

KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 37 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Top diversity position filled; new VP wants open-door policy

By Jill Lester
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A little more than a year after the search began, the president and provost have selected UK's top diversity official. Judy "J.J." Jackson of Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., will begin as the vice president for institutional diversity July 1. Jackson visited UK earlier this month, and she said she knew she wanted the job during her first day on campus. "Most of the time an institution will hire someone at any level and say 'OK, our work is done,'" she said. "If I had

sensed that at UK, that would have ended my interest."

In her new role, Jackson will be responsible for advising the president and the provost on how university decisions will affect UK's diversity goals. The position will also include coordinating diversity efforts among students, faculty, staff and administration.

One challenge Jackson said she anticipates is finding gaps between diversity goals and policy in different programs on campus. Jackson said she plans to meet



Jackson

with college deans, department heads and other university officials to see where different UK programs are at in terms of diversity.

"A program like this is going to take years and years, and laying the groundwork is critically important," she said.

To begin looking at how students see diversity at UK, Jackson said she would talk with student leaders and student affairs officials, as well as look at data on diversity that the university has collected.

The number of UK students would limit the amount of time she could spend speaking one-on-one with them, Jackson said, but she stressed that an open-door policy with students is a must, and she would look at what times she could set aside that would be convenient for them.

Patrick Nally, a marketing and integrated strategic communications junior, said he hopes Jackson will sit down with members of the UK community and come up with long-term goals for diversity efforts when she arrives on campus.

"She generated the best kind of excitement in the UK community, the kind where people want to join her in advancing diversity, not just watch her succeed from afar."

See Jackson on page 6

CAROL JORDAN
Search committee chair

Judge finds Ragland liable for UK death

By Alice Hammond
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A Fayette County judge ruled yesterday that Shane Ragland, who pleaded guilty to second-degree manslaughter in August, is liable for the death of former UK football player Trent DiGiuro.

DiGiuro, a former offensive lineman, died from a gunshot to the head on July 17, 1994, while celebrating his birthday on the front porch of his Woodland Avenue home.

After the criminal case ended in August with Ragland's guilty plea, the DiGiuro family resumed a civil suit that was initially filed in 2002 for damages against Ragland.

The DiGiuro family submitted a motion for summary judgment on Sept. 26, requesting that they would not have to prove Ragland's liability before moving forward with the civil trial.

But Ragland's attorney, Steve Romines, responded to the DiGiuros' suit on Oct. 26, stating that his client's guilty plea did not establish liability in DiGiuro's death.

In that response, Romines said the consequences of going to trial played a role in Ragland's decision to plead guilty and did not necessarily prove his guilt.

However, the judge's ruling yesterday allows the DiGiuro family to continue the civil suit trial and receive compensation from Ragland without proving his guilt.

The DiGiuros declined to comment yesterday and referred the Kernel to their attorney, Thomas Conway.

"They're glad that it moved forward," Conway said. "They've been waiting awhile."

Romines could not be reached yesterday to comment on the ruling.

Ragland was convicted of DiGiuro's murder in 2002 and sentenced to 30 years in prison. But the conviction was overturned in 2004 when the State Supreme Court ruled that prosecutors mis-spoke in closing arguments.

The Supreme Court overturned the conviction again in March 2006 and ordered a new trial after research indicated that bullet lead tests that connected Ragland to the crime were unreliable in the original trial.

In exchange for the August plea, prosecutors recommended that Ragland serve an eight-year sentence. Ragland received credit for more than four and a half years served in prison as well as 14 months of home incarceration while he was out of prison on bond. He finished his sentence Aug. 30.

The jury trial for the civil suit will begin during the summer, Conway said. Because Ragland is considered liable for DiGiuro's death, he will have to pay damages, but the amount will not be determined until the jury trial.

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Classes explore UK Island, use digital world for research

By Katie Jo Cox
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After leaving the W.T. Young Library, a student could make a quick trip back to Paris in 1900 or conduct theoretical fieldwork among millions of virtual characters across the world using UK's recent purchase, a virtual island in Second Life.

Second Life, which began in 2003, allows people to create a virtual life by buying property, building landscapes and structures, and inventing a character to explore the virtual world and what other people have put into it.

"Research shows students learn better through play," said political science professor Christopher Rice, who is using the virtual world this semester in his PS 545 American Political Thought class. "If we can start using this as a teaching tool

in our classrooms, we're likely to see a major improvement." Second Life is not just for programmers and gamers; it has tremendous potential as a teaching and research platform, Rice said.

Purchased in late November, UK Island is a virtual simulation of different aspects of the university's real-life campus, including a virtual mini Student Center with couches where students' characters gather for meetings. The island also has a W.T. Young Library with resources available, identical simulations of signs around campus and cat paws paved along the sidewalks between campus buildings.

