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February 6, 2002

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Black History Month

In addition to Morris Dees coming to speak on campus Thursday, a number of other events will take place at UK over the next few weeks.

• Feb. 8: Roger Cleveland of the Kentucky Department of Education presents, "Through Black Eyes: African-American Students' Perception of the Achievement Gap," at 4 p.m., in Student Center Room 230. The lecture is part of the Carter G. Woodson Lecture Series. Free.

• Feb. 18: African-American independent filmmakers will present the new film, *Hairpiece: A Film for Nappy-Headed People and Lockin' Up*, at 3:30 p.m. in the Student Center Theater. The films explore the question of self-image for black women. Free.

• Feb. 20: Lecture by Courtland Milloy at 7:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Milloy is a Washington Post columnist and staff writer. Since joining the Post in 1975, he has had an illustrious career having first been recognized for his outstanding coverage of police brutality cases in Prince Georges County. Free.

• Feb. 21: Kathy A. Perkins presents, "Making Theater for Change: Women and Theatre for Development in Africa," from 12:30-1:30 p.m. in the Briggs Theatre, which is located at 127 Fine Arts Building. Free.

• Feb. 21: Ronald N. Jacobs, an assistant professor in sociology at the University of Albany presents, "Race and the Media in American Society," at 4 p.m. in Student Center Room 230.

• Feb. 26: From the King Cultural Center Archives... *Get Up On It: Young America and the Need for Social Consciousness*, by Kevin Powell at 3 p.m. in Student Center Room 124. A video retrospective of lectures by noted speakers and presenters who have appeared in the King Cultural Center Cultural/Educational Program during the past decade.

• Feb. 27: From the King Cultural Center Archives... *Makes Me Wanna Holler: A Young Black Man in America*, by Nathan McClain at 3 p.m. in Student Center Room 124. A video retrospective of lectures by noted speakers and presenters who have appeared in the King Cultural Center Cultural/Educational Program during the past decade.

• Feb. 28: From the King Cultural Center Archive... *Privatization of U.S. Prisons: America's Newest Growth Industry*, by Angela Davis at 3 p.m. in Student Center Room 124. A video retrospective of lectures by noted speakers and presenters who have appeared in the King Cultural Center Cultural/Educational Program during the past decade.

• Feb. 28: Wayne Shorter Quartet, featuring Brian Blade, John Patitucci and Danilo Perez at 8 p.m. in the Singletary Center for the Arts. Tickets are \$17 students, \$25 general public.

• March 1: Karen McDaniel presents, "Women's Work: The Activities of the Kentucky Association of Colored Women, 1918-1965," at 4 p.m. in Student Center Room 230. The presentation is part of the Carter G. Woodson Lecture Series. Free.

Source: UK Public Relations

SPEAKER

Civil rights lawyer to visit campus

Political activist: Morris Dees will focus on challenges contemporary Americans face

By Mark Boxley
STAFF WRITER

Morris Dees, the man who helped bankrupt the Ku Klux Klan and won numerous multi-million-dollar lawsuits against hate groups, will speak at UK Thursday.

Dees said the forum would focus on the challenges Americans face today and how to deal with these challenges as America becomes more diverse. All of this will be taken in light of Sept. 11, Dees said.

Dees said audience members would probably interpret

his message based on their individual social, economic and geographic backgrounds.

"I hope students will take time to think about where they're coming from and examine their beliefs," he said.

Dees said he feels it is important to speak to students. "I really like to talk to young people," he said. "It is important to teach tolerance in the classroom."

Mark Moore, the director of contemporary affairs Student Activities Board, said Dees' prominence will spread an anti-hate message

on campus. "We wanted a speaker who would be well-known and someone the students would be interested in coming to see," Moore said.

"There should be some really good dialogue," Moore said.

The message of tolerance on which he and his partner Joseph J. Levin Jr., built the Southern Poverty Law Center in 1971. The non-profit organization specializes in lawsuits involving civil rights violations, domestic terrorists and

racially motivated crimes. Dees is the chief trial counsel.

Since the center's inception, Dees has been a part of many lawsuits against hate groups. In 1961, he won a \$7 million lawsuit against the KKK after a black man was lynched in Alabama.

In 1990, after skinheads in Oregon killed an Ethiopian man, Dees won a \$12.5 million lawsuit for the man's family. In 1998 Dees won a \$37.8 million lawsuit against the Christian Knights of the KKK for burning a church in South Carolina.

