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Thursday  
June 23, 2005

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# THE KENTUCKY Kernel

Celebrating 33 years of independence

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with Bourbon n' Toulouse  
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The Woodsman:  
Worth watching  
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## Interest in debt owed debated

By Tiffany Stephens  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Yesterday, local scholars and Lexingtonians gathered at the Central Library Theater to debate the moral implications of reparations.

Speakers and Lexington citizens discussed the consideration of reparations for the black community and how this might affect society.

They also discussed racism and discrimination that is still found in the community.

This discussion was the fifth installment in a series presented by the Lexington Network titled "The Reparations Debate: The Moral Perspective."

The series leads up to a final community meeting on July 19.

The concluding meeting will give community citizens a chance to brainstorm possible reparations initiatives.

Rev. James Kirby, a church and theology professor at Lexington Theological Seminary and a staunch supporter of reparations, told the audience why he thought the black community was entitled to compensation.

He began the debate by describing to the audience the historical value of reparations and its definition.

"Reparations is an act of compensation," Kirby said. "It is repairing or mending."

He said reparations is a part of history that dates back to biblical times, Kirby said. He recited many quotes from the Bible that mentioned reparations.

Kirby also referred to recent historic examples of reparations being paid to amend wrongdoings.

He told the audience about reparations paid to many Japanese-Americans for their stays in internment camps during World War II, and Germany's offer of reparations to Israel for the Holocaust.

Arguments against reparations were also addressed in Kirby's debate.

Kirby said to those who ask why they have to pay for past ancestor's mistakes that the injustice of the past is still here.

He also stated that justice has not been served for slavery and Jim Crow laws.

"My response to this 'forgive and forget' approach is ... reconciliation can only come in the form of justice," Kirby said.

Kirby argued the importance of this issue to the black community, saying that reparations was another form of "justice."

"I'm convinced that reparations for African

See DEBATE on page 2



Brooks Shuping, 17, of Lexington, gets some air during "The Invasion" skate competition at Woodland Park on Tuesday, June 21 was "Skateboarding Day."

## On the Flip Side

For Skateboarding Day on June 21st, Cosmic of Fayette Mall in Lexington sponsored "The Invasion" skate competition at Woodland Park.



(Above) A skater in "The Invasion" skate competition.



(Right) Cody Robinson does a trick during the skate competition.

## Randolph runs off

By Josh Sullivan  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Randolph Morris made it official on Tuesday. He's foregoing his final three years of college eligibility to remain in the NBA draft, bringing a swift close to his short UK career.

Morris contacted the NBA executive office around 5 p.m. Tuesday to confirm his decision. Tuesday was the deadline for underclassmen to remove their name from the draft in order to return to college.

UK head coach Tubby Smith has been preparing for life after Morris since early May, when the freshman center first notified him by fax that he was testing the NBA waters. Since then, Morris and his family have avoided contact with the UK coaching staff.

Smith issued a statement Tuesday night following confirmation of Morris' departure.

"Randolph was an important part of our team last year and will certainly be missed," Smith said in the release. "We wish him the very best as he pursues a professional basketball career, just as we have with every player who has pursued those opportunities in the past. I feel good about the players we have coming back next season and the newcomers we've added to the roster. I look forward to getting started with this group in the fall."

Morris has worked out for several NBA teams in the last few weeks, including the Los Angeles Lakers, Sacramento Kings and Houston Rockets.

Some draft analysts project Morris as a late first-round pick, while others predict he'll fall to the second round. Players drafted in the first round receive guaranteed, three-year contracts, while second round picks aren't assured of a contract at all.

In a phone interview on Lexington's 630 WLAP AM Tuesday night, Morris' father Ralph said his son is willing to take the risk of falling out of the first round in order to fulfill his lifelong dream of playing in the NBA. He also said his son made the decision to leave UK on his own, and thanked fans for supporting Randolph during his time in Lexington.