"We tried to put in elements of UK," Rice said. "We wanted the feel of UK, but we're not trying to replicate the campus."

Students in Rice's class are creating virtual characters called avatars to explore the world of Second Life and observe environments other people are building. They can examine examples of their theoretical knowledge in the "field," or the rest of the virtual world, Rice said.

See Virtual on page 6

ILLUSTRATION BY BRAD LUTTMILL | STAFF

Mayor: Supporting universities key to Lexington's future

By Hayley Schletker
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Lexington Mayor Jim Newberry stressed the importance of maintaining and expanding higher education opportunities in Lexington last night at the State of the Merged Government Address. Institutions such as UK, Transylvania University, and Bluegrass Community and Technical College must be supported to provide quality employees to Lexington businesses and to maintain Lexington's reputation as an educational center, he said.

"We must jealously guard that reputation so that the young people here tonight will have the opportunity to obtain a quality education without having to leave our community," Newberry said.

One step that Newberry's office has taken is forming the Bluegrass Business Development Partnership, an effort involving UK and Commerce Lexington that seeks to change the way jobs are brought to Lexington.



PHOTOS BY ELLIOTT HESS | STAFF

Mayor Jim Newberry gave his second State of the Merged Government address yesterday at the Lexington Opera House. Higher education will play an important part of the city's future, he said.

"We have provided substantially greater financial support of our efforts to bring high quality jobs to Lexington so that our young people will be able to find attractive, high-paying jobs in our horse, health care and high-tech industries

without having to leave Lexington," Newberry said.

Newberry also highlighted other accomplishments that benefit UK students, including work on paving roads and on increasing the number of bike lanes.

Newberry said he was pleased with the improvements made around UK and the entire community, but looked forward to taking more steps forward in 2008.

"Tonight we need to look back at the progress which we

have made in 2007 to address Lexington's human, economic, physical and cultural needs," Newberry said, "but we must also look ahead, to evaluate what else we must do to leave our children and future generations a better home than that which was left to us by prior generations of Lexingtonians."

Newberry noted that Gov. Steve Beshear announced last week his financial backing on two of Lexington's top priorities: improvements at the Kentucky Horse Park and new runway construction at the Blue Grass Airport.

Those projects are important for the upcoming 2010 World Equestrian Games, Newberry said, which he anticipates will have a positive impact on the Central Kentucky region.

"The World Equestrian Games provides us with an unparalleled opportunity to showcase our arts to the world," Newberry said. "I know that we will surprise many of our guests with what remarkable arts and cultural offerings we have to share."

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HOROSCOPES

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

Aries (March 21 - April 19) Today is a 7 — Pay the bills and figure out how much money is left before you accept a ritzy invitation. This one could be too expensive. Find a less costly way to have fun. Knowing you, that won't be hard.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 7 — Stay out of a controversy between others, if you possibly can. They're not paying attention to you, anyway. If you give them a lot of room, you can go about your business.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is an 8 — A job turns out to be more difficult than you expected. Reschedule errands and everything else until Friday at best. Between

now and then, scurry to keep up.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is a 7 — You can express your love lots of ways that don't require words. You do it all the time. Hot baked cookies, for example, fresh from the oven. You're irresistible.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 6 — Settle down and contemplate what you've recently learned. You're running into contradictions and possibly some errors. Give yourself time and a quiet space to sort all this stuff out.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is a 7 — You're good at keeping up with all the latest trends. Do that again, in the next day or two. Review and revise, especially work-play procedures. Create more time for play.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is an 8 — How will you find the money to do what you want to do? Through lots of trial and error. Don't buy a lottery ticket. Under these conditions, that won't work.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is a 7 — Definitely watch your

misunderstandings can happen in seconds, and take years to correct. Be the strong, silent type.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 6 — Take care not to gossip now, not even with close friends. If somebody doesn't want to talk about something, don't push. Wait for a better time.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is a 7 — Don't go bragging to your friends, or anybody else. Talking about work in progress would be counter-productive. Wait and show them the results.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 7 — For the next several weeks, review old material. Sort and file your paperwork, receipts and whatever else. You'll be in the mood to tidy up communications.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 7 — You'd like to run away from your dull routine, and avoid a particularly difficult task. That's not a good idea. Everybody would notice.

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LOVE LIVES

Justin & Drew's Jet-Set Romance!