"He's done a lot for minority groups," Moore said. "He takes hate crimes to court."

For his actions, Dees has gained enemies. Moore said

that although no trouble is expected at this forum, metal detectors will be used as a security precaution.

Moore said if members of hate organizations do attend the forum, he hopes that Dees' words will serve as a positive influence.

"I would like to think that he'll have an effect on them," Moore said.

If you go

Morris Dees will speak at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Student Center Grand Ballroom. The event is free to students and open to the public. It is sponsored by the Student Activities Board.

DOWNTOWN

UK, city work together on college-town vision



AMY CRAWFORD | KERNEL STAFF

Town and gown

Calvary Baptist Church, on the corner of E. High Street and S. Martin Luther King Boulevard, is part of President Lee Todd's proposal to develop a retail corridor between UK and downtown Lexington.

On the block: Officials hope retail corridor will entice students to downtown area

By Steve Ivey
STAFF WRITER

UK and Lexington officials hope students may soon find interest in venturing to downtown Lexington.

In a joint announcement Tuesday, President Lee Todd and Mayor Pam Miller said UK and Lexington are cooperating to develop a "College-Town Concept" for the areas bordered by Rose, Limestone, Euclid and High streets. The plan would include improving retail and residential areas surrounding campus.

Miller called the venture a new day for Lexington and UK.

"We're seeing a different atmosphere," she said. "UK and downtown are clearly neighbors. It's a pleasure to see we're beginning to work together."

Todd said he has spent the first part of his tenure laying out ideas, and is glad to see them edging closer to reality.

"It's time to put legs under our visions," he said. "It's been wonderful (working with the city), because it seems like I throw out an idea and it happens."

Miller said the development plan, on a six-month timeline, would also need co-

operation from neighborhood groups and from the Urban Council.

Dick DeCamp, the 3rd District Councilman, who represents the area in the development plan, said he's glad to see so much enthusiasm from city government officials about working with UK.

"It's a win-win situation," he said. "There's been too much of an adversarial role between UK and Lexington. Hopefully this will disprove the bad raps these neighborhoods and I have received."

If approved by the council, the development contract will go to Ayers/Saint-Gross Architects of Baltimore, Md. The cost is estimated at \$200,000, and will be shared equally by UK and the city.

Ayers/Saint-Gross has developed similar college-town concepts for the University of Georgia, the University of North Carolina and is working with the University of Notre Dame and Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.

"The level of enthusiasm I've seen here is consistent with the national trend," said Eric Moss, a principal in Ayers/Saint-Gross.

Drew Grote, a communication junior, said he goes downtown to visit friends and sees



AMY CRAWFORD | KERNEL STAFF

Businesses in historic homes such as these on the corner of Maxwell Street and Lexington Avenue fit the downtown revitalization plan.

the potential for improvement.

"They've done a lot already," he said. "But I've seen places in Louisville where there are stretches of shops and in South Carolina where there's a stretch of bars. It'd be great if Lexington could look like that."

Natalie Perdue, a business management sophomore, said she has little interest in going downtown.

"Maybe if they had nice restaurants, shops and places just to walk around, then I'd go," she said.

Your 2002 sanction committee

President Lee Todd met with members of the newly formed Athletic Review Board for the first time Monday. The board was announced Friday and was charged to conduct a full and comprehensive review of the operations of the Athletics Department. Robert Lawson, a law professor and former dean of the College of Law, has been named to lead the team. He has been a faculty member in the College of Law since 1966 and has twice served as its dean. Lawson was one of four investigators involved in a review of allegations that members of the UK basketball boosters club gave players cash and gifts in 1995. Lawson is also a member of the Athletics Board. Following is a list of the other board members.

Christopher Frost

Frost is associate dean for academic affairs and a professor of law at the College of Law. He is a 1986 alumnus of the College of Law, an associate at the Chicago, Ill., law firm of Sidley & Austin and a law professor at St. Louis University in St. Louis, Mo., prior to his appointment at UK in 1998.

Art Gallaher

Gallaher is a professor emeritus in anthropology, a former chancellor of the university under President Otis Singletary and a former dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He retired from UK in 1993. His academic accomplishments include the development and implementation of a selective admissions policy at UK and the development of the Singletary Scholars program.

Henry Clay Owen

Owen is UK's controller and treasurer and is also a licensed certified public accountant. He joined the UK business staff in 1964 and has held the position of controller since 1969.