Morris averaged 8.8 points and 4.4 rebounds per game last year, but his numbers improved substantially down the stretch. He recorded a double-double in the second round of the NCAA Tournament against Cincinnati, scoring 11 points and grabbing 10 boards. In the Wildcats' regional final loss to Michigan State he posted 20 points.

Morris' departure leaves the Cats with just two returning starters, guards Rajon Rando and Patrick Sparlin.

The NBA draft will be held June 28 in New York City.

E-mail  
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## College Republicans raise funds and eyebrows

By Thomas B. Edsall  
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON—For decades, elections in the College Republicans have been known as "sandbox politics," a low-stakes training ground that has produced such masters as Lee Atwater, Karl Rove, Ralph Reed and Grover Norquist.

"It's like passion mixed with Clearasil," said conservative publicist Craig Shirley,

a former College Republican.

This year, however, a new ingredient has raised the stakes: large sums of money. Forced by the 2002 campaign finance law to become an independent 527 political committee, the College Republican organization has turned into a fundraising gold mine.

The College Republican National Committee is no longer a poor cousin to the Republican National Committee, dependent on a

\$150,000 stipend for survival. The days when officers and staff shared cramped apartments, slept on mattresses on the floor and drank cheap beer are now in the past.

In 2003 and 2004, the CRNC raised a total of \$17.3 million.

Most of the money went to pay fundraising costs, but more than \$2 million was left over to hire field operatives, pay top officers and staff and cover office and travel expenses.

The large operating budget has made the CRNC chairmanship a much sought-after political plum. But it has also generated controversy within the group over the tactics being used to raise such large sums.

As the campaign for the chairmanship of the College Republicans heats up, the two candidates—Michael Davidson of California and Paul Gourley of South Dakota—are fighting over the techniques used to raise the \$17 million.

Gourley, a senior at the University of South Dakota, is the current national treasurer and is viewed as the establishment candidate.

The pattern in recent years has been for the establishment candidate to win easily, sometimes without opposition. Davidson went to the University of California at Berkeley and in 2003 was

chairman of the state College Republicans.

The current chairman, Eric Hoplin, and Gourley have been attacked by critics for allowing Response Dynamics, the company doing fundraising, to use questionable methods.

These tactics included repeated solicitations using letterheads and language suggesting that money donated

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# Features



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## FLY ON THE WALL | Feelin' the buzz

By James Taylor  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Frankly, before beginning this article, I'd never heard of Bourbon n' Toulouse but had always driven past it, never knowing of its existence.

The "Cajun n' Creole Joint" offers all dishes for \$5 (tax included), and drinks cost \$1 (also including tax) with free refills. Just in case anyone needs to know all the food contains rice.

I was really surprised when I first walked into Bourbon n' Toulouse. I'll admit, I was expecting a shabby atmosphere.

Was I surprised when I walked in to eat?

Well, there are two rooms plus the kitchen. A chalkboard menu is prominently displayed in the first room, and patrons order food at the counter.

To the left is the soda fountain and bottled drinks, including Kentucky's own Ale-8-One.

The first room is painted a chili-pepper red and the second, mustard yellow.

The backs of the booths have jazz theme paintings and abstract paintings with Mardi Gras beads hang from the ceiling above the counter.

Blues play gently in the background, just loud enough to hear, but not so loud that conversation is drowned out.

The food at Bourbon n' Toulouse is good — out of three dishes, mine was the only one I was not completely satisfied with.

I ordered the special of the day — Chicken Creole with black bean salsa.

Now every other dish that I have had with that name, I've immensely enjoyed.

However at Bourbon n' Toulouse they used canned tomatoes, which I think ruins a meal; the tomato taste over ran any other taste the meal could have had.

My friends, on the other hand, had some of the best Creole food that I've ever tasted.

One friend had Jambal-



Violin sophomore Anna Hess eats at Bourbon n' Toulouse with friend Chris Sullivan of Lexington.

aya — absolutely the best-tasting that I've ever tried. My other friend had Chicken Etoufee, which was magnificent, with refried beans and chicken mixed in the sauce.