THE DISH

When asked how he feels about having a woman as lovely as Drew Barrymore on his arm, Justin Long joked to Us, "My arm has never felt better!" And she's not just a pretty face to him, says Long: "I've always really admired her work as an actor." On January 16, after a quick trip to New Orleans, the duo of five months went all-in for some fun in Las Vegas. The actress, 32, and Long, 29, hit Hard Rock Hotel's Nobu for dinner with pals. "They were having a great time," says an on-looker. And Barrymore is tight with his family too: They later partied with his actor brother, Christian Long, 26, at the Pussycat Dolls Lounge.

VanCamp, 21, are "solid," says a source close to the couple of nearly a year. "Dave would never kiss anyone else." Humor is key to making it work, says the pal of the pair, who just followed a Bahamas escape to the Cove Atlantis resort with a trip to the Sundance Film Festival. "She thinks Dave is hilarious. They have a great time making each other laugh."

Review of Motion Pictures. "She's a beautiful girl, really lovely. He seems pretty happy to me." Clooney, who brought the former Las Vegas cocktail waitress as his date, told Us he is keeping his Valentine's Day plans for her top-secret. With her at his side, he said, "I'm going to . . ." then put his finger to his lips in a "shh" gesture as she looked on adoringly.

Jon & Jennifer He's Madly in Love

Mad Men star Jon Hamm, 36, may have just nabbed a best actor Golden Globe, but his real prize is his love of nearly 10 years, actress Jennifer Westfeldt, 38. So he makes sure she knows it. "You have to prioritize your relationship and make time," the actor, 36, tells Us of his secret to romance. "We talk about it all the time." And even with the busy schedules that come with success (she is on the ABC comedy Notes From the Underbelly), the two are determined to stay low-key. "We take our dog on hikes and have a lot of dinners out," says Westfeldt. "Every night's a date night when we're together."

George & Sarah Perfect Together

George Clooney, 46, found a gem in Sarah Larson, says his Michael Clayton costar Tilda Swinton. "I love her," Swinton told Us at the January 15 NYC bash for The National Board of

Atonement's James McAvoy Meet My Wife!

His steamy scenes with Keira Knightley in Atonement may have made James McAvoy a heartthrob, but the Scottish actor, 28 (starring in June's Wanted with Angelina Jolie), says credit for his success really belongs to "my missus" of a year. British actress Anne-Marie Duff, 37, "She taught me how to respect life and it took my career to a whole new level." "I feel so blessed," Ali Larter recently gushed to Us of life with love of two years Hayes MacArthur. And since the Game Plan actor, 30, popped the question in December — with an estimated 4-carat Asscher-cut diamond — Larter's bliss has only gotten better. The Heroes star, 31, says: "I'm totally in love!"

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SPORTS

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Cats fans have plenty to watch while waiting for weekend's games

As soon as the men's basketball team gets on a roll and wins two straight games ... they get a week off.

Yes, the Cats have it going now. They've won consecutive games for the first time since Nov. 27, and they'll have a chance to get back over 500 — a mark they haven't seen since Dec. 8 — this weekend at Georgia.



JONATHAN SMITH
Kernel columnist

But until then, and until the undefeated Patriots blow out the Giants in Super Bowl XLIII on Sunday, UK fans are going to have to find something to do with their time.

Here's a list of three UK teams that have big events this week that all UK fans should keep track of:

In Wednesday, women's tennis, versus Louisville. It's exciting anytime U of L and UK play each other. This tennis match should be no different.

UK is off to a 3-0 start and the Cats are up to No. 34 in the national rankings. They are coming off a 7-0 win over No. 23 Michigan. The Cards are 1-1 on the year, and they just beat Michigan State.

Last year, UK beat the Cards 6-1 at Louisville. Most of that UK team is gone this season — the Cats have three freshmen, three sophomores and no seniors — so it would be worth seeing what the UK squad is going to look like over the next few seasons.

On Thursday, women's basketball, at Georgia. Remember when the UK football team had to play South Carolina, Louisiana State and Florida this year? At the time, each of those teams was ranked in the top-12. The women's basketball team is up against the same type of stretch right now.

On Sunday, the Cats played then-No. 9 LSU

and lost 72-46. Thursday they'll play at No. 17 Georgia. Sunday they'll travel to Knoxville, Tenn., to play No. 2 Tennessee.

Three games in seven days against teams with an average ranking of about nine. Good thing UK is off to a great start in league play.

After going just 6-8 in non-conference play, the ladies are 4-2 and in third place overall (in Southeastern Conference women's hoops, the conference isn't split up into the Eastern and Western Division.)

Just like that stretch for the football team, it will be important for the women's basketball team to win one of the three games. Thursday's game against Georgia will probably be the Cats' best chance since they lost to Tennessee by 25 points at home 12 days ago.

On Friday, gymnastics, at LSU. When people think about the SEC, usually football is the first sport that comes to mind. That's not to say the SEC isn't excellent at football — just ask Ohio State — it's just that the conference is probably even more dominant in gymnastics.

