luckovich of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Leader Bush may have normal ears. A petty Bush may have tiny ears. A goofy Bush will have — begging the Democrats' pardon — donkey ears.

At first you're after a likeness, said Jim Morin of the Miami Herald, but then cartoonists tend to seize on a particular feature and "let the character, the soul as you see it, start shining through."

"Bush is great," said Eric Devericks of the Seattle Times. "And my Bush has definitely

changed over time. The more recognizable a person becomes, the more abstract their caricature can be. In the case of George W. Bush, his ears got bigger and he seemed to shrink."

The president has been a fixture on cartoonists' drawing boards for a while now — four years for the national artists and twice that long in Texas, where he was governor before striding into the White House.

"Before 2000, I think we were all more serious about him," said Bill DeOre of The Dallas Morning News. "He was solid and businesslike, a good governor."

"But you're not going to get into a job like being president and not screw up," he said, "and that changes the way you're perceived, by cartoonists and everybody else."

Now, DeOre sees the president as a man who is less than comfortable "living in a glass

bubble, and that makes him seem like a more vulnerable man, more human now."

Steve Nease, cartoonist for the Oakville Beaver in Ontario, said being based in Canada means he has a less partisan perspective on American politicians. He draws Bush, he said, based on how people see him as a man.

"He's gone through very distinct stages," said Nease. "When he was first elected, cartoonists in Canada portrayed him as something of a Junior. ... He came across as something of a little kid, inexperienced, riding Daddy's coattails. We drew him small."

But the big turning point, Nease said, was Sept. 11.

"Everything took a real twist," he said. "Everybody felt America's grief — and strength. All of a sudden, Bush went from being insignificant and small to a strong leader. And he was the good guy, standing tall against what we all saw as the enemy."

Recently though, his perceptions have changed again. "Canadians were always

"Before 2000, I think we were all more serious about him. He was solid and businesslike, a good governor. But you're not going to get into a job like being president and not screw up, and that changes the way you're perceived, by cartoonists and everybody else."

Bill DeOre
The Dallas Morning News

skeptical about attacking Iraq," Nease said, "and so Bush started looking more manipulative."

Matt Davies, who won the Pulitzer Prize for editorial cartooning this year, said that when Bush first hit the scene, "I started with his dad — looking for the ink DNA of the guy. They were kind of the same."

The president evolved on his drawing board at the Journal News in Westchester, N.Y.

"For me, he's become a little smaller, his ears pointier," said Davies. "I draw him with his eyes closed a lot. That just seems to fit. And whistling a lot — he doesn't seem to care much about anything."

Editorial cartoonists would pay for a mug like John Kerry's

By Mike Peters
KNIGHT RIDDER TRIBUNE

DALLAS — Christmas has come in July for editorial cartoonists: the Democratic candidate comes gift-wrapped with a face they can take to the bank.

"Kerry is a godsend," said Ed Gamble of Jacksonville's Florida Times Union. "Even conservative cartoonists won't mind having Kerry for president because there is so much to work with. It's hard to mess him up, with the hair at one end and the chin and big nose at the other

end." "I find him about as good as you can get," agreed Signe Wilkinson of the Philadelphia Daily News. "Clearly defined features. A face that goes on forever. Dark hair, dark eyebrows."

"And he never changes his expression," she says with a chuckle, "so you only have to learn one."

That enthusiasm is a far cry from the cartoonists' reaction to the 2000 Democratic nominee. Caricature artists found little to laugh at in Al Gore's stone-faced expression.

"It's much harder to

draw somebody who is basically nice-looking but with no distinguishing features," said Mike Peters of the Dayton Daily News. "If John Edwards didn't smile so much, he would be deadly for cartoonists."

"At the beginning most of us are just looking for likeness," said Jim Borgman of the Cincinnati Enquirer. "We're looking for a prominent feature."

Peters won a Pulitzer Prize in 1981 when Ronald Reagan was in the White House. Then, as with Kerry, he had great hair to mimic.

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IN OUR OPINION

Bronze medal disgrace to U.S. basketball

Saturday the USA men's basketball team defeated Lithuania 104-96 at the Olympics in Athens to win the bronze medal. That's right, the bronze medal.