Both dishes were just spicy enough that the heat didn't overwhelm my taste buds.

In case you have room for dessert they do sale pralines and other packaged cookies at the counter.

Budweiser, Bud Light and Miller Light are available for diners 21 and older.

I went in during the lunch hour because I had to meet a deadline, and the place was filled with business people, and most of them ate right in the store.

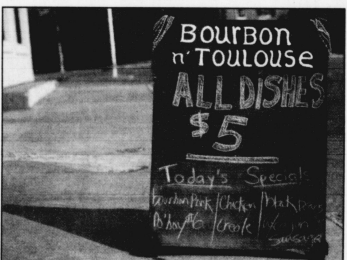
For the most part, everyone was enjoying the atmosphere and the music. No one at Bourbon n' Toulouse ate alone — it's a great place to go with friends and have a plate of jambalaya.

E-mail: features@kykernel.com

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## Debate

Continued from page 1

"Americans cannot be dismissed," he said.

Kirby concluded by saying that, without acknowledgement of wrongdoing, equality cannot take place, and that reparations are owed to blacks on "moral grounds."

"This is the argument for collective moral responsibility," Kirby said. Rabbi Marc Kline of Temple Adath Israel spoke in opposition of reparations being the "final answer" to racism and discrimination in the community.

"When we talk about black reparations, we ignore the greater problem: hate," Kline said.

He referred to reparations as a "Band-Aid," and not a solution to the root of the problem.

He compared racism to a cancerous tumor that may spread if the "core of the problem" is not addressed.

Kline also told the audience about his personal experiences with reparations.

He said he personally did not believe in Holocaust reparations because he didn't want to benefit monetarily from what happened to his an-

### The Reparations Debate

"What have we learned, what will we do?"

What: The final meeting in The Reparations Debate Series. This meeting will give citizens the chance to brainstorm possible reparations initiatives.

When: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. July 19

Where: Mayor's Training Center  
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The meeting is free and open to the public.

cestors.

"I refuse to hand to my children the legacy of victimhood," Kline said.

Kline also addressed the issue of racism in the Lexington community, saying if Lexington's white community were asked if there was racism and discrimination in the community, most would say "no" because they are not aware of it.

"The basis of the problem of white privilege is that we don't realize there is a white privilege," he said.

The state of mind in our society would not be changed by the issue of reparations, Kline said.

"We are not going to solve the problem by writing checks," he said. "There is no moral victory in a legal victory."

Kirby responded to Kline's statement by saying that reparations are not just about writing checks. He said his idea of "suitable" reparations would be "bridging the economic gap" between blacks and whites in the forms of education and healthcare.

Kirby suggested reparations in the form of free tuition for black students for a certain amount of time and free healthcare for blacks.

Kline said the community should not focus on the past, and should encourage change in the way future generations think about racial relations.

"We have to become proactive in making the next generation make better decisions than we've made," he said.

Myra Parks, a Kentucky State University student, said that reparations is a very important topic for the entire Lexington community to address, and problems relating to slavery are still deeply rooted in our society.

"This is still relevant," Parks said. "We are not just playing the role of victim; it goes beyond that."

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# MOVIES YOU MISSED | Go rent them

By Tiffany Stephens  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

This week's film selection is a great departure from last week's feel-good comedy *But I'm a Cheerleader*.

Although *The Woodsman* won't put you in the best mood, it will definitely make you think about the torment a deviant mind goes through in our society. In this gripping portrayal of a sexual predator's attempt at normalcy, taboos are revealed and addressed. This film not only entails serious subject matter, but it also portrays the topic of child sexual abuse from a different point of view: the child molester's.