Of the top 10 teams in last week's national gymnastics rankings, five are from the SEC. The top three teams are Florida, Georgia and Alabama.

LSU, UK's opponent on Friday night, is No. 5. UK is 1-1 in the conference, but that could change dramatically over the next few weeks.

Look at the run the gymnastics team has to navigate through the rest of the season: last week against No. 3 Alabama, No. 5 LSU on Friday, then No. 1 Florida, No. 10 Arkansas and No. 2 Georgia.

And if that wasn't enough, the Cats then play three straight non-conference matches against No. 13 Nebraska, No. 14 Arizona and No. 18 Ohio State.

If they can get a win or two out of that gauntlet, then anything is possible.

Maybe even the Giants beating the Patriots in the Super Bowl.

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Junior defenseman Alex Robinson calls for the puck in a game against Kenesaw State during the weekend of Oct. 19.

ED MATTHEWS STAFF

Not your typical club team Rowdy fans make home-ice a cool place for UK

By Jan Hale
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At first glance, freezing temperatures, post-midnight start times and a lack of funding would seem to be enough to doom a small club team.

So how does the UK hockey team make the Lexington Ice Center a popular destination long after most people have gone to bed? Add a few hundred college co-eds, a pinch of late-night hysteria and a little Garry Glitter music and allow ingredients to chill.

"It's a crowd like no other," said Alex Robinson, a UK junior defenseman. The Cool Cats, who play in the Southeast Conference of Division II of the American Collegiate Hockey Association, swept a pair of games from Ferris State University over the weekend to improve to 16-9-2 on the season. Robinson said UK's success has been due in large part to the home-ice atmosphere at the Lexington Ice Center.

"This crowd provides a huge advantage for us," Robinson said. "We can hear them chanting before the game from the locker room. It gets everybody pumped up."

Manager and announcer Jim Hinkley sits the crowd up during games with an eclectic soundtrack of rock ballads. During Saturday night's game, fans heard the theme to the "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," "Ghostbusters" and Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Freebird."

But no song gets the fans going like Garry Glitter's "Rock and Roll Part Two." The song is played after every goal netted by the home team.

The fans also add to the home-ice advantage by berating opposing teams. After each Cool Cat score, fans break out into a chorus of "you sucks," closing out the song by yelling in unison "we're gonna beat the f--- out of you!"

The university provides about 1 percent of the funding needed to operate the team, ac-

ording to the UK hockey Web site. As a club team, UK hockey does not receive the funding provided to more prominent varsity sports.

But that hasn't seemed to slow the Cool Cats' progress. Most of the team's \$65,000-plus budget comes from ticket sales to those rowdy fans, as well as sponsorships from local businesses. Players also have to pay a \$750 registration fee each year.

Despite financial strains, the Cool Cats have developed a reputation for having competitive, winning teams, which have won at least 19 games in each of the past three seasons.

"I have traveled with the team all over the country and I can tell you this: Kentucky hockey fans rule!" Hinkley wrote in a letter to the fans State University over the weekend. "There are no other fans anywhere in the American Collegiate Hockey Association that can hold a candle to you."

Robinson said UK doesn't enjoy the same support when they play away from home.

"On the road there is no crowd," he said. "Just family, friends and maybe 15 fans or so."

The Cool Cats have also attracted a few celebrity fans. Since the 1998-99 season, the UK hockey team has produced a schedule poster featuring a prominent Kentucky beauty, clad in only a UK hockey sweater. The first poster, which remains the most popular, featured actress Ashley Judd in a No. 1 sweater.

Actresses Rebecca Gayheart and Leah Lail, models Julie and Shawnie Costello, Kylie Bax and Alison List, boxing announcer Amy Hayes, and former-Miss USA Tara Conner have since graced the annual hockey poster.

Maybe it's the late-night party atmosphere. Maybe it's whatever the security guards are looking for when they search fans entering the arena. Maybe it's those famous hockey posters. Whatever the secret ingredient for success is, fans like Robbie Brooks think the UK hockey team has found it.

"I don't really know anything about hockey, but the atmosphere at these games is just electric," said Brooks, an agriculture biotechnology sophomore. "You can't help but get caught up in it."



Senior forward and team captain Mike Barnes battles for a face-off after a stoppage of play against the Owls.

SPORTS BRIEF

Bradley, Patterson earn SEC honors

For the first time in school history, the UK men's basketball team swept both the Southeastern Conference Player and Freshman of the Week honors. Senior guard Rameel Bradley was named SEC Player of the Week and forward Patrick Patterson was named SEC Freshman of the Week, the league office announced Monday.

