

KENTUCKY KERNEL

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UK launches search for diversity job position

By Juliann Vachon
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UK Provost Kumble Subbaswamy announced last week that the university has created a new administrative position focused on monitoring and improving diversity among administrators, faculty, staff and students.

President Lee Todd said the creation of the vice president for institutional diversity demonstrates a further commitment to diversity, which he considers a "value that must be embed-

ded in the culture of UK.

"(Diversity) has to be a priority for everyone at the institution — administration, faculty, staff and students," Todd said. "A more diverse place is more tolerant, more open and more inclined to foster an environment where learning and creativity really flourish."

According to the university's Web site, the creation of the position follows the approval of UK's recently adopted Strategic Plan for 2006 to 2009.

The plan outlines four main objectives for

UK's diversity efforts: re-examining the existing structure of administrative offices, commissions and standing committees to streamline efforts focused on improving diversity; improving the university's current implementation strategy to enhance and monitor demographic diversity among all members of the UK community; ensuring that all UK students graduate with an understanding of and respect for cultures and traditions other than their own, while becoming effective members of today's society; and using UK's intellectual resources and

scholarly activity to expand community commitment to equal opportunity.

Subbaswamy said the vice president for institutional diversity will hold a "critically important position" in helping the university reach these goals by coordinating diversity efforts among the administration, faculty, staff and students.

The creation of the position has received broad-based support from different committees

See Diversity on page 3

Nursing college to double class size

By Shannon Mason
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UK's College of Nursing is doubling the number of students admitted to its bachelor of science in nursing program beginning next fall.

The 2007-2008 class will have a total of 160 entrants, 80 per semester, as opposed to the past enrollment of 80 students for each academic year, said College of Nursing Dean Jane Kirschling.

Kirschling said the decision to double the entering class was made in conjunction with helping the university in its top-20 business plan, but also to compensate for Kentucky's shortage of nurses.

The nursing shortage began in about 1999, Kirschling said.

"It's not unusual," she said. "There is usually a shortage about every 10 years."

However, she said, this shortage is different than others.

"The number (of nurses) needed—the demand—is increasing, but the supply isn't keeping up," Kirschling said, adding that in a normal shortage the demand increases or the supply decreases, not both.

Kirschling said the baby boom generation was the last large group to enter the nursing workforce and the fact that most of these nurses will be retiring soon contributes to the shortage. The increase in class size will take three years to phase in because undergraduates are admitted to the program after their freshman year, Kirschling said.

Joanne Davis, pre-nursing adviser, said students apply for admission into the bachelor of

See Nursing on page 3

Architecture students receive key to New Orleans

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The city council of New Orleans recently awarded a key to the city to the Kentucky-New Orleans Architecture Studio for its reconstruction efforts after Hurricane Katrina.

The KNOA studio, a satellite studio of the UK College of Design, received an official proclamation of appreciation for its work on restoration and redesign efforts of Mickey Markey Park in Bywater, a neighborhood in the Ninth Ward of New Orleans.

"The U of K redesign of Markey Park will inspire the community as to the neighborhood's possibilities," wrote James Carter, a New Orleans city councilman, in a letter to the UK Architecture Department. "As community gathering places and recreational areas for our children — who are the future of our city — our parks are an extremely important symbol of New Orleans' rebuilding."

KNOA was formed to aid the restoration of New Orleans, much of which was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005. While many architecture programs from around the country are helping the efforts to rebuild the city, UK is the only institution to relocate its studio into the city itself.

Mike McKay and Liz Swanson, faculty members in UK's School of Architecture, are the creators and current directors of the studio.

"It feels great to be recognized by the city for our efforts," said Swanson, an assistant professor of architecture. "It is an honor for the program

See Key on page 3

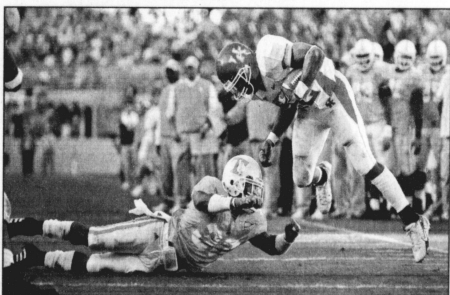
TENNESSEE 17, UK 12

A Rocky Stop



UK special teams coach Steve Ortmyer, center, covers his eyes after UK missed a field goal attempt in the second half of its 17-12 loss to the Volunteers in Knoxville, Tenn., on Saturday.

PHOTOS BY KEITH SMILEY | STAFF



Junior tight end Rafael Little stumbles over Tennessee junior defensive back Jonathan Hefney before going out of bounds during UK's 17-12 loss on Saturday.

By Jonathan Smith
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KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — For the UK football team, the number three was not a charm on Saturday.

Trailing by five points with three minutes to play against Tennessee, the Cats stood 3 yards — and three plays — away from ending 21 years of futility.

What UK got instead was a self-inflicted wound by player No. 3 that led to another painfully close can't-get-over-the-hump loss.

Quarterback Andre Woodson committed a delay-of-game penalty, and the offense couldn't get into the end zone on the subsequent three plays, leaving the Cats to fall to the No. 18 Volunteers 17-12 in front of 104,382 fans at Neyland Stadium.