Since winning the gold in Sydney in 2000, the Americans have seen their dominance dwindle in the realm of international basketball.

The reason for the breakdown in 2002 was the same as the past couple of weeks in Athens: very few of the NBA's marquee players felt it necessary to represent their country.

Athens: Shaquille O'Neal, Jason Kidd, Tracy McGrady, Steve Francis and the 2004 NBA MVP, Kevin Garnett.

That should be a starting five good enough to coast to gold, and we haven't even included Kobe Bryant.

Never mind the variety of excuses. Some players cited minor injuries and others claimed to be concerned with the threat of terrorism.

But such concerns wouldn't stop those players from showing up

for Game 7 of the NBA Finals or filming their latest Sprite commercial.

The bottom line is that the NBA culture has yielded a bunch of overpaid prima donnas who would rather play the Olympics on a Playstation 2 than on a court in Athens.

This is not to disrespect those players who devoted their summer to attempting to continue a tradition of excellence in American basketball.

But the vast majority of Olympic athletes don't have any other chance at glory; they work their en-

tire careers for this one moment. After the Olympics, those athletes will return home to ordinary jobs and lifestyles while NBA superstars can go back to driving their Bentleys and swimming in their indoor pools.

The challenge is to inspire the same appreciation for the Olympic games that the stars on the original Dream Team took to Barcelona in 1992.

Solutions include reverting to lineups made entirely of college players or sending one NBA team. But the real solution is for NBA superstars to put aside two months of their leisure time and represent something bigger than their egos.

It may be hard to believe, but something that big does exist.

In Olympic competition, the NBA's marquee players should step up and represent something bigger than themselves.

GOP Convention true reality television

For those of you tired of "Survivor," you tired, weak and huddled masses clamoring for entertainment above the brow of "The Bachelor," "The Surreal Life" and (my favorite) "Mr. Personality," the Republican Party has the answer you've been channel surfing for.



Jonathan Meador
CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST

Airing Aug. 30, the Republicans are launching the GOP Extreme National Convention Extravaganza Deluxe Party Show 2004, which will no doubt quench viewers' thirst for entertainment, excitement and pop music in a four-day orgy broadcast live by every major news network (except maybe Bravo).

Viewers can expect nothing short of a spectacle, as the convention is being held in New York City's Madison Square Garden. The Garden has been host to a plethora of entertaining acts in its 125-year history, including Michael Jackson and Sinead O'Connor.

Sadly, the GOPENCEDPS2K4 will be a politically oriented program, so viewers can expect some boring parts. However, statements made by Russ Schriefer, program director for the GOPENCEDPS2K4, ensure that pesky affairs of state won't get in the way

of the fun. "We're taking lessons from TV shows," Schriefer said on the GOPENCEDPS2K4 Web site. "We tried to look at what (TV does) to keep an audience."

Thank God! How mind numbing it is to hear politicians jabber on about crap that nobody cares about, like health care and social security and the war on whatever.

"BLAH BLAH BLAH oil, BLAH BLAH BLAH invade Iraq."

Boring! In fact, this BLAH-factor is exactly the reason why I didn't like the Democratic convention; too much talking about "issues," too many speeches about "fixing problems in American society," and not enough of that good ol' timely Gospel music.

It seems that Republicans have finally gotten the idea.

"Entertainment plays more of a role in marketing messages today than ever before," said Frank Breeden, GOPENCEDPS2K4 director of entertainment and former president of the Gospel Music Association.

According to The New York Times Web site, Breeden adds that convention organizers want to employ these marketing tools in the selling of their political philosophy, "just like Cadillac uses Led Zeppelin."

Totally awesome! I love those commercials!

While the schedule for the convention is still tightly under wraps,

here's my guess as to what you can expect:

"Battle For Central Park." Today, 6:11:30 p.m. Cops and protesters were war a la "American Gladiators," with the exciting exception that foam tennis balls are replaced by pure, unadulterated violence.

"STOMP: ABU GHRAIB" Tomorrow, 7:30-9:00 p.m. Private-cum-rhythm nation queen LynnDie England and Secretary of Stump Donald Rumsfeld lead an all-American dance squad in a special rendition of the Broadway smash "STOMP." (Viewer discretion is advised.)