Bradley, who was awarded SEC Player of the Week honors for the first time in his career, averaged 21.0 points, 8.0 rebounds and 4.5 assists to lead the Cats to wins over No. 3 Tennessee and South Carolina. Bradley saw his streak of six straight games with 20 or more points come to an end Tuesday as the senior

guard scored 16 points against the Volunteers. But Bradley was 8-for-8 from the free throw line over the game's final 1:30 helping nail down the 72-66 win. The New York City native led all scorers with 26 points in the 78-70 win over South Carolina, and added 10 rebounds for his second career double-double.

Patterson was named SEC Freshman of the Week for the second time this season. The forward averaged 21.0 points, 8.5 rebounds, 2.5 assists and 2.5 blocks last week to help lead UK to its first back-to-back wins since Nov. 27.

The announcement marked only the third time a school has earned both SEC Player and Freshman of the Week honors, and the first time since Tennessee did so on Dec. 25, 2006.



Freshman forward Patrick Patterson, left, and sophomore forward Perry Stevenson battle for a rebound against South Carolina on Saturday.

ELLIOTT HESS STAFF

Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement

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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. can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information is to appear. Call 257-8867 for more information.

Tuesday 29 th	Wednesday 30 th	Thursday 31 st	Friday 1 st	Saturday 2 nd	Sunday 3 rd
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Spades ACUI Qualifier Tournament, 7:30 PM, UK Student Center Cats Den •Cheap Seat Tuesdays - We Own the Night, 8:00 PM, Worsham Theater (Student Center) •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center, 3:00 PM, Carnegie Center •Spade ACUI Qualifier Tournament, 7:00 PM, UK Student Center Cats Den •OLD MASTER WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE COLLECTION, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Rising concentrations of atmospheric CO₂: Sources, consequences and sequestration 1:30 PM Young Library Auditorium •Agriculture Career Fair 1:00 PM E.S. Goodbar •OLD MASTER WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE COLLECTION 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Agriculture Career Fair 1:00 PM E.S. Goodbar •UK Dodgeball Spring Tryouts 6:00 PM Alumni Gym •Photo Competition Entry Deadline 8:00 AM Student Activities Board Website •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center 3:00 PM Carnegie Center •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Comedy Caravan 8:00 PM UK Student Center Cats Den •Volunteer w/ Beaumont Buddies 4:00 PM Beaumont Middle School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Team Trivia 8:00 PM UK Student Center Cats Den •Internship Essentials 3:30 PM James W. Stuckert Career Center •CCO Board of Directors Meeting 5:00 PM 106 Student Center •Prof Series Workshop: Traditional Business Practices 3:30 PM B&E room TBA •Team Trivia 8:00 PM UK Student Center Cats Den •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Cru. Weekly Worship Meeting 7:30 PM Center Theater in the Student Center •Free Movie: City of God 10:00 PM Worsham Theater (Student Center) •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center 3:00 PM Carnegie Center •OLD MASTER WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE COLLECTION 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Dance/Blue Committee Meeting 6:00 PM SC RM 230 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Free Play Friday 9:00 AM UK Student Center Cats Den •OLD MASTER WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE COLLECTION 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center 10:00 AM Carnegie Center •Swing Dance 8:00 AM Arthur Murray Dance Studio, 1801 Alexandria Dr. •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •OLD MASTER WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE COLLECTION 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series 12:00 PM UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts 	

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■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

Ethics report doesn't answer all questions in ticket controversy

In early October, we suggested that Student Government Sens. Jesse Parrish and Blake Burnett had offset their mistakes in a ticket-resale controversy by donating the profits to UK's Violence Intervention and Prevention Center. At the time, it seemed like additional investigation was unnecessary. "Barring further revelations about their conduct, it seems the case is closed as far as they're concerned," we wrote.

Last week, those "further revelations" came out. Following a several-month-long investigation, an Ethics Commission led by SG Attorney General Beau Baustien released a report indicating there is more to the senators' purchase and resale of Corey Smith concert tickets than was previously reported.

The controversy centered on the availability of discount tickets to the concert, which was sponsored largely by SG and the Interfraternity Council. Initially, a large chunk of tickets was reserved for Greek organizations for sale at \$5 each, while tickets for the general public were available at the face value of \$15 each. On Sept. 17, the unclaimed Greek tickets went on sale to everyone at the list price, although fraternity and sorority members could still receive the discount. Parrish and Burnett used this opportunity to buy up the nearly 200 unclaimed tickets and sell them for a profit, the Kernel reported on Sept. 25.

At the time, Burnett declined to comment, while Parrish said they only resold tickets at the \$15 face value. "We resold said tickets at face value — we did not sell above market value," Parrish wrote in a letter to the editor published in the Kernel on Sept. 26.