"Obviously, this was a very disappointing loss," said UK head coach Rich Brooks. "I thought we were in good position a bunch of times, but we failed to execute in the red zone."

The Cats (7-5 overall, 4-4 Southeastern Conference) had plenty of chances to upset the Vols and take second place in the SEC's eastern division, but they were done in by their inability to take advantage of their opportunities.

See Football on page 6

GRE set to change test format next fall

By Emily Hunkler
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Students planning to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) in the near future may consider doing so before September 2007.

The GRE Program will introduce a new GRE General Test that will increase the previous test time from two and a half hours to four, according to the Web site for Kaplan, a program designed to help students earn higher scores on standardized tests.

According to Kaplan, the extra time is necessary because the test will change from a computer adaptive test (CAT), where the difficulty of each question is based on the students' performance on previous questions, to a linear computer based test (CBT), which means that more questions are needed to test varied difficulty levels.

"This is the biggest change in the 55-year history of the test, it is going to effect every aspect of getting into the graduate school of your choice," said Jung Lee, GRE program manager for Kaplan Test Prep and Admis-

sions. The GRE is a requirement for acceptance into graduate school programs.

The new test will also address security issues that have caused problems in previous tests.

"The current test has a pool of questions each test draws from and some students would post the questions on the Internet," Lee said. "The new linear form prevents repetition of questions."

One goal of the newly revised test is to

See GRE on page 3

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Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

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

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Today is an 8 - There's a reason so many Aries people join the armed services. There are lots of reasons, actually, but one is self-discipline. When you've got it, you're invincible.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 7 - Don't let your excitement show, even if you have a good hand. You win not from luck but from expertise, and having a good poker face.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 7 - Put in the extra effort, and

go the extra mile. Keep telling the others you know they can do it, too. Together, you will.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 6 - You know a person who always wants to tell you what to do. Pretend you don't already know, and you might actually learn something.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is an 8 - You're lucky and, as everyone knows, that's better than being smart. And you're smart enough to know that your luck improves if you pay attention.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 7 - The job is not easy. That's why you get the big bucks, or you will someday if you don't now. Be a perfectionist, and succeed brilliantly.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 6 - The situation is tense, if

there's a lot of your own money involved. Make lists and stick to your budget, to avoid buyer's remorse.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is an 8 - Don't give up, even when your brain gets overloaded. Have a cup of something comforting, and get back in the fight.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 7 - Use your extra to pay back a favor or debt from long ago. You'll be amazed at how much better this will make both of you feel.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 7 - The opposition has just about given up by now, although there are still a few to be convinced. Be prepared, when they launch their verbal attack.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 5 - You're still immersed in a job you wish was over by now, but it's not. In your imagination, be where you are, doing exactly what you're doing.

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Tom and Katie's wedding album

Family and friends fete Holmes as she marries her Prince Charming in an opulent Italian celebration.

THE DISH

Once upon a time — OK, October 2004, to be exact — Katie Holmes wistfully proclaimed to Seventeen magazine, "Every little girl dreams about her wedding. . . I used to think I was going to marry Tom Cruise."

On Nov. 18, the actress got her storybook wish. At precisely 6:30 p.m., she and Cruise, 44, became husband and wife in a 20-minute ceremony officiated by a Church of Scientology minister. The backdrop: The 15th-century Odescalchi Castle located on picturesque Lake Bracciano, 25 miles northwest of Rome. "It was fabulous! Katie looked beautiful," Cruise's agent at Creative Artists Agency, Rick Nicita, told Us following the festivities. Added his wife, Paula Wagner, Cruise's longtime producing partner and friend, "We had an absolutely wonderful time."

As did the more than 150 friends and family who feted the couple in an Italian extravaganza that morphed into the Oscars of celebrity nuptials, complete with A-list attendees, incredible fashion and a production so lavish it left guests breathless.

"It was fabulous. Beautiful! It was more than we ever could have imagined," Brooke Shields told Us after the reception. Seconded Holmes' mom, a beaming Kathleen, who helped her daughter plan the event, "It was lovely." Linda Brockheimer, wife of Cruise's Top Gun producer, Jerry, added, "It was unbelievable, indescribable, unlike anything I have been to in my

life!" The number of stars colliding alone — and crowds surrounding them — was jaw-dropping: Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony, Will and Jada Pinkett Smith, Jim Carrey and Jenny McCarthy, Leah Remini, Jenna Elfman and Victoria Beckham, many of whom glamorously jetted in on a chartered 757 from L.A. on Nov. 16 and participated in three days of activities that, says wedding planner Sharon Sacks, may have cost the pair as much as \$5 million. (See box, page 59.) "I'm thrilled to be here," Will Smith told Us before the nuptials. "I'm absolutely delighted for them."

and the couple did not recite vows.

Not surprisingly, the evening had its share of royal moments. "The mood in the castle was subdued," says one. "Then, when Katie appeared, the place erupted with applause."

Another reveler tells Us, "I didn't see tears, but they were both so happy. And Katie walked down the aisle with the biggest smile." Once the merriment proclaimed, Cruise and Holmes "man and wife," says the guest, "their kiss seemed to last forever."