Alice Stevens Sparks

Sparks is a member of the Board of Trustees. She is involved in education issues at state and national levels. She served as chairperson of the Northern Kentucky University Board of Regents. Sparks is president and chief executive officer of SSK Company Communities. She has long been involved in civic and charitable organizations.

GREEK LIFE

Spring rush numbers better than expected

But members say event should be earlier

By Tom Saper
STAFF WRITER

Even though some Greek organizations saw smaller numbers at spring rush, the Martin Luther King holiday didn't have the overall impact that was expected.

Mike Falkowitz, a fraternity adviser and assistant dean of students, said that this year's numbers may be better than last year's.

"We haven't heard from every chapter," he said. "But the numbers appear to be pretty good for this semester. They may actually be higher than last year."

Falkowitz also said the overall academic quality of this spring's pledges was better than in previous years.

"Some chapters got as many as 20," he said. "Some got eight or nine, which is still greater than expected for a spring rush."

While Falkowitz said the overall numbers were good, some organizations experienced lower numbers than expected.

"We only got three guys," said Josh Long, rush chair for FarmHouse Fraternity. "Some years we've had as many as seven or eight. The numbers are low, but we got quality guys and that is what we want more than anything."

Ryan Whiteford, an agriculture economics senior and president of Kappa Sigma, said getting more pledges wasn't a major concern.

"We took in eight guys," Whiteford said. "Typically we get around 12 or so. But we had a large fall rush, so we weren't too worried."

Long and Whiteford both said they heard that either a chapter's numbers were going to be really good or really poor.

Even though the numbers were OK, Long and Whiteford said they would like to see next year's spring rush scheduled earlier.

"We would like to see it the week before the holiday," Whiteford said. "It gets the first week of class over with and we can focus more on the rush."

RIVALRY

Take a look in the mirror

Similarities: Multiple comparisons drawn between Cats and Vols, who battle tonight

By Will Messer
SPORTSDAILY EDITOR

“(UT) is coming off two big road wins. Vincent Yarbrough is probably the leading candidate for player of the year in (the SEC) and he’s been playing extremely well.”

- Tubby Smith, UK coach, on UT senior forward Vincent Yarbrough

One doesn't have to look hard to find comparisons between UK and Tennessee.

Both teams have a versatile wing player. The Cats (15-5, 5-3 Southeastern Conference) have 6-foot-9 senior forward Tayshaun Prince and the Vols (11-10, 4-4 SEC) have 6-foot-7 senior forward Vincent Yarbrough.

Both teams lost a post player to injury. UK sophomore Jason Parker was sidelined for the season with a torn anterior cruciate ligament and UT junior Ron Slay was lost for the season after tearing his ACL during UT's 66-62 victory against Syracuse Jan. 19.

But the key link between the two teams has been their ability to transform a string of close losses into big wins in close games.

UK lost its first three close games but rebounded to win two of its last three, including a 70-68 victory against Florida.

UT lost its first seven games decided by five points or less, but bounced back to win three straight.

The two teams enter tonight's game a combined 11-2 in their last 13 games.

UT Coach Buzz Peterson credited the leadership of his seniors for his team's turnaround while UK's Prince highlighted a team effort.

"We have to come together as a basketball team and we're starting to do that," he said. "We're starting to get contributions from everyone and not just a few people."

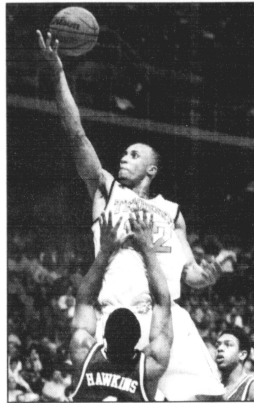
In UK's last seven games five different players have led the Cats in scoring. Against South Carolina Feb. 2, five Cats scored eight or more points and three scored 15 or more.

Meanwhile, UT has rode Yarbrough.

He made the game-winning basket during UT's 67-65 win at Vanderbilt Saturday and won SEC Player of the Week honors for the second time this season.

"Yarbrough is probably the leading candidate for player of the year in (the SEC) and he's been playing extremely well," said Coach Tubby Smith.

UK will need a focused team effort to defeat the Vols in Knoxville. "I'd be very surprised," Smith said of the possibility of his team overlooking another opponent. "They've all grown up and learned to narrow their focus."