Later, during depositions on Nov. 15, the two senators told the Ethics Commission that they sold each ticket for \$15. Soon after, the commission

found evidence that Burnett had actually sold tickets for \$25 each, the Kernel reported Thursday.

Baustien said he believes Parrish "told the whole truth in his deposition" and that there is sufficient evidence to show that Burnett committed perjury.

If this is true and Burnett lied under oath, then the SG Senate should vote to impeach and remove him. Similarly, if evidence surfaces that Parrish was aware of tickets being sold over list value and stood to profit from the increased price, then he should be ejected from the legislature.

Two senators should not be convicted solely on the opinion of the attorney general — the Senate should carefully review and, if possible, verify the ethics report. Perjury is a serious claim and should not be handled lightly.

The commission's report serves as evidence that the existing SG ethics review process can be effective but has much room for improvement. The attorney general and ad hoc committee should be complimented for running a successful, thorough investigation and for discovering new evidence.

However, the timeliness of the findings leaves something to be desired. Nearly four months have passed since the initial incident and only now has the process reached the point where SG can consider actual, binding action. In a few more months, a new round of senators will be voted into office, and shortly after the school year will end. The long, labor-intensive process of investigating an ethics claim filed in October will have barely concluded before students go to the polls in late March.

SG should use the ticket controversy and the ensuing investigation as an opportunity to revisit the ethics code and find ways to streamline the investigative process without sacrificing fairness or impartiality.

Bush, lawmakers play nice on the stimulus package

The following editorial appeared Friday in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*:

President Bush and Congress came up with a welcome example of bipartisanship Thursday by reaching a deal to give the U.S. economy a financial booster shot.

The tentative agreement calls for most American workers to receive rebate checks of \$300 to \$600 by late spring or early summer. Couples with children would get an extra \$300 per child, up to \$1,200. Businesses could write off more purchases of equipment.

The rebates will go to 117 million families with incomes of up to \$174,000. The hope is that consumers will spend those checks quickly, pumping cash into the economy and blunting the impact of a recession.

The swiftness with which lawmakers struck a compromise underscores the seriousness of the credit crisis and the anxiety level of Congress in an election year. House Speaker Nancy E. Pelosi, D-Calif., said the \$150 billion package is "the fastest way to get the money into the hands of the American people."

Pelosi probably gave up the most in negotiations. There was broad support by Democrats to extend unemployment benefits beyond the normal

26 weeks, and to increase spending for food stamps.

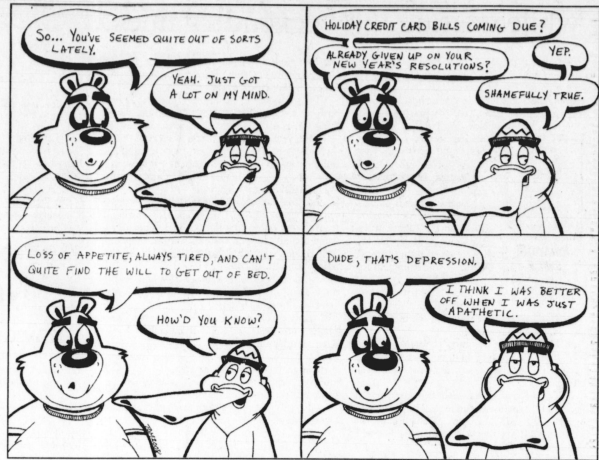
Pelosi abandoned those items in return for Republicans' agreement to give rebates of at least \$300 to all workers. Initially, the Bush administration wanted to give rebates only to people who pay income taxes, which would have left out at least 30 million working households with low incomes.

This part of the compromise isn't ideal — food stamps and unemployment benefits are two effective ways to get money into the hands of people who will spend it quickly. But the agreement to give some rebates to all low-income workers, and extra for their children, does extend the relief to a broader segment of the population that needs it most.

Senate Democrats, who are grumbling about additional food stamps and unemployment benefits being dropped, shouldn't hold up the deal over those two points.

Many Republican lawmakers weren't happy about giving rebates to workers who don't pay income taxes. Others in the GOP wanted to use this package as an excuse to make permanent the Bush tax cuts of 2001 and 2003. Those demands were wisely dropped.

Now, if only the bipartisanship could be seen on other issues.



Tom Wilkins, Kernel cartoonist

Senate works to be more visible through event participation

Friends, although it isn't midterm time for you in the classroom just yet, I believe you are due a progress report from your Student Government Senate.



TYLER MONTELL
Contributing columnist

Whether all of you have had the opportunity to see just exactly what we have done this year.