Party Time



After the ceremony (the duo obtained a marriage license in L.A. prior to their departure), guests were treated to a reception dripping in opulence. Up first: a cocktail hour featuring Italian hors d'oeuvres (such as mozzarella and parma ham). Inside the dining area, among a sea of red roses, the group sat down for a meal that included a choice of fish or meat.

For the traditional first dance, the couple selected Fleetwood Mac's "Songbird." Another touching moment: Holmes and her father swaying to "What a Wonderful World." Later in the reception, Italian vocalist Andrea Bocelli serenaded the couple, and DJ Mark Ronson spun everything from Stevie Wonder to the Rolling Stones. "They converted one of the castle halls into a club," says a guest. "I was dancing with J. Lo!"

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Volleyball gets second straight NCAA bid

Members of the UK women's volleyball team celebrate yesterday afternoon in the Wildcat Den after hearing that they will play in this year's NCAA tournament. The team's first game is this Thursday against Ohio University in West Lafayette, Ind.



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

By Chris Miles
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The UK volleyball team will have a chance to extend one of its best seasons after earning an at-large bid yesterday in the 64-team NCAA tournament.

This is the second straight year that the volleyball team will play in the tournament. The Cats notched an 18-11 (11-9 Southeastern Conference) season and finished fourth in the SEC, its best record since 1994.

"We're very satisfied," said head coach Craig Skinner. "We've earned this. One of our goals at the beginning of the year was to make the NCAA tournament and go far. Our players have worked hard for this all season."

The Cats will play their first match on Thursday against Ohio University (28-4 in West Lafayette, Ind. The Bobcats went 16-0 in Mid-American Conference play and won their fourth MAC title this season. OU had won 21 straight matches before falling 3-1 to Louisville in its regular season finale on Saturday. "Ohio is a good team and is well respected," Skinner said. "They'll be a good opponent for us."

The Cats gathered in the Cats Den of Commonwealth Stadium to watch the

tournament field announced on ESPN News yesterday afternoon. The group cheered after hearing its name.

"It's great we're in it," senior outside hitter Melissa Popp said. "Just getting into the tournament was what we were hoping for."

Seven SEC schools made this year's NCAA tournament, a conference record. Florida received a nine seed and will host its games in the first and second rounds, as will Arkansas, Alabama, Ole Miss, Louisiana State and Tennessee were also in the field.

UK lost to Florida twice and to LSU once in the regular season and split a two-game series with both Alabama and Ole Miss. The Cats beat Arkansas and swept Tennessee in conference play this season.

UK won six of its last eight conference games.

"We had a good season," senior defensive specialist Jenni Casper said. "Now we need to go out and play hard."

We need to step up and prove to everybody that we deserve this."

Casper and Popp agreed that the key to victory for the Cats in the NCAA tournament will be for UK to play together as a team and not rely on individual performances to carry them.

"All of our big wins have come when we've played as a unit and had a team effort," Popp said. "We're counting on everyone to perform. We have a great chance at winning and going far in the tournament."

For Popp, Casper and outside hitter Julie Gagnon, a strong run in the NCAA tournament will make for a perfect end for their careers at UK.

"For me, this will be my last opportunity to play," Casper said. "I want to make sure we go out and give 100 percent."

Skinner said he believes his squad's strong defensive and serving abilities can help get the team far in the tournament. He also said although the team was excited about its inclusion in the NCAA tournament, the players are firmly focused on Thursday's game.

"The first thing for us is winning against Ohio," Skinner said. "After each win, we'll focus on the next opponent." Popp believes the team will be able to handle the pressure of the tournament and play well.

"It's been a season where we've had to do what has been asked of us," Popp said. "Now we're finding our consistency as a team."

DIVERSITY

Continued from page 1

on campus, including the president's Commission on Women, the Commission on Diversity and the Task Force on Diversity, said UK spokesman Jay Blanton.

This wide support demonstrates an understanding that creating an administrative structure to move UK forward is important to the university's commitment to diversity, Blanton said.

UK's previous diversity initiative included adding \$500,000 for diversity scholarships last year and giving the university more than \$3 million in its efforts to promote and nurture diversity, Todd said. Eight new members were also added to the admissions and recruitment department, which places a major focus on diversity in the process of bringing new students to UK.

Todd said these efforts have been successful but that diversity involves more than the student recruitment process. Diversity goals

should include helping more students succeed and graduate once they are at the university, he said. Additionally, a more diverse faculty and staff will enrich the learning and working environment at UK, Todd said.

"We have to think and act more strategically about diversity in all of those areas to positively impact the entire campus," Todd said. Subbaswamy said he hopes to have the position filled before the start of the 2007-2008 school year.

The search committee for the vice president for institu-

tional diversity will hold an open forum for all members of the UK community tomorrow at 2 p.m. in the Worsham Theater in the Student Center to discuss potential candidates and the leadership qualities necessary for this new position to be successful.

"It's important to receive feedback about the VPID role from all of our vested constituencies — students, faculty, staff and the community at large," Subbaswamy said. "It's important that early in the process we have feedback from as many of those stakeholders as possible."