"Predator Three: NYC" 8-10 p.m. The final chapter in the series, as the alien hunter travels to New York for a special prime time battle with the most charismatic Austrian since, uh, well, you-know-who. (Special appearance by an embittered, bo-wearing Jesse Ventura.)

"Dick Cheney WMD Dance Hour" Today through Thursday 11 p.m.-midnight. Join Dick and "Da Cabinet" for an hour of today's most explosive dance mixes courtesy of DJ Skribbble and Mix Master Ashcroft3000. (Viewer discretion is advised.)

Reality politicking at its best. Come tonight, you can bet I'll be supporting the American political commercial at a time.

Jonathan Meador is an English and journalism sophomore. E-mail: opinions@kykernel.com.

WEEK IN REVIEW

•Police arrested Charles Nathaniel Buchanan, 42, Thursday after a cross-campus car chase in which Buchanan clipped a UK police officer. Police were in pursuit of Buchanan because a traffic control officer patrolling the Commonwealth Stadium parking lot became suspicious of his Chrysler Cirrus.

The driver led police on a two-mile chase that ended on a dead end street in front of K-Lair. He could have avoided a dead end by taking a right on Cooper Drive or a left on Huguete Drive, but maybe he just had to have some of that K-Lair Thursday spaghetti special.

•The Kernel reported Thursday that UK student Cole Pence created the Web site justukstudents.com to help students get acclimated to UK. The site's best feature is the option to buy and sell new textbooks. Excellent. The more sites like Pence's and ukbookexchange.com, the better. Students can save a lot of money.

•UK dining services will soon roll out a new advertising campaign that highlights low-carb alternatives and the availability of healthy eating on campus. Ah, fat diets. We invite anyone who has found long-term success in skipping the fundamentals of healthy eating (you know, the food pyramid) and exercise to write about it here.

•UK Police issued a campus safety alert Thursday after a juvenile reported being grabbed by a man at the UK Chandler Medical Center. Police advised anyone on campus to stay aware of their surroundings, not to travel alone, and not to rest their eyes or sleep unaccompanied in public areas. So for all of you students planning to sleep in a public area, don't forget to bring a buddy.

•During an interview last week, UK President Lee Todd said he is making it a top priority to find out what it takes to be a top-20 institution and if it is possible for UK to reach that goal by 2020. The state legislature mandated that UK become a top-20 institution but did not define the specifics.

We hope that Todd will follow through with the promise and include input from students and faculty. Next time, legislators may want to make a call to the president's office before decreeing such orders.

COMPILED BY OPINIONS EDITOR ANDREW MARTIN AND ASSISTANT OPINIONS EDITOR BEN ROBERTS.

Online Poll Question

What is your evaluation of UK Parking and Transportation Services?
A.) They do an excellent job maintaining order on a crowded campus.
B.) I'll admit they do a good job even though I don't like the inconvenience of parking far away from class.
C.) I understand rules have to be followed, but do they have to be so strict?
D.) UK parking is hostile toward students.

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MATT CAREY, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Convention delegates need to institute some protester control

The Republican National Convention gets underway tonight in New York, and leftist talking heads are predicting that upward of a quarter-million protesters will storm the city this week and throw quite a hissy fit.

I'm sure the actual turnout will be significantly lower than expected. What are the chances that so many Volvo station wagons and hybrid Toyotas will actually survive a road trip to New York loaded down with five or six hippies?

Nevertheless, convention organizers need to be prepared for the worst-case scenario. After all, several organizations within the "peace-loving" leftist protest movement have gone public with their plans to break the law to disrupt the proceedings.

The lemmings are being encouraged to throw marbles under

the hooves of police horses, refuse to cooperate with officers and commit other such "peaceful" acts of dissent.

That's why I've decided to lead my infinite expertise to the RNC organizers and act as the new Director of the Department of Idiot Dispersion.

My sole duty is to prepare a team of conservative guerrillas to infiltrate the masses of protesters and disrupt their plans so that the convention can go off without a hitch.

First, my recruits need uniforms. They must look like the enemy if they wish to fool the enemy.