Tennessee senior forward Vincent Yarbrough shoots over UK sophomore guard Cliff Hawkins during UK's 103-95 victory against UT last February. Yarbrough scored 28 points in the game. This season, Yarbrough leads the SEC in scoring with 18.4 points per game. His 7.6 rebounds per game rank sixth. He is one of two SEC players to rank in the top six in scoring and rebounding.

PHOTO FURNISHED

UK VS TENNESSEE						
Tonight, 8 p.m. Thompson-Boling Arena, Knoxville, Tenn. TV: Jefferson Pilot - 27 RADIO: 98.1 FM						
No. 7 Kentucky Wildcats (15-5, 5-3 SEC)						
Probable Starters	Min.	FG%	3PT%	FT%	RPG	PPG
G Cliff Hawkins	24.5	44.2	30.8	56.9	2.7	7.9
G Keith Bogans	28.4	40.6	33.3	64.3	4.8	12.4
G Gerald Fitch	26.9	48.3	33.9	66.7	5.8	8.9
F Tayshaun Prince	31.7	48.3	34.8	60.7	6.3	16.6
C Marquis Estill	16.6	67.8	42.9	77.1	4.1	10.0
Tennessee Volunteers (11-10, 4-4 SEC)						
Probable Starters	Min.	FG%	3PT%	FT%	RPG	PPG
G John Higgins	32.0	37.2	36.3	62.5	4.7	7.1
G Jervis Grinstaff	20.5	43.8	32.3	63.7	2.3	5.9
F Brandon Crum	28.9	40.9	1.0	54.9	4.2	7.8
F Marcus Haislip	31.7	52.2	20.8	72.4	6.5	15.9
F Vincent Yarbrough	34.6	45.1	39.3	69.1	7.3	18.4

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Stipend: \$12,000 Matthews/Singletary \$20,000 Wethington

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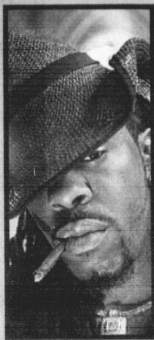


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Busta Rhymes
Hip hop artist Busta Rhymes will play at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 7, at Bogart's in Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$27.50 and will go on sale Saturday.



PHOTO FURNISHED

Tenacious D
Comic rock duo Tenacious D will play at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at Freedom Hall in Louisville. The group will be the opening act for Kid Rock. Tickets go on sale Saturday.



PHOTO FURNISHED

Make it funky

The New Orleans based funk band Galactic will play at 9 p.m. Thursday at AIA. Tickets cost \$15. Delivering a concoction of acid jazz and New Orleans groove, this sextet began touring in 1994 and has continued to hit the road with a rigorous four schedule since. Galactic has released three studio albums - *Conjure*, *Off*, *Crazyhorse Monopose* and most recently *Late for the Future*.

A GUIDE TO WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND UK

On Tap...

For the week of Feb. 6 - Feb. 12

Music

WEDNESDAY

Oliver of Jasper w/ Drexel, 10 p.m. High on Rose. Tickets cost \$3.

George Harrison Tribute, 10 p.m. Lynagh's. Tickets cost \$3.

Flickerstick w/ Abandoned Pools and CO Jones, 9 p.m. AIA. Tickets cost \$10.

THURSDAY

Galactic, 9 p.m. AIA. Tickets cost \$15.

Dry Land Fish w/ Floored, 10 p.m. High on Rose. Tickets cost \$3.

The Hub w/ Stego, 10 p.m. Lynagh's. Tickets cost \$3.

Sevendust w/ Gravity Kills & Flaw, 8 p.m. Bogart's, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$20.

FRIDAY

A.M. Flavor, 10 p.m. Lynagh's. Tickets cost \$3.

Quiet Storm w/ Kuchi Guru, 10 p.m. High on Rose. Tickets cost \$3.

Devil May Care, 10 p.m. AIA. Tickets cost \$6.

SATURDAY

Blueberries w/ Big Fresh, 10 p.m. Lynagh's. Tickets cost \$3.

Stego w/ Half-Handed Cloud & Carderock Division, 10 p.m. High on Rose. Tickets cost \$6.

Sam Rivers, 8 p.m. Singletary Center. Tickets cost \$20/\$15 for students.

Johnson Brothers, 9 p.m. Cheapside Bar & Grille. Tickets cost \$4.

Superfuzz, 10 p.m. AIA. Tickets cost \$6.