NURSING

Continued from page 1

science in nursing program for their sophomore year. Now, 80 students will be admitted for the fall semester and 80 will be admitted for the spring semester. Students who are admitted for the spring semester either take the fall semester off or take other classes until they can take nursing courses.

To help handle the increase, the college plans on hiring eight additional full-time faculty members over the next three years, and Kirschling said the college has funding to hire part-time instructors as well.

Kirschling said with the additional

faculty, most classes will not increase in size.

"We have to decide where to increase (the class size) and where to keep it as is," she said, adding that second sections will be created for some courses.

Davis said that even with doubling the class size, "there will be no change in admission standards."

Davis said UK typically has 140 to 170 pre-nursing freshmen and that the applicant pool for those seeking admission to the professional nursing program averages about 200.

"The competition has been stiff," Davis said, adding that the increase in class size will allow the college to "take more out of the application pool, but we can't predict how much bigger (that) pool will grow."

Davis said it is still important for those hoping to be accepted into UK's

nursing program to have a "plan B" and be prepared in case they do not get accepted.

Melanie Hardin-Pierce, assistant professor in the College of Nursing and co-chairperson of the undergraduate program committee, said the college will continue to maintain quality students and faculty.

"Any time you expand you're concerned with maintaining quality," Hardin-Pierce said.

Hardin-Pierce said the expansion of the nursing program will also help increase the number of those who go on to get post-graduate degrees in nursing, making the expansion three-pronged.

"We'll increase the number of nurses, improve health care and increase the number of nursing leadership capital," she said.

GRE

Continued from page 1

better predict success in graduate school by focusing questions on higher cognitive and reasoning skills.

"I don't think the GRE could accurately predict anything about performance in a classroom, it is a completely different atmosphere than taking a standardized test," said Sommer Torabi, a historic preservation graduate student. "I could barely sit for the two and a half hours it took me to finish the test. Doubling the time would be unbearable."

According to the GRE Web site, the test will expand from five sections to seven sections.

The changes include two 40-minute verbal sections instead of one 30-minute section and two 40-minute quantitative sections instead of one 45-minute section.

The analytical writing section will be renamed critical thinking and analytical writing, and will be two 30-minute essay questions instead of one 30-minute and one 45-minute section. The actual essays will also be made available for graduate schools to see.

Higher GRE scores benefit students by increasing their financial aid package from graduate schools, and the new test form may make higher scores more difficult for some.

"I would recommend students take the current test if they are ready and able to, the longer format will require more stamina and less flexibility, plus, there is always an angle of uncertainty with the

new form," Lee said.

The test, which is currently offered almost everywhere of the year nationwide, will only be administered a maximum of 30 times a year with no repetition of questions. With the decrease in test-taking opportunities, the number of locations is expected to increase from 600 to almost 3,000, according to Kaplan.

The scoring of the test will also change from a scale of 200-800 to a 130-170 point scale with a mean of 150.

Jeanine Blackwell, dean of the Graduate School at UK, does not think the new scale will create any problems. "We maintain a general standard on what acceptable scores should be, and test changes normally go smoothly," Blackwell said. "With any test change there are glitches, but we try to be flexible with the administrators and the students who get caught in the middle."

The change in test format has created questions of whether students' ability to receive merit-based financial aid will be affected, according to Kaplan. The average graduate student graduates with \$30,000 of debt.

The top 20 percent of GRE scores are considered for competitive fellowships that require the GRE. This percentage marker will not change," Blackwell said. "We are also monitoring general requirements at other benchmark schools and seeing where they are at scores with fellowship offerings."

For more information on the GRE test changes or for sample questions of the new format, visit www.kaptest.com/newGRE.

KEY

Continued from page 1

and for UK."

McKay, a lecturer in his sixth year in the college and a 10th-generation native of New Orleans, said he understands the devastation of the city and the tragedy experienced by its people from a personal level. During the hurricane, McKay's parents and extended family lost their homes.

McKay teamed up with Swanson to propose a plan of a student-based satellite studio to the College of Design. The plan was met with enthusiasm from the dean of the college and the whole administration.

"I thought it was a wonderful idea," said David Mohney, the dean of the College of Design. "It (shows) the school's commitment in working in the real world."

Students who participate in the KNOA program are at least in their third year of undergraduate study. The students receive 15 credit hours during the semester-long program.

Applicants to the program were required to submit a portfolio of their work and a letter of interest. Fourteen students applied for this year's fall program, and all were accepted.

The purpose of the KNOA studio is to offer design work free of charge to community groups and nonprofit organizations.

"These organizations often cannot afford professional architects," Swanson said. "With our help, they can now put their entire budget toward labor and building materials."

The studio initially experienced difficulties in setting up.

"The biggest challenge was to get all the equipment," Swanson said. "We had to equip our studio from scratch."

To cut down the cost, members of the studio bought broken machinery and fixed it.

Since the studio is on its own, students have to learn how to work together effectively.

"We have to operate like a family, a cooperative team," Swanson said.

Currently, the studio is working to reshape a neglected park and its surrounding area in Bywater, a neighborhood adjacent to the French Quarter. "The area is a run-down field currently used as a dog park," said Jason Richards, a fifth-year architecture major. "We are redesigning the park and the playground for the children and other people for their recreational activities."

So far, the studio and its participants believe their efforts are successful.