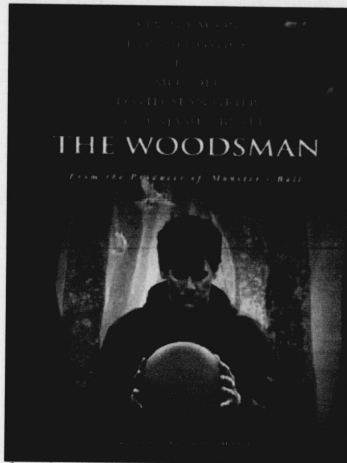
*The Woodsman* (2004), directed by Nicole Kassell, follows a pedophile that returns to his hometown after 12 years in prison for molesting young girls. Kevin Bacon plays sad-eyed, quiet Walter, a man haunted by the things he has done, and the looming battle ahead to function normally in society after being labeled a monster.

Bacon's role as a tormented soul constantly battling between what feels good and what's right is captivating and thought provoking.

This is easily the best performance of his bland career (although *Tremors* is one of my favorite action films).

Kyra Sedgwick, Bacon's real-life wife, plays Vicki, Walter's "love interest" and chance at a normal, healthy relationship. Though Vicki is obviously damaged goods herself, their relationship seems genuine and loving.

Vicki, even after finding out about Walter's dark past, pursues a relationship with him, hoping that with love, Walter will make it through his eternal struggle



with guilt and regret.

The movie takes on a suspenseful tone when Walter has to decide which direction he will take: Will he go against society's idea of normalcy and succumb to his sexual desires, or will he slowly rebuild his life as a "human being," not a so-called monster?

The most troubling and heart-breaking scene of the film is when Walter has to choose what direction his life will take on a park bench, sitting next to a little girl.

What is so alluring about this film is that Walter isn't instantly "cured" of his unconventional sexual desires when he gets out of prison. This is a daring and realistic approach to this taboo topic.

His mind isn't completely free of thoughts of little girls "sitting on his lap." And, although Walter is clearly haunted by what he has done to children, he still experiences the urge to be with children.

As pessimistic as not being cured of sexual deviance may sound, it takes the movie into unknown territory. The predator's struggle is profiled, not the victim's.

This film may be troubling to many and it may make viewers reconsider their definitions of a "monster."

But sometimes the best films those that make you reconsider why you believe what you believe.

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## Mom was wrong: Games are good

By Bob Thompson  
THE WASHINGTON POST

NEW YORK — There seem to be two Steven Johnsons. And at this particular moment, it's hard to believe they're the same guy.

There's Steven Johnson, Swell Dad, who sits with you in his Brooklyn dining room and politely interrupts your conversation to commune with a way-cute toddler who's dashed in bearing bottled water and news from the outside world. "Hi, Rowan! Oh, thank you, that's very helpful. Was it hot outside, buddy?" he says.

Then there's Steven Johnson, Parents' Nightmare, who's been parading around calling video games like *Grand Theft Auto* and TV shows like "24" brain food for your kids. He's the provocateur who titled his most recent book "Everything Bad Is Good for You: How Today's Popular Culture Is Actually Making Us Smarter" — a deliberate nana-nana-boo-boo to the Books Are Better crowd.

The most debated forms of mass diversion — video games and violent television dramas and juvenile sitcoms — turn out to be nutritional after all," Johnson writes. They offer an increasingly rigorous "cognitive workout." And the mental skills

they hone "are just as important as the ones exercised by reading books."

Well, He steeled himself for a negative reaction — because if "Everything Bad" did its job, it was going to make some people mad.

What about the stuff "Everything Bad" ignores? What about all that sex and violence you don't want your kids exposed to? Or the highly addictive nature of video games? Or the toxic sea of commercialism in which all that televised complexity must float?

But it would be best, perhaps, to start with some points of agreement.

You agree that book-loving snobs tend to ignore the fact that video games can be challenging and absorbing.

Games aren't "Hamlet" or "The Great Gatsby," Johnson writes; they're more like mathematical logic problems, teaching "abstract skills in probability, in pattern recognition, in understanding causal relations that can be applied in countless situations."

But he plays down, or leaves out entirely, too many questions: What about all that sex and violence? Does *Grand Theft Auto* have to make people smarter by rewarding them for killing prostitutes?