When the 2007 fall semester began, the members of the student Senate and I, all elected by you, joined together to set some very distinct goals; further, we wanted to work to see changes that would leave a lasting legacy for senators to come.

In my first Kernel column, I explained that it is our "fundamental responsibility to assist student organizations and groups in bettering not just the campus, but the lives of the students."

We were given \$70,000 from the total SG budget for allocations to the student body, but we knew that, in order to see those positive changes,

there had to be an attitude shift in the way we distributed student fees.

No one can identify campus needs better than the student body itself, so this year, we intensified our efforts to not only help students and groups achieve their goals, but to also give them a face and a name to navigate them through university resources via an SG senator.

I feel strongly about the Senate being more than a "bank and loan," but rather a helping hand for students to look to when they have that big idea or just need some help doing something in their own community. I believe that, for the most part, we have done that well.

In Wednesday's Senate meeting, we passed four such projects. For example, some students from the Students for Safety @ UK came to the Senate for help putting on "The Vagina Monologues" performance on campus, and Sen. Kelsey Hayes and Sen. George Kington walked them through the process. The two senators made it as personal and easy for the students as possible.

Sen. Ashley Woodruff of the College of Health Sciences brought forth a proposal to purchase a physical therapy table to assist physical therapy students in continuing to give free services to the Lexington community through the Salvation Army.

Sen. Alex Garcia brought forward a request to help support UK students

participating in the Big Brothers and Big Sisters' event Bowl for Kids' Sake; further, senators will even be bowling to raise money for children in our community.

In the last meeting, we also approved online voting for the spring SG elections, something we have been trying to pass for almost three years. This will allow all students the opportunity to exercise their right to vote while making the process as efficient and credible as possible.

Although we have allocated more than half of our designated funds for the year, we know we have many more challenges to overcome and issues that must be tackled before this session is complete. We are working toward making the Senate more visible to students through participation in more events that we fund, and we intend to make the process even easier for students to enact change here at UK through SG.

As the tired old saying goes, "We can't hear you if you don't speak up." Senators can't help you if you don't tell them what you need. So visit the Web site (www.uky.edu/SGA/legislative.html) or shoot me an e-mail if you have any suggestions, positive or negative, because we want to be the change you want to see.

Tyler Montell is the Student Government Senate president. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Greed is the true motivation behind 'green' and 'biotechnology' revolutions

What is a major driving force behind the so-called global war on "terrorism"? Is it both the need to ensure that petroleum-producing nations sell their oil in the U.S. "Petrodollar" instead of the euro and the need for the United States to establish more influence, and



IRUCKA
EMBRY
Guest columnist

more "free trade markets" for the dollar and genetically engineered foods? In the article titled "Cost, abuse and danger of the dollar," published on Centre for Research on Globalization's Web site (www.globalresearch.ca), Rudo de Ruijter describes why Iraq was attacked: Saddam Hussein switched from selling petroleum in the dollar to the euro on Nov. 6, 2000; in July 2002, the International Monetary Fund warned that the dollar could collapse; days later, plans for an attack on Iraq were discussed at Downing Street in the United Kingdom; in August 2002, Vice President Dick Cheney proclaimed, with certainty, that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction; on March 19, 2003, the United States, along with the "coalition" forces, invaded Iraq; and on June 5, 2003, the United States switched the Iraqi petroleum selling currency back to the dollar.

The U.S. occupation of Iraq not only reopened its petroleum funds to the dollar, but it also, through the Coalition Provisional Authority,

opened up Iraq's food markets to genetically engineered seeds, according to an article from the Nov. 15, 2004 issue of the Agribusiness Examiner. This was accomplished through order number 81 — Patent, Industrial Design, Undisclosed Information, Integrated Circuits and Plant Variety Law — issued on April 26, 2004, which makes it illegal for Iraqi farmers to plant and save seeds of any variety registered under the plant variety provisions of that law; it also introduces multinational corporation's genetically engineered seeds in Iraq, the article said.

Genetically engineered seeds are created under the auspices of ending global hunger and malnutrition; however, just like the Green Revolution that preceded the Biotechnology Revolution, it will not make things better. Those "revolutions" and the national and international trade laws that have spawned those practices globally have increased the use of petroleum-based inputs in agriculture, thus encouraging more wars for oil and causing people to "eat fossil fuels."

Through the unfair and unjust international trade policies associated with them, the "revolutions" negatively impacted ecological health, made seed saving and sharing crimes under international patent law due to the use of the "terminator" gene seeds, destroyed indigenous people of their intellectual and cultural knowledge through "biopiracy" and replaced biodiversity with monocultures.