"Our major goal here is to help people in the immediate level," Swanson said. "We want to be helping people to rebuild their lives, and that's what we are accomplishing right now."

While the KNOA program is for architecture students only, Swanson points out that all UK students can get involved in the rebuilding process. Organizations like Habitat for Humanity and Common Grounds welcome students of all majors to volunteer to rebuild the city.

"And if any Kentucky students come to town to help, we would be glad to help them settle in," Swanson said.

Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement
WWW.UKY.EDU/CAMPUSCALENDAR **CAMPUS CALENDAR** VISIT THE WEB SITE FOR EVENT DETAILS OR TO POST YOUR OWN UK EVENT.

The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement. Registered Student Orgs. and UK Dept.s can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information it to appear. Call 257-8867 for more information.

Monday 27 th	Tuesday 28 th	Wednesday 29 th	Thursday 30 th	Friday 1 st	Sunday 3 rd
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Yates Elementary School Tutoring, 4:00 PM, Yates Elementary School •Swing Dance Lessons, 8:00 PM, Yates Creek Recreation Ctr Ballroom •Shift, 7:00 PM, Christian Student Fellowship Building •UK Budo Karate Club, 8:00 PM, Dance Hall •FUEL, 6:30 PM, 508 Columbia Avenue (UKWF) •Solar Car Team Meeting, 7:00 PM, DVT Engineering Building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Baptist Campus Ministry - TNT - Tuesday Nights Together, 7:30 PM, Baptist Student Center - 429 Columbia Ave. •UK Students for Life Meeting, 8:00 PM, 115 Student Center •Alpha Phi Omega, 6:30 PM, 359 Student Center •Students Taking Action Globally (STAG) Meeting, 5:15 PM, 211 Student Center •BIO 425 Seminar, 10:00 AM •BINGO, 7:00 PM, STUDENT CENTER CATS DEN •Internship Information Session, 11:00 AM, 101 Stuckert Bldg, 408 Rose Street •Internship Information Session, 3:30 PM, 101 Stuckert Bldg, 408 Rose Street •Pre-Physical Therapy Student Association Meeting, 7:30 PM, Gallery Room of the Young Library 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UK Budo Karate Club, 8:00 PM, Dance Hall •LECM Food for Body and Soul, 5:05 PM, St. Augustine's Chapel on Rose Street •Tutoring at Bryan Station Middle, 4:00 PM, Bryan Station Middle •University Christian Fellowship, 8:00 PM, 230 Student Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Hope Center Dinner, 4:45 PM, Hope Center of Lexington •Family Fun and Learning nights, 4:30 PM, The Carnegie Center of Lexington •Feminist Alliance Meeting, 7:30 PM, Commonwealth House of the Gaines Center on Maxwell St. •UK Gay-Straight Alliance Meeting, 7:00 PM, 357 Student Center •DanceBlue All Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM, 230 Student Center •Freshman Focus - Baptist Campus Ministry, 7:30 PM, Baptist Student Center - 429 Columbia Avenue •Synergy, 8:00 PM, Christian Student Fellowship Building •Education Abroad and Your Future: Marketing Your Experiences, 3:30 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center 408 Rose Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UK Budo Karate Club, 4:30 PM, Dance Hall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Holiday Shopping Shuttle, 12:00 PM •UK Ultimate Frisbee Organization, 10:00 PM, Intramural Fields

OPINIONS

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Drastic minimum-wage hike would hurt economy

In any election year, one issue that is sure to draw attention is the minimum wage. Here in Kentucky, a coalition of religious leaders and labor groups have been lobbying state legislators to raise the state's minimum wage to \$7 from the federal level of \$5.15. The Courier-Journal reported earlier this month.

The federal minimum wage was set at \$5.15 in 1997. Since then, the federal government has ceded to state the right to set statewide minimum wage levels above the federal rate. As of April of this year, 18 states have done so.

State Rep. J.R. Gray, D-Benton, wants to make Kentucky the 19th.

Two weeks ago, Gray filed a bill for the 2007 legislative session that would provide a \$1.85 per hour raise to Kentucky's minimum-wage earners.

"This right here is a moral issue we must deal with," Gray said. "It's the right thing to do."

The Courier-Journal's article highlighted a single mother, Cara Prince, 41, from Louisville who "has worked at a series of low-paying, temporary or fast food jobs."

"I never know if we're going to have enough money at the end of the month," said

KERNEL EDITORIAL

Prince, who lives with her 12-year-old daughter. Advocates of minimum-wage increases frequently cite such stories of downtrodden low-income earners who live paycheck to paycheck in order to provide for themselves and their families.

But interestingly, although such legislation is often proposed, few minimum wage increases actually pass through state legislative chambers. A minimum wage increase did not get out of the state House of Representatives in last year's session.

This time around, however, House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, has pledged his support for the bill, telling The Courier-Journal, "We're going to press as a Democratic body to help our families across the Commonwealth."

So why would such opposition exist for seemingly altruistic legislation?

For one, economic theory does not support the conclusion that raising the minimum wage actually brings up the overall standard of living. In a 2003 survey, 74 percent of academic economists agreed with the statement "A minimum wage increases unemployment among young

and unskilled workers."