SUNDAY

Stacey Earle & Mark Stuart w/ Warren Ray, 8:30 p.m. Phoenix Hill Tavern, Louisville. Tickets cost \$10.

TUESDAY

Dean Osborne & Bluetone, 9:30 p.m. Lynagh's. Tickets cost \$3.

Dark Star Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. Kentucky Theatre. Tickets cost \$16.50 in advance, \$18.50 at the door.

Coming Soon

Barnhouse Effect, 10 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 13. Lynagh's. Tickets cost \$3.

Adrian Belew & The Bears, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 14. Lynagh's. Tickets cost \$13.

The Shuers, 10 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 14. High on Rose. Tickets cost \$3.

Over The Rhine w/ Jenn Adams, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15. Lynagh's. Tickets cost \$10.

Static-X w/ Soul Fly, 8:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15. Bogart's, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$25.

Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16. Paramount Arts Center, Ashland, Ky. Tickets cost \$10 - \$18.

Kenny Chesney, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16. Rupp Arena. Tickets cost \$27.50 - \$35.

Ekootik Hookah, 10 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20. Lynagh's. Tickets cost \$8.

Green Genes, 10 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21. Lynagh's. Tickets cost \$3.

Catawampus Universe, 10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 22. Lynagh's. Tickets cost \$3.

Birdog w/ Secretly Canadian Artists Scout Niblett & The Post, 10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23. High on Rose. Tickets cost \$3.

Unknown Hinson, 10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23. Phoenix Hill Tavern, Louisville. Tickets cost \$10.

Hank Williams III w/ Danni Leigh & The Souvenirs, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23. Lynagh's. Tickets cost \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door.

UK Symphony Band, 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 24. Singletary Center. Tickets are free.

Nappy Roots, 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 24. Headliners, Louisville. Tickets cost \$12.

Wayne Shorter Quartet, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26. Singletary Center. Tickets cost \$25.

Beau Haddock, 3 p.m. Sunday, March 6. Singletary Center. Tickets cost \$10/\$15 for students.

Allen Ant Farm & Guests, 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 6. Bogart's, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$20.

Busta Rhymes, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 7. Bogart's, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$27.50 and will go on sale Feb. 9.

Pinback w/ Canyon and Strike City, 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 13. Singletary Center. Tickets cost \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door.

Boney James, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 14. Palace Theatre, Louisville. Tickets on sale Jan. 26. Tickets cost \$27.50-\$32.50.

Compiled by On Tap Editor Robbie Clark

Bars, clubs, venues:

- AIA.....231-7263
- Kitty O' Shea's.....255-3078
- Cheapside Bar and Grill.....254-0046
- Kamakazies.....255-8863
- Two Keys.....254-5000
- Lynagh's.....255-6614
- Rupp Arena.....233-4567
- Lexington Opera.....233-4567
- Actors' Guild.....233-0663
- Club 141.....233-4262

Cincinnati venues (513 area code):

- Bogart's.....872-8801
- Riverbend.....232-6220
- Taft Theatre.....721-0411
- The Crown.....421-4111
- Sudsy Malones.....771-3550
- Ripley's.....861-6800
- Playhouse in the Park.....345-2242

Louisville venues (502 area code):

- Kentucky Center for the Arts.....800-775-7777
- Toy Tiger.....458-2020
- Kentucky Opera.....584-7777
- Louisville Gardens.....574-0060
- Actor's Theatre.....584-1205
- Headliners Music Hall.....584-8088
- Ticketmaster.....361-3100

Movie theaters:

- South Park.....272-6611
- Woodhill.....269-1911
- Lexington Green.....271-2070
- Man O' War.....266-4645
- Kentucky Theatre.....231-6997
- Turland.....277-2825
- Carnike.....263-2370

Campus listing:

- SAB.....257-8867
- SGA.....257-3191
- Guignol Theatre.....257-4929
- Singletary Center.....257-4929
- Art Museum.....257-5716
- Student Center.....257-8427
- Kentucky Kernel.....257-1915
- Kennedy Bookstore.....252-0331
- UK Bookstore.....257-2947
- Wildcat Textbooks.....225-7771

GOT A NUMBER?

If you have an entertainment phone number that you wish to put on the 'On Tap' phone listing, please e-mail kerneltap@yahoo.com, fax 323-1906 or call 257-1915.