We, the people of the world, must

reject both the "green" and "biotechnology" revolutions. We must demand an end to those national and international laws that have only hurt our brothers and sisters. We must demand

We must demand that the sovereign rights of the people of Iraq and every other country, including indigenous nations, are respected.

that the sovereign rights of the people of Iraq and every other country, including indigenous nations, are respected. We must demand food, water and resource security.

We must educate ourselves and others about the various worldwide sustainable agriculture movements: organic and biodynamic farming, fair trade, community-supported agriculture, local food economy, seed saving and sharing through local seed banks, slow food, permaculture, composting, green belt, food security, safe food, rain gardens and genetically engineered free zones. We must participate, whenever and however possible, in those transforming movements to bring forth real participatory democracy, justice, food security, trade safety and especially peace.

Irucka Ajani Embry is a graduate student at the University of Tennessee. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Linsen Li. Be sure to include your full name, class, major and phone number (for confirmation).

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JACKSON

Continued from page 1

"That way it's continuous and not someone trying to be the savior of the university every other year," Nally said.

Nally said he has had many conversations with other students about the top diversity position over the last year or two, and he believes many people will be pleased to hear Jackson was selected.

"We all felt like she had great personal experience that would help her in the long run at the university," he said.

Search committee chair Carol Jordan said she is confident the president and provost made a wise choice for vice president for institutional diversity.

Jackson showed a "gifted style of communication that generated enthusiasm across campus," Jordan said. "She generated the best kind of excitement in the UK community, the kind where people want to join her in advancing diversity, not just watch her succeed from afar."

Jackson said she will visit UK's campus at least two or three times before she begins July 1 to try and meet with leaders on campus. She said she is trying to arrange a two-day window to visit sometime in the next two weeks.

"I expect to start meeting with people so I can hit the ground running," she said.

Staff writer Juliann Vachon contributed to this report.

VIRTUAL

Continued from page 1

The university wanted to offer students cutting-edge education and a new way to interact with an international population, Rice said, which made the investment worth the price.

Islands in Second Life normally cost \$1,675 with a \$295 monthly maintenance fee, but academic institutions can buy land at a 50 percent discount. UK's Office of Undergraduate Education spent about \$837.50 to get the island started and is spending about \$147.50 monthly to keep it up.

Randolph Hollingsworth, assistant provost for integrated academic services, helped get Second Life up and running at UK by recruiting interested faculty and helping set up policies for the environment. She said she is excited about the potential it has at UK.

"(Second Life) is different from other game worlds because it relies on everyone creating its content," Hollingsworth said. "It's up to UK students and faculty to decide how this island is going to be used."

Hollingsworth and Beth Kraemer in UK Libraries will use Second Life as part of a Freshman Discovery Seminar in the fall, and Hollingsworth said she is looking for students interested in taking an active role in representing UK in its international Second Life community, either by offering events, serving as mentors for other UK students or holding their organizational meetings on the island.

UK Libraries took the "gargantuan

first steps" in placing a virtual W.T. Young Library on the island. The virtual library offers resources to students, faculty and visitors, Hollingsworth said in an e-mail to faculty. The Teaching and Academic Support Center is taking the administrative lead and handling master planning and policy building on the island.

Political science senior Chris Settles created his avatar, a hillbilly marksman, for Rice's class and has explored UK's island along with other areas on the grid.

"Time has changed, the classic 'giving a lecture' only goes so far with students who are so technologically advanced," he said.

Settles said it will take time for Second Life to really "explode" on campus.

"For one thing, the professors will have to back it," he said. "We have professors who still don't know how to use PowerPoint. Eventually as we get more professors that are young and technologically savvy, it's going to catch on."

UK Island in Second Life is governed by rules of UK's actual campus and is considered a "safe place," Rice said.

UK Island's "big six," or activities that could result in suspension or expulsion from the virtual world are intolerance, harassment, assault, disclosure of personal information, indecency and disturbing the peace.

"You won't see too much that's bizarre

(on UK's Island)," Rice said. "However, if you wander off the island, you may encounter some wonderfully bizarre things."

Throughout the course, his students are required to go "off the grid" and explore other parts of the virtual world, which may include some less educational subjects, he said.

Simulations exist where people are recreating Paris of 1900 or New York City of the 1980s, Rice said. There are also "red light" districts with strippers, simulated sex clubs, all night raves, massive art installations and concerts by Kiss tribute bands.

For those new to the virtual world, Rice suggested setting their home button to the UK Island when they join.

"This will serve as an easy escape if you come across anything you may be uncomfortable with; just click the home button, and you're back and safe on UK Island," said Rice, who plans to review places for his students before they go out and explore them.

The virtual world investment is just another step in the right direction to keep UK up to date with new technology and on the right path to its goal of becoming a top-20 school, Rice said.