Research done by the Employment Policies Institute and the National Center for Policy Analysis concluded that an increase by 10 percent in the minimum wage might reduce demand for hours worked by minimum wage employees by 1 to 2 percent.

And Milton Friedman, the 1976 Nobel laureate in economics who recently died, once called the minimum wage "the most anti-black law on the books" because, in his view, it caused higher unemployment among black adults.

Research shows that the minimum wage has fallen 29 percent in real value (wages adjusted for inflation) since 1979. But the median hourly wage has gone up in the same time, meaning that workers are generally making more than they were 27 years ago, even if the legally required minimum has decreased. Meanwhile, unemployment dropped from 7.1 percent in 1980 to 4.4 percent in October of this year.

Rather than increase the minimum wage by the proposed 36 percent, which would likely result in an increase in unemployment among unskilled and young workers, it would make more sense to link minimum wage to an indicator such as the Consumer Price Index, which main-

tains cost-of-living rates on a month-by-month basis.

Annual increases in the CPI fluctuate, so the resulting annual increase in minimum wage would fluctuate as well. Since the early 1980s, increases in the United States' CPI have hovered in the 2 to 5 percent range. A 3 percent annual minimum wage increase since the last federal increase in 1997 would result in a current federal wage of \$6.49. Such gradual increases would make small businesses more prepared to meet the financial requirements of increasing minimum-wage rates.

To be sure, it's time to raise the federal minimum wage from \$5.15. But a large one-time increase will only burden employers of the lowest wage earners. Employers will have two choices: They can either lay off some of their employees or raise prices for consumers, either of which will also negatively affect low-income individuals.

Gradually increasing minimum wage on an annual basis would keep both consumer prices and unemployment down, thus continuing to stimulate the national economy for the foreseeable future.

To save more lives, make organ donation the default choice

Waste is never a good thing. Perhaps the most tragic waste of all, then, would be the one thing that can never be restored, recovered or rebuilt — life.

Throughout history, humanity has fought to end the end of life. Medical advances, new techniques, new medicines and more have been developed, created, researched and applied to no end. In particular, one technique, organ transplantation, has shown particular promise in putting a stop to the premature end of life.

The human body is a masterpiece, but when it's missing a critical piece, it can't function. This waste is preventable by organ donations. Yet, this is where the greatest waste in this matter arises.

Organ donation is a noble gesture, but how many people actually take the steps to see that they make it happen? Procrastination, forget-

KERNEL EDITORIAL

fulness or simply being too busy often gets in the way, and as the seconds tick by, more and more lives are lost — lives that could have been saved if the paperwork had been signed and last wishes expressed to family members.

This way of doing things is backwards, wasteful and regrettable. It would be far more advantageous for the system to work in reverse. Instead of volunteering to donate organs, people would automatically be registered for such a practice, and should they want to opt out for religious or personal reasons, they could do so of their own free will. In this way, more people would be able to live, and the shortage of donor organs that puts so many lives in jeopardy right now could be avoided.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Kernel lacks logic in anti-SG editorials

The Kernel has repeatedly published editorials condemning the idea of expanding the Student Government Senate. This idea is the brainchild of SG Senate President Brent Burchett. Contrary to what you may read in the paper, he has made no headstrong push for a bill on this matter, because, like a good legislative steward, he wants to explore the idea fully and get feedback from the people who are involved in campus leadership — not just those that write about it — before making an official proposal.

I think the Kernel has gone too far in its editorials to attack Burchett and has created an imaginary tale of this "unabated" agenda by "SG leadership" that is simply an exploration of ideas in an effort to better serve students. It is this kind of pre-emptive, exaggerated journalistic style that discourages honest, open discourse on such topics by elected student leaders.

The Kernel uses poor logic in its latest attacks on this idea: lack of legislation and "useless resolutions." Perhaps if more senators existed from a greater variety of backgrounds, there would be more legislation. And perhaps the Kernel should consider that some resolutions are mere "shouts in the dark" because UK administrators decide to ignore them, the same way they have ignored past resolutions and overwhelmingly supported referendum voted on by the student body.

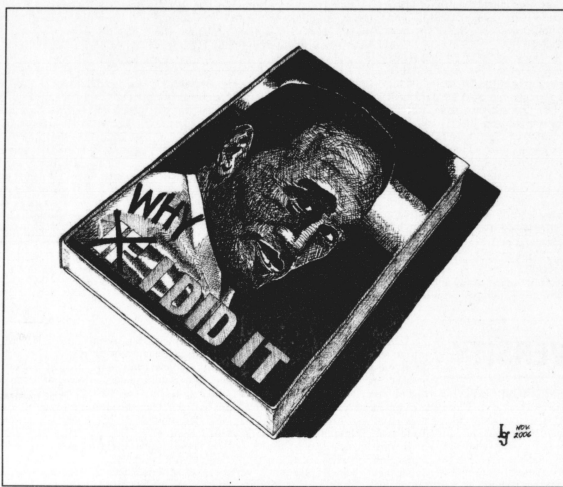
I personally do not support the Senate expansion, although I see the merit of Burchett's motivations. I think the simple principle of "You do not have to be a certain type of person to represent that type of person" should apply. In other words,

you do not have to have someone from every walk of life at UK in order to ensure that they are all properly represented. Indeed, the more you differentiate student representatives, the more narrow their representation will become. For example, "Greek senators" will have more reason to only worry about Greek issues — something they have often been unjustly accused of in the past. Expansion is a formula for divisiveness and increased red tape.