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Hump Day over the hump night!
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University Directories

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Amanda Hardaway, cartoonist
Stacie Melhaus, scene editor
Jennifer Kasten, at-large member
Wes Blevins, at-large member

Weather

Damn the groundhog

Wicked winter weather has once again pounced upon an unsuspecting campus. Whom do we have to blame? Should we blame pollution? Global warming? Do we blame the meteorologists who have failed to show rhyme or reason for the weather patterns? No, it is clearly the fault of that damned furry rodent, the groundhog. It had to go and see its shadow and run back into its velvet-lined hole. I am fed up with that spoiled ball of fur making campus life miserable with six more weeks of winter. I think there are far more animals out there that deserve the position of power. Here are some of my top candidates.

The dog: Kind, lovable, furry, more intelligent than a ground hog and best of all not scared of shadows. A well-positioned bone is sure to make a dog stay out of its doghouse when the sun rises.

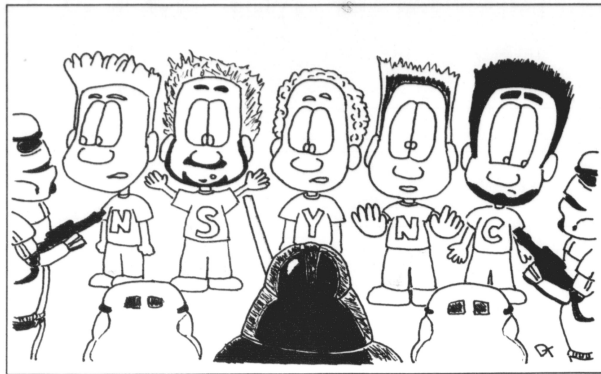
The monkey: It is a common known fact that monkeys like bananas and bananas only grow in warm weather. Need I say more?

The goldfish: We will put it in a small glass bowl of water and see if it has the nerve to predict a longer period of sub-freezing weather.

I think you see what I'm getting at. The groundhog has no motivation to stay out of its hole. If it climbs back in when its shadow shows up, what does it have to lose? Nothing, it'll be praised and admired in its own heated little habitat for the rest of the year. If you yanked a college student out of bed, put him outside in 20 degree weather and then let him decide whether to stay outside or hop back in bed, what do you think he would choose?

Someone needs to speak out against this most heinous of meteorological crimes. We want answers and the groundhog had better be ready to give them — or you might just see me walking around campus with a new pair of furry mittens.

— Jared Whalen
rail_editor@
hotmail.com



IN OUR OPINION

UK should impact mayoral campaign

Students, campus have much at stake in who gets elected, what the city government's priorities will be in coming years

Setting aside the question of what size shoes Lexington's next mayor will have to fill, the 2002 race has begun.

The field of mayoral candidates was finalized last Tuesday, and the first discussion among the four hopefuls took place Friday.

While predictability is almost assured with respect to major campaign themes — higher law enforcement, controlling urban sprawl, the Lexington-UK relationship — this year's mayoral candidates could potentially face one unusual factor: a UK student body sincerely interested in how its city is governed.

It seems almost counter-intuitive that students would not care about local politics, since issues heard by the Urban County Council affect almost every aspect of student life. From parking to partying to shopping to simply living, the city of Lexington plays a large role in every student's life.

Sadly, participation in local government has been dismal in the past, and few signs indicate that this year will be any different. It could, though, and indeed it should.

The Lexington Area Party Plan was passed into law early this year, and council members have stated their intentions to restrict the rights of students even further. Stricter parking laws may soon go into effect downtown, and the question of where UK will play basketball may loom large if the funds are not raised to finish the Lexington Center renovations.

The mayor also plays a role in the economic well-being of Lexington, which certainly impacts the lives of graduating seniors. And with hard work and a small amount of luck, every student reading this will be a graduating senior in the next few years.

So, the opportunity is there for those who recognize that the futures for both students and Lexington are not mutually exclusive. One need not volunteer for a candidate or work a phone bank to get involved. Rather, one can write the local newspaper, attend a speech or just converse with friends.

After all, the country learned in 2000 the importance of one vote. Imagine the power of 30,000.

Affiliation should not blind us to truth

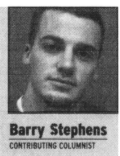
I love paying my taxes. I only wish they would let me pay more. I guess I might really believe this if I was duped by all the unpatriotic, "America is bad" garbage I hear on the news.

It seems Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) has been able to convince a great number of people that, suddenly, we should not only love paying taxes, but that we don't pay nearly enough. Not nearly enough to support all the unnecessary programs his people are trying to push through, straining our federal budget with bigger and bigger government.