This will be easy and inexpensive. Each team member will be equipped with a busted-ass pair of Birkenstocks or other ugly open-

toed sandals. Then it's off to the nearest Goodwill store to complete the look. Our typical protester frequents this store. Not because they have to (Mommy and Daddy usually send them off to New York University and Columbia with the family credit card), but because it gives them anti-corporate credibility.

Our honorable recruits will each be fitted for a pair of faded corduroy pants or hole-filled jeans and T-shirts that look like they were stolen from Jerry Garcia's dressing room.

This new uniform will lend our agents a certain "earthy" quality and all the protesters will have a sense of security.

Now that our double agents look the part, it's time to begin the

campaign. Team Hippie will head to the nearest makeshift community of Volkswagen vans and excitedly exclaim, "Phish is performing a farewell concert by the Hudson River at midnight! Let's go!"

They'll pass several joints around during the ride over, and by the time the jig is up, our hippies won't care about protesting anymore; they'll head to the nearest Waffle House.

Team Hollywood will head to Kinko's and make hundreds of fake posters advertising tonight's premiere of Michael Moore's newest film, "Fidel and Me." They'll put them up around the richest parts of the city so that a strange reverent madness will descend upon celebrities and protesters alike. They'll be led on a wild goose chase to find the theater where the film is being shown.

Another team will be trusted to

spread misinformation throughout the pockets of protest. Agents will tell everyone about the newest display at the Museum of Modern Art called "Nuns of ethnic diversity" now on the crosses of the Catholic church.

Rumors will be planted that anchors from the Fox News Channel are in a closed-door meeting with Dick Cheney and reps from Halliburton at an unknown hotel somewhere in the city; protesters will also learn of an anti-Israel rally going down in the middle of the Bronx.

These steps should ensure a pleasant Republican National Convention. Liberal politicians have easily manipulated these protester types for decades. It's time we used their naivete against them.

Josh Sullivan is a journalism and political science senior. E-mail: jsullivan@kykernel.com.



Josh Sullivan
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Home invite sour for Cats

Leslie Whitte
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

At the Kentucky Invitational, the UK women's soccer team has taken Southern hospitality a little too far.

With a 3-1 loss to Wisconsin (2-0) on Sunday, the Cats extended their losing streak in their tournament to eight games. On Friday, the Cats fell to No. 15 West Virginia in double overtime, 3-2.

The losses gave UK its first 0-2 start since 1997, and the Cats blamed themselves.

"These teams aren't beating us; we're beating ourselves with our own mistakes," said sophomore forward Elisabeth Jones. "We have a good attack, but we keep heading the ball out and giving up silly mistakes."

Freshman forward Callie Lanphier agreed. "We have to play simpler. We have to work through the game to the end and get past the mistakes."

While the Cats struggled with mistakes defensively, the offense missed several scoring opportunities against Wisconsin.

The Cats threatened in the 24th minute, but Lanphier's shot hit the

crossbar.

Seconds later, Wisconsin junior midfielder Katy Lindemuth scored the Badgers' first goal as her shot bounced off the hands of UK goalkeeper Anne Ogundele. Less than two minutes into the second half, Wisconsin scored again when sophomore midfielder Kara Kabelis booted in a loose ball.

UK answered in the 50th minute when Jones drove down the left side past the Wisconsin defense and knocked home her first goal of the season.

"Their defense kept dropping and no one stepped up so I was able to get a shot off," Jones said.

In the 60th minute, UK goalkeeper Liz Butler replaced Ogundele, but the Cats were unable to stop Wisconsin as midfielder Marissa Brown added another goal seven minutes later.

UK threatened again late in the game, but the Badger defense blocked one shot and then watched as shots from Alli Haeussler and Courtney McCrudden sailed over the goal.

"We had our offense going, but we just didn't finish our chances," said head coach Warren Lipka. "We hit the crossbar, stray balls got

away and we kept giving up mistakes."

Lipka also said his team has to tighten its defense.

"We're getting beat in the air and giving teams too many second and third chances. Our schedule is too tough to think teams are not going to capitalize inside our 18."

The Cats will travel to Ann Arbor, Mich., and East Lansing, Mich., this weekend to take on No. 20 Michigan (0-1) and Michigan State (1-0).