He, Hoplin and others in national headquarters led a long negotiation to end the contract with Response Dynamics, he said.

Davison's platform calls for the College Republicans to "align our fundraising practices with our principles."

Davison declines to publicly criticize Hoplin and Gourley. But a pro-Davison blog titled "CRNC Chatter: Truth Fears No Trial" declares that Paul Gourley was the one who signed the fundraising letters that has brought this organization so much negative attention, controversy and inner-fighting.

Meanwhile, the pro-Gourley "CR Veterans For Truth" ran a statement from Rhode Island College Republican chairman Pratik Chougule charging that the Davison campaign is spreading lies about Gourley. "I was misled into changing my support,"

"I feel like the values questions, the violence questions, all those kind of content questions that I kind of put off to the side, I don't put off to the side because they're irrelevant," he says. "Violence is absolutely a legitimate thing to talk about."

Can't constantly gaming kids become addicted? "Absolutely. No question about it," Johnson says, but the brain's craving for rewards, like the Force in *Star Wars*, can be used for good as well: "You can get them to do things much more challenging mentally than what I was doing when I was sitting around watching TV" as a kid.

Even reality television is better than old-time game shows or "Mork & Minky," he maintains, because it enhances the viewers' emotional intelligence by getting them to "analyze and recall the full range of social relationships in a large group."

Wouldn't they learn faster by turning off the tube and interacting with actual human beings?

"Exactly right," he says calmly. But if you assume "people are going to spend some amount of their time in front of screens..."

Not assuming that, apparently, isn't an option.

Chougule said, "Not only was the information I received false, I discovered that it was given to me from a Davison insider."

The Gourley-Davison campaign has produced opposition research that would be the envy of a presidential campaign.

The campaigns have lined up endorsements from members of the House and Senate, governors and conservative talk radio hosts.

"The College Republicans have become something they never were," said David Keene, chairman of the American Conservative Union.

"I think obviously it's a more powerful and influential organization, and it means the chairman is even more a player: If you have an independent base, that means party leaders can't just tell you, 'Shut up, kid.'"

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## CRNC

Continued from page 1

would go directly to the Republican Party or to the Bush campaign. Some of the recipients of the appeals were elderly men and women suffering from dementia.

One of the most controversial solicitations carried the letterhead "Republican Headquarters 2004" and asked for \$1,000 "because you have been such a patriot, a Republican stalwart and a loyalist to President Bush and the GOP agenda."

The letter was signed by "Paul Gourley, National Director."

Gourley said that he never saw the letter until it was posted on a blog, and that he never approved either the content or the use of his name.



## IN OUR OPINION

# Court ruling bad news for free press

Free speech could become a thing of the past on college campuses across the nation, and more than likely, the average student doesn't care.

They should. In a 7-4 decision on June 20, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit overturned a lower court's ruling on Hosty v. Carter, effectively dismissing college journalists' claims of First Amendment violations at Governors State University in Illinois.

The decision maintains that the U.S. Supreme Court's 1988 Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier case, which allows school officials to "reasonably" censor high-school media, also applies to college and university campuses.

Well, that's a devastating blow to First

Amendment rights, to say the least.

Journalism — yes, even college media — should act as a "watchdog" of sorts for the public, exposing corruption and championing the exchange of ideas in a public forum.

The Hosty v. Carter decision erodes that ability.

Though The Kernel is an independent, student-run publication, we don't pay rent for our offices in the basement of the Grehan Building. Our student media adviser and business manager are technically government officials because they're on univer-

sity payroll.

Does this mean our voice — and yours, in effect — should be subject to censorship by university officials?

Certainly not — then, it would merely be a puppet to the administration. And a puppet newspaper is not a newspaper at all; it's a propaganda machine.

Apathetic college students everywhere (and especially on this campus) need to be aware of the implications of free speech. Without it, we're simply drones, parroting the virtues of an institution that no one bothers to question.

Without it, journalism doesn't exist.

Without it, freedom of expression doesn't exist.