Also, when was it that we decided we liked the government telling us what to do? The problem is this: Daschle wants everyone to be dependent on him, so that he can maintain his position. If he can convince everyone that his presence is necessary for our way of life to go on as usual, then he'll keep getting his paycheck on time.

It reminds me of one day at the grocery store, about two years ago, when I was at the checkout counter and somehow found myself in a conversation about politics with the cashier.

The only part of that conversation I remember was her saying, "Black people wouldn't be where they are to-



Barry Stephens
CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST

day if not for Bill Clinton." I responded by saying, "Name one thing that Clinton has done for the black people."

She couldn't come up with anything, and that in itself was really disturbing, since Clinton had to have done something for the black community. But she was totally convinced that Clinton was a patron saint and couldn't even explain why.

The part that really scares me is that people just blindly listen to the TV, without really thinking about why Daschle and Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.) are the only people in the Democratic party — no, in politics — with an opinion.

Few people seem to understand that Daschle and Clinton are likely candidates for president in 2004, possibly as a package, and the media is trying to give them as much airtime as possible. And both are all too eager to eat it up.

I understand as well as anyone that what you're reading is only my opinion, and nothing more. I could be completely wrong in your eyes, and so could everyone else.

When it comes to politics, this is what our country stands for, and I believe we should all think about what is truly right or wrong and not just take someone's word for it — not even mine.

When someone is speaking, regardless of party affiliation, try to think about what that person's motivation might be. Is this individual trying to sell me something? Is this person possibly running for office? You're kidding,

Mother Nature, Father Time: cruel parents

My grandmother recently turned 89, and the family went to the nursing home for her birthday party. I've only visited her once in the year that she's been there.

It's one of those situations when you feel you should do something, but you hate it so much you always find reasons to avoid it. I couldn't miss her birthday, though. She wouldn't have known the difference, but I felt I should go for my family, and for myself.

The home she lives in is much nicer than the one my great-grandmother lived in 10 years ago. It doesn't have the over-deodorized smell that reminds you of human waste the same way a dorm resident might associate the smell of dryer sheets with marijuana. I was surprised to find that the canes and walkers didn't fill the halls with clicking. All the legs were tipped with rubber.

My grandmother did well during her party. I actually think the nursing home may be helping her. Before, she seemed deranged — now she just seems old. It took about an hour before she began pacing the room, asking us to take her home. This probably sounds cruel — like we have her locked up in some place she hates — but she wanted the same thing when she lived in her house. For her, home is a place where you can be comfortable and easy. There is no place like that for her now, so she'll never feel like she's home again.

My mother, my aunt and I walked her back to her room. The younger children were getting restless, so it was probably about time to end the party anyway.

On the way to her room, we walked through the lobby, where about 20 or so women were sitting in wheelchairs watching TV. My brother found me staring at the lobby's wall.

"What are you doing?" he asked. "There was a sign on the wall with removable plates. It read, 'The year is 2002. Today is JAN. 28. It is COLD outside. The season is WINTER.'"

Our mother found us standing there, unable to take our eyes off the blue letters. Josh's nose was starting to run, and I had gone into my detached mode.

"It's sad, isn't it?" she asked. To me, the sign showed how far removed these people were from the world. Even though the nursing home has a nice lawn, they might as well have been miles under ground or orbiting Earth in a satellite. They were trapped inside, and it doesn't seem to matter where they are trapped. They just are.

The nurses have to assume that JAN. 28 is not a sufficient way of letting them know about the outside. Most of the patients are so far gone it wouldn't mean anything. Neither would WINTER. The nurses have to tell them, "January is in winter. Winter is cold."

They start with the most general idea (2001) and move toward something more specific (cold). Remember when you were being taught your place in the universe? Solar system, Earth, United States of America, Kentucky. Imagine being told about your placement, but you don't have a concrete connection between Kentucky and America, cold and winter.

It struck me that it wasn't really cold outside. It was cool, but not cold. If families didn't visit, nurses could put up any plate they wanted. They could tell the patients it was 2437 and no one would know the difference.

You are in the Soupy Way on planet Berg, the country of Fred if you can't remember who ate where you were yesterday, what reason do you have to disbelieve it?

It's worse than being trapped underground. A healthy person underground could at least read the screen and understand it. Winter is cold.

"Something about this place makes you think symbolically," my mom said.