However, I think the fact that this idea is being explored reflects SG's wish for more student input and involvement. Student leaders can spend lots of time furthering their own issues and campaigns do a great deal to gather input from constituents, but unless we have more student interest and input on the governmental work each year, senators are left with less to work on and therefore less legislation to pass. While SG senators have to gather that input and encourage such interest, they do have to be met halfway. And let us not forget all of the non-legislative work that is accomplished and often not highlighted by the news media: meetings with administrators on important issues, service projects and more.

UK's student government has hovered on the brink between a mere "student council" and a legitimate voice in university affairs for a long time — burdened by student apathy, the fickle media, in loco parents administrators and its own officials' bumbblings. I think we can at least be pleased that we have student leaders trying to imagine ways to improve student representation and the work of SG. Some of the best ideas and initiatives are bred out of failed ones, and I believe this case shows such promise.

Justin Neal Renner
SG senator, College of Medicine



BRIAN GOODLEY, Kernel cartoonist

True selflessness is the best way to solve problems of all sorts

Is "selfless service" a utopian notion?

Different individuals might have different opinions about what selfless service means. Let us take a minute to review what the dictionary says. It says selfless means "not selfish."

That sounds too simple. If we look for the meaning of "selfish" and redefine it, then selfless means "not arising from concern with one's own welfare in disregard of others." So we get the meaning that being selfless is the idea of being not only concerned with one's own welfare but also with that of others. To be concerned with others' welfare might mean thinking about the well-being of other people but does not specifically mean doing something for someone with out any expectation in return.

But according to Vivekananda, a famous saint from India, selfless service means serving others with out expecting anything in return. Vivekananda goes to the extent of saying that one should not expect even "thanks" or the accrual of the "punya" (the accumulation of goodwill by a person that finally determines if his soul will be liberated in this incarnation or not, according to Hindu philosophy) for acts of kindness done by a human to be called truly selfless.

I have seen several cases when two people did not get along well be-

cause one of them did not thank the other for some favor received from the other. Many more are the cases when they don't get along well when one did not reciprocate the favor received from the other. The gravity of this issue considerably increases when the two people are actually heads of two families in a patriarchal society, because then the friction is not just between those two, but between the members of the two families. Without loss of generality, say there is someone in one of those two families who figured that it is pointless to hate the other family's members. He still would not dare to embrace them because then he would run the risk of his family disowning him. This venom will be passed on to the newer generations too.

Now imagine the two hypothetical people are heads of two nations or religious communities. This is clearly one of the reasons for longstanding animosity between different pairs of nations across the world because of things that happened years and centuries ago. Well, things won't look as simple if you dig deep, because what actually happened would have taken several forms to suit each party's argument. The deep-rooted cause for most of the individual or communal clashes is hence mainly the expectation of a return for some favor rendered by one to the other. Of course, it is reasonable to expect someone who receives a favor to return it when possible. So if someone did not return the favor, there are two possible reasons:

The beneficiary is really an op-

portunist, and he does not care to return the favor though he is capable of.

The time at which the benefactor expects the return is not viable for the beneficiary to reciprocate, though he intends to.

In case No. 1 it is reasonable to hate the beneficiary (but not his entire family), but in case No. 2 the beneficiary might not always be able to share the reason for his inability, and it is not reasonable to develop hatred towards him or his family. The problem here is that most of the time, there is no sure way of knowing if the beneficiary belongs to case No. 1 or case No. 2. Hence, to sustain harmony, Vivekananda's seemingly utopian notion of selfless service is the only way out.

But again, I understand it is not as easy to implement as it is to say. One thing we can gain with out any expectation is the feeling of happiness that we actually did something good for someone else. By looking at someone recover from a bad situation because of something we did, we can derive happiness. This is similar to that experienced by most of us when we see an innocent baby smile at us when we are waiting in a queue, like in Wal-Mart. We don't care about its nationality, religion and race, and if we reflect, we are not quite sure why that gave us happiness. So let us all try to be as selfless as we can and contribute our two cents in making this world a better place to live.

Ramakanth Kavuluru is a computer science graduate student. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

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

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TENNESSEE 17, UK 12



BRAD LUTTRELL | STAFF
Junior tight end Jacob Tamme catches a pass before being tackled by Tennessee defensive back Demetrick Morley on Saturday.

History hands Cats hard loss.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — The scoreboard read 17-12 after UK's loss to Tennessee on Saturday, but it may as well have said 22-0.



CHRIS DELOTTELL
Kermit columnist

That's what happens when you lose to someone 22 consecutive times.

We rarely venture into ideas of academia in this space, but let's try. Doesn't it confound the laws of basic statistics, or physics, or Newton's Laws of Gravity, or something for one team to lose to another team 22 times in a row? At some point since the release of Nintendo, wouldn't it happen just one time that UK would get lucky, or that Tennessee would play bad, or that UK would win a game?