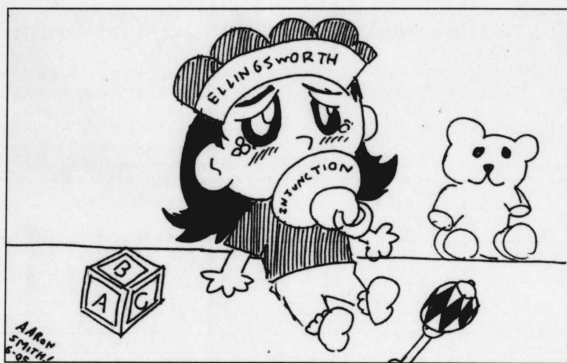
And to students and citizens everywhere, that should be a matter of utmost importance.

College media isn't the only student-run organization under potential fire from Hosty v. Carter — Student Government, student-selected speakers and even the free films shown in the Student Center are subject to administrative control.

So show how much you care. Let the administration know you care about your right to freely express yourself.

It's a matter of personal freedom that no government-sanctioned body should dare dictate.

**Application of Hazelwood case to college newspapers means more power for administration.**



AARON SMITH, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

## When I think about cancer, I touch myself

I stood, half naked, in front of the mirror.

I was intensely making sure I was actually feeling what I hoped to God I wasn't feeling. Although I couldn't see it, it felt exactly as the Web site said it would:

"A small lump or mass on the side or the front of the testes."

Panicked, I called my girlfriend into the bedroom.

In matters concerning my health, she will gladly inform me that, 99 percent of the time, I'm something of a hypochondriac. (According to her, using Band-Aids is quite unnecessary, a practice best left to five-year-olds and car-acident victims.)

But when she looked me in the eyes, having felt the little ballpoint pebble we both knew was there, I could tell that something was wrong.

We were definitely in 1 percent territory.

So I spent the rest of the night more or less freaking out. I phoned my insurance-providing parents in Louisville and demanded that doctor appointments be made. I drank beer. I checked the Internet for more information, learning, among other things, that testicular cancer is the most common form of cancer that afflicts men my age (ages 15 to 35), and that, although accounting for only 1 percent of all male cancers, it is the *sine qua non* killer-cancer in young men.

Like me.

I drank more beer. Around 3:30 a.m., when the beer was making it hard for me to watch any more infomercials, I went to bed. Sleep didn't come

easy, and when it did I had a horrible nightmare.

I dreamt I was vacationing with my decidedly hypothetical future wife and kids at our secluded farmhouse. I was outside the house, checking on firewood or something, when it began storming violently. Then, from out of the shadows, a man in a hockey mask pulled up to me. He wielded a chainsaw, and as he went about pulling the ignition chord, I panicked. I ran in circles around the farmhouse, where my dream-family soundly sleeping, unaware of their patriarch's unmanly performance in the face of certain death.

When the chainsaw guy finally gets his weapon of choice up and running, all I could do was I scream, but no sound came out, as if my throat had already been cut.

Then I woke up, screaming (for real, and with much, *much* sound) at the top of my lungs. Coincidentally, this screaming woke up my girlfriend as well. As I drifted back to sleep I couldn't help but realize what my mind was trying to tell me:

Confronted with the prospect of my own death, I will run around like a chicken with its head cut off.

The next day, in an effort to seem somewhat less headless, I walked just a few blocks from my apartment to Samaritan Hospital. I checked myself into the ER and sat down with the rest of the patients to wait.

What followed was the typical hospital experience: Long periods of waiting, interrupted by brief periods of movement in which one is transferred to another room for the purpose of changing into paper clothing, only for you to wait more periods of gargantuan time, except that with a sharp draft creeping up

your back you feel more scared and confused.

When the doctor finally burst into the room I prepared for the worst. I lay down, feeling the sanitary paper cold against my bare skin.

I closed my eyes, envisioning myriad possibilities that would arise should the doctor discover that the little ballpoint pebble was, in fact, trying to kill me. (Or, for poetic effect, that the little ballpoint pebble was wielding a chainsaw.)