"There aren't many men here," I replied, looking at all the white gowns decorated with pictures of ducks and bears.

What she said next hadn't occurred to my brother or me. "The season is winter. It is cold. Things are drawing up and dying."

Matt Thompson is an English senior. His views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.

... we all get taken for a ride sometimes, which is why we need to evaluate what happened and question what got us to believe ...

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Rollerball

This remake of the 1975 film (starring James Caan) by the same name stars Chris Klein, Rebecca Romijn-Stamos and LL Cool J. The three play teammates that are forced by evil people to play rollerball. They end up getting worldwide ratings for the evil game-owner. In the original the teammates played the game on roller skates and motorcycles. Who knows what they're going to do this time? Set in the "distant" future of 2005, the crazy sport they play sounds like it's half roller derby and half *Running Man*. You can even die. How cool. Also starring Jean Reno. At Woodhill.

PHOTO FURNISHED

AT THE PICTURE SHOW

Framebyframe

Collateral Damage

Arnold Schwarzenegger makes his appearance in this film that was supposed to come out last year. Why the delay? Well, of course, it deals with terrorism. Also starring Elias Koteas. At Lexington Green and Woodhill.

Birthday Girl

Nicole Kidman takes on another risqué role with *Girl*, a movie where Ben Chaplin orders Kidman from a mail order bride catalogue. Things aren't what they seem when an old friend visits Kidman and reeks havoc on Chaplin's life. Rated R for sexuality. At Woodhill.

The Mothman Prophecies

A Washington reporter leaves his job after the death of his wife to investigate strange happenings in a small West Virginia town. Prophetic visions as well as appearances of winged creatures (the Mothmen) abound. Starring Richard Gere as the reporter, Debra Messing as his wife and Laura Linney. At Man o' War.

A Walk to Remember

This film is based on a book by Nicholas Sparks and depressed my girlfriend's roommates for days. Mandy Moore gets frumpy. Shane West has a bad boy image, but a good heart. Sounds like a chick flick to me. Also starring Peter Coyote, Al Thompson and Daryl Hannah. At Woodhill.

The Count of Monte Cristo

After a young man is falsely imprisoned when he is framed by so-called friends, he works hard to escape and then even harder to exact revenge. The film will probably have a lot to do with swords. Starring Guy Pearce, J.B. Blanc and James Caviezel. At Lexington Green and Woodhill.

I Am Sam

Sam, a mentally disabled father, has the intelligence level of a 7-year-old. The problem lies in the fact that his own daughter has reached the age where their intelligence levels match. The court decides it would be in the daughter's best interest if she were given to "smarter" parents. A legal battle ensues. Starring Sean Penn, Michelle Pfeiffer, Dakota Fanning and Laura Dern. At Lexington Green.

Orange County

Crazy man Jack Black does Colin Hanks a favor when he drives him to Stanford University after his application is rejected. Black is the best physical comedian this generation has to offer. Also starring John Lithgow and Lily Tomlin. At Lexington Green.

In the Bedroom

After an award-winning run at the Sundance Film Festival, this film directed by Todd Field, is finally

playing to audiences across the country. Just when you think you have it figured out, the film changes again. Starring Tom Wilkinson and Sissy Spacek. At the Kentucky Theatre and Man o' War.

Gosford Park

This British dark comedy by an American director is being hailed as one of the year's best. The story follows the twists and turns of a murder mystery among the British bourgeoisie. Starring Michael Gambon, Kristin Scott Thomas and Camilla Rutherford. At the Kentucky Theatre.

Black Hawk Down

If this film mirrors the history of the incidents it regards, it will be a tear jerker. Also being hailed as one of the best films of the year, it follows a battle in Somalia where the United States lost some of its best. Starring Ewan McGregor, Josh Hartnett and Tom Sizemore. At Lexington Green and Woodhill.

The Royal Tenenbaums

Gene Hackman, Anjelica Huston, Gwyneth Paltrow, Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson, Luke Wilson, Danny Glover, Bill Murray and Alec Baldwin make up this film about a family of prodigies who come together when the head of the family discovers that he is dying. At Woodhill.

A Beautiful Mind

Oscar rumors are flying for Russell Crowe (yes, again), in this film following the life of mathematician John Nash, a paranoid-schizophrenic who goes on to win the Nobel Prize. Also starring Jennifer Connelly and Ed Harris. At Woodhill and Lexington Green.

Compiled by Scene Editor Stacie Melhaus

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