No. Because if the streak couldn't end on Saturday, there's no reason to believe that it will ever end.

The game was filled with the kind of moments that have to happen for a curse this inexcusable to continue.

Early in the second quarter, UK linebacker Wesley Woodyard jarred the ball loose from UT running back Montario Hardesty, only to watch it fly right into the arms of big fat Tennessee lineman Anthony Parker.

Midway through the fourth quarter, with UK down by the eventual final margin, UK defensive end Jeremy Jarmon drilled UT quarterback Eric Ainge and forced a fumble that bounced toward the Cats' end zone. Nothing stood between UK defensive lineman Lamar Mills, the checkerboard end zone, and a UK lead, but Mills couldn't pick up the ball — and Tennessee recovered. "You see it all the time," said dejected UK head coach Rich Brooks. "Guys try to scoop and score. Unfortunately, we didn't get it."

UK quarterback Andre Woodson, who had managed the no-huddle offense flawlessly all game, allowed the play clock to run out with the Cats on the 3-yard line on their final

possession. The delay-of-game penalty pushed UK back to the 8-yard line and, after a short run by Rafael Little, led to two unsuccessful throws to the end zone. "Andre just lost track of the clock," Brooks said. "It's just an unfortunate thing."

If any of those three moments had gone UK's way, the Cats probably would have walked out of Neyland Stadium with an 8-4 record and a second-place finish in the Southeastern Conference East. But it wasn't to be. And there's no way to explain it other than history.

"I've been a UK fan all my life," said Jarmon, who explained that he remembers watching yearly UK losses to Tennessee while growing up in Memphis. "We had a great chance to come in here and change history, but we just couldn't do it this year."

For many years of this rivalry, the disparity between talent, coaching and resources between UK and UT formed the history. But now that 21 has ticked over to 22, it's the history that forms the rivalry.

The Cats didn't fail to change history for lack of effort, talent or desire. But it takes something more than that to reroute deep-seeded ignominy. When one team has lost 21 times in a row to another, players on both teams begin to believe that one team is supposed to win and the other is supposed to lose. So on Saturday, Tennessee was supposed to win, and UK was supposed to lose. UK wasn't supposed to recover their UT fumble to set up great field position. The Cats weren't supposed to score the winning touchdown on their final drive. And they didn't.

And that may never change.



BRAD LUTTRELL | STAFF
Head coach Rich Brooks yells at a referee during the second half of Saturday's game against Tennessee.

FOOTBALL

Continued from page 1

In five trips to the red zone, the Cats managed to score just 12 points. The first three possessions inside the Volunteer 20-yard line led to a field goal, a touchdown and a field goal.

In the next two, the Vols (9-3, 5-3) shut the Cats off the scoreboard completely.

"From the 20 (yard line) to the 20 (yard line), we were pretty dang good today," said offensive coordinator Joker Phillips. "But in the red zone, to lose two opportunities ... we've got to convert those."

On their final drive, the Cats couldn't get any closer than the 6-yard line after the delay-of-game penalty. Rafael Little gained 2 yards on second down, and Woodson tossed two incomplete passes — the third down pass was deflected, and the fourth down pass sailed out of the back of the end zone — to seal the game for the Vols.

Before the final drive, UK appeared to be on its way to taking the lead on the heels of an unlikely source: the defense.

On a third-down play with less than 10 minutes left in the game, Tennessee quarterback Erik Ainge fumbled after he was sacked by Jeremy Jarmon. UK defensive tackle Lamar Mills was the first player to the ball and tried to sweep it up in stride, but he was unable to recover the ball.

Brooks said Mills' decision to try to pick up the ball and run with it — rather than falling on it and guaranteeing UK possession of the ball — was correct. "You see it all the time — guys scoop and score — and it was a perfect opportunity for us to do that," Brooks said. "The ball was dribbling there, and Lamar came up and tried to scoop, only he didn't get the bounce he was expecting."

Tennessee had gotten on the board first, jumping out to a 10-0 first-quarter lead after a 24-yard James Wilcox field goal and a 15-yard touchdown hookup between Ainge and wide receiver Robert Meachem.

The Cats rallied to take a 12-10 lead into halftime, but they could have had more points, given the situations they were in.

The Cats got down to the Tennessee 3-yard line on their first scoring drive but had to settle for a field goal. They scored a touchdown on the next drive but missed the extra point.

On the ensuing kickoff, Tennessee receiver Lucas Taylor fumbled the return, and UK's Micah Johnson recovered the ball at the 19-yard line. But, again, the Cats couldn't punch the ball into the end zone.

"It happened a couple times to us," said tight end Jacob Tamme, who had seven catches for 120 yards. "There's no real excuse for it."

Woodson threw for 282 yards and one touchdown on 26-of-39 passing. The junior quarterback had little trouble moving the ball down the field against a Volunteer defense that came into the game ranked fourth in the conference in pass defense.

But, in the end, the offense's inability to turn red-zone drives into seven points was what doomed the Cats.

"We didn't do a good job of executing what was called in the red zone," said junior wide receiver Keenan Burton. "That's hurt us in the past week, and we've worked on it in practice, but at the same time you've got to stick in it, no matter what, no matter where you are."

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