Friday's Game: No. 15 West Virginia 3, UK 2 20T

With less than four minutes left in the second overtime, West Virginia's Natalie Cocchi spoiled UK's home opener with a goal to defeat the Cats, 3-2. In the 11th minute, UK took an early lead on a goal by senior midfielder Danielle Stupski, who was playing in her first game since September 2003 when she went down with a knee injury. UK freshman forward Callie Lanphier extended the lead to 2-0 with a goal 15 seconds into the second half. The Mountaineers rallied with goals in the 63rd and 76th minute to force overtime.

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UK freshman defender dribbles away from Wisconsin's Molly Meuer. The Cats gave up two second-half goals in a 3-1 loss to the Badgers on Sunday.

Backs pack on extra muscle

Editor's note: This is the fourth of eight stories examining UK's football team position-by-position.

By Jeff Patterson
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Draak Davis doesn't care about the hype. He never has. When the highly touted junior college running back arrived on UK's campus last fall, he came with jaw-dropping numbers.

Davis ran for 1,846 yards, 23 touchdowns, averaging 8.4 yards per carry at Solano Community College in Fairfield, Calif.

Many expected him to replace the departed SEC Offensive Player of the Year, Artose Pinner.

But by the end of the season, Davis had 194 rushing yards and three touchdowns.

Disappointing.

Yet it wasn't a failure for Davis.

Since then, he has put on 10 to 15 pounds of muscle.

In practice he has seemed somewhere in between the back who averaged 2.9 yards per carry last year and the back with larger-than-life expectations.

"I feel a lot stronger than last year," Davis said. "I feel that I can actually break a tackle."

Davis wasn't the only back who bulked up.

Fellow junior Arliss Beach, who will start for the Cats Sunday against Louisville, also added 10 to 15 pounds.

"Carrying a little more weight helps me break a little more tackles," Beach said. "But I kept my speed — that's what I'm happy about."

Junior fullback Rock Johnson said he put on five pounds so that he could "open up some holes."

The Cats plan on using a run-heavy offense this season, and being able to break tackles will be crucial to their success.

The added weight may also be needed in case the Cats' youthful offensive line doesn't come along and open running holes.

"The whole offensive unit knows we have to establish the run before we open up the pass this year," Johnson said.

However, running backs coach Ron Caragher can see that his backs are much different from a year ago. And the backs see it, too.

"They have experience in the offense."

"It's much different from a year ago," Caragher said. "Heading into fall camp with Artose Pinner taking the majority of snaps the year before, those guys didn't get much playing time."

With the Cats having no proven starter, and with the hype surrounding Davis, he was selected to start.

However, after he started the first four games for UK in 2003, UK's coaches were looking for someone else to be their featured back.

The silver lining for the Cats was that they got looks at several different backs.

Now that UK's backs have experience in this offense, maybe they can live up to the hype.

"The whole offense, we have combined to gel and get better," Davis said. "We are starting to click."

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Scouting the running backs

Strengths: Getting stronger. Everyone put on some muscle in the offseason. Draak Davis looks more explosive now that he has added 10 to 15 pounds.

The Cats needed to get stronger in order to break tackles that they didn't a year ago. Rock Johnson will be one of the better blocking fullbacks in the SEC.

Weaknesses: Nobody has stepped up to be the man yet. Arliss Beach will be the starter, but minor injuries have kept him from putting a chokehold on the position.

Player to Watch: Arliss Beach. He showed he could get into the end zone last year (8 TDs in 103 carries), but his longest run was 26 yards.

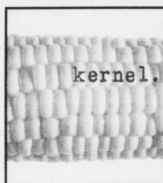
The junior back could be ready to break out this year, his second under offensive coordinator Ron Hudson.

Newcomers: Dominic Lewis and Tony Dixon have shown moments of solid play. Dixon came over from the secondary and has some nice cutting ability. Lewis is more of an upright back who will pound the ball.

Rafael Little participated in Saturday's scrimmage and may be a factor later in the year if he doesn't redshirt.

Outlook: This unit should be markedly better than a year ago. Remember, Artose Pinner didn't emerge as a force until his senior year, and the Cats are juniors through their second string, so they should be better. The Cats are more comfortable in the system. However, it will not matter if the offensive line struggles to create room.

— Jeff Patterson



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Continued from pg. 9

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