I envisioned more rounds of hospital waiting. I envisioned operations, sharp instruments. I envisioned chemotherapy.

"Uh, Jonathan," said the doctor. "You're gonna have to help me here, partner, 'cause I can't find it."

I showed him; I felt like a student struggling to prove to his teacher he knew where Latvia was on the pull-down map.

Then the doctor did something I did not expect, nor think a doctor capable of doing: He laughed.

He took off his latex gloves with a snap, telling me that it was nothing to worry about (yet), called the lump a "harmless fibrous something-or-other," and told me to check on it once a month.

As the doctor left, clipboard in hand, he told, "You did the right thing, coming here and getting it checked out. It's better to be safe than sorry."

And so, 30 days from now I will continue to do the right thing, standing half-naked in front of the mirror to see if the little pebble has turned into a not-so-little pea. Until then, I will sleep (sans chainsaws) the sleep of children. Hypochondriac, my ass.

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## Howard Dean's 'fake' Christianity

Holy false front! It seems that some of the silliest liberal leaders are once more playing the religion card! And their poker faces can barely conceal their cheek-splitting laughter as they talk about beliefs and faith elements they either know very little about or would never actually hold.

Our first exhibit in this reopening wing of the Shrine of Churchianity is Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean, who I believe you all know.

Last week this screaming but honest fool was the central topic in this column, in which I lambasted his critics for hastening to explain the utterly hilarious joke that is Howard Dean, which assuredly everyone already gets. Even more hilarious is Dean's own proclamation that of course he's a Christian himself, which evidently is supposed to give added legitimacy to his blasting of his brethren in the Church, or something.

Listen, Howard. Doctors have set rules for themselves, right? And if one is a doctor, one would have had to pass a rigorous system of exams and qualifications. And one certainly wouldn't make an egregious simple medical error like thinking the human heart is located in the left elbow. Otherwise the other, authentic doctors will get together and laugh — just as real Christians are doing now at you, Dr. Dean.

In the word of the immortal Captain Jack Sparrow: Savvy? A good giveaway of the pretenders is not only a tendency to scream for love offerings on TV from a stage amongst multiple potted plants, but also this: the pretenders will frequently bungle around for a few seconds after a tell-us-about-your-faith question and then insist something like, "Yes, I consider myself a Christian."

Ergo, Dean's milky little response to Tim Russert during a May 22 interview:

"I consider myself a deeply religious person. I consider myself a Christian. ... You know, some of the other Christians would dare to say that I'm not a Christian. Frankly, it's what gets my ire up."

Hey Dean. Ire this: *You're not a Christian.* And true Christ-followers, while they occasionally have doubts, have certainty about the state of their faith. It comes with the job. Also part of the job description is permission to scrutinize other "Christians."

A few previous Dean blunders also give away his disguise. Even most non-Christians know the book of Job isn't in the New Testament as Dean once declared — and the serious Christ-followers are aware that the book doesn't revolve around "the suffering of the poor."

Then there's that whole definition of "Christian" itself: "one who is like Christ." That is, people who believe in Christ and the Word that He wrote, want to learn it and communicate with their Savior and allow His thoughts and actions to influence theirs.

Yes, that will logically lead to some viewpoints that could be considered politically conservative. It will also result in a steadfast, yet loving, resistance toward those who disagree — an attitude I concede too many Christians often don't exhibit. But this attitude is most foreign not to the Christian Jerry Falwell, but to the "Christian" Howard Dean — the same supposed Christ-follower who once told a questioning Iowan, "George Bush is not my neighbor! ... It is time not to put up (with) any of this 'love thy neighbor' stuff."

Meanwhile, Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.), seems to put Christlike ones and nonbelievers alike to shame with his incredible spiritual aptitude:

"I went back and reread the whole New Testament the other day. Nowhere in the three-year ministry of Jesus Christ did I find a suggestion at all ... that you ought to take the money from the poor, the opportunities from the poor and give them to the rich people."

Wait! Lay aside theological problems for a moment and take note. Sen. Kerry read the whole New Testament in one day. Now that is incredible. They must teach some amazing skills out there on those Swift Boats, over in Vietnam where the senator apparently fought with valor or something!

Now let's briefly torpedo the theology: the whole "Given: Jesus cared for the poor; given: you don't care for the poor; therefore: you are a hypocrite and actually hate Jesus" chain of illogic breaks apart easily without even resulting to complicated analysis.

There's a whole other column possibility here, but in summary, one's opposition to extending liberals' favorite social programs doesn't mean one hates the poor and wants them to starve. True aid for the poor will not come from a "morality" enforced by a quasi-socialist federal government, but from the deeds resulting from the compassionate hearts of America's people.

I had more, but this page can only hold so much faux-faith "Churchianity" in one place.

Don't assume for a moment that I want these people to shut up. Just as I've suggested with Dean: Let them speak! And if they now truly want to act as if they were really poor misunderstood Christians all along, I shall be most glad to sic a posse of professional evangelists on them to discuss the *true* Christ.

Otherwise I'm unconcerned about these politicians' pathetic professions of "faith." Few serious believers worth their weight in salt of the earth will be fooled.

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## Morris decision his to make, not Wildcat Nation's

Screwed. Rogered. Hosed. UK fans feel that they pretty much got railed yesterday, when Randolph Morris decided to keep his name in the NBA draft. After losing to Michigan State in the Elite Eight last March, many fans comforted themselves with thoughts of the 2005-06 season and the fantastic freshman class that were



**Chris Johnson**  
SPORTS EDITOR

going to be super sophomores. Visions of national championship banners, drunken glee on Woodland and Euclid, and being able to tell your grandkids you were there were in the heads of thousands. Then Kelenna Azubuike hired an agent and became the Bluegrass Benedict Arnold. Visions of SEC Championships and spirited runs to the Final Four danced through heads. Then Morris put his name in the ring, and talk-radio guests went up-in-arms. He won't leave. He averaged 9 points and 4 rebounds. Who would take him? Then he started showing

up on draft boards and mock drafts, whose credibility are at best suspect, and the Bluegrass saw red. Now he's gone, and selfishly has taken over. But he almost went after high school. He almost didn't come here in the first place. So can you really fault him for not having any allegiance to UK, to the fans, to Wildcat nation, that fictitious country whose citizens are rabidly patriotic, to the point of blind, delusional hyper-loyalty? No, but he can be blamed for the childish way he handled his exit. Was he too busy to pick up the phone? Was he just so full of appointments with draft day suit-tailors, finan-

cial advisers and potential agents that he simply had to send a fax? Not being privy to their private conversations, the relationship between Morris and UK Coach Tubby Smith can only be speculated. But don't you think Morris owes Smith enough, as a developer of his game and for thinking enough of him to take him on even though he knew there was a chance Morris would only stay one year, to at least call? That was an act of childish cowardice that will forever mark Morris in the shadows of Kentucky basketball history. Which probably doesn't make any difference to him at all.

The guess here is, he's thinking of ways to spend the money he's going to get for being a first-round pick, which he will. According to the Lexington Herald-Leader, Morris has spent the past week showcasing his current talent and monumental upside to assorted teams, including the Memphis Grizzlies, Los Angeles Lakers and Sacramento Kings. He was also scheduled to work out with the Los Angeles Clippers Wednesday. UK fans are probably hoping he goes to the Clippers with the 12th pick, so he gets a guaranteed contract, but it's with the laughingstock franchise that the poor Clippers are. But the team's perspec-

tive, while the most popular one, isn't the only option. It was Morris's choice, and we can't fathom his situation. If you were sitting on a winning lottery ticket, and you knew the prize would only get bigger the longer you held on to it, and people reminded you day by day how big your payoff was going to be, would you have the patience to let the prize grow? Or would you turn it in immediately, take your money, and take a limo service to the nearest Cadillac dealership for an Escalade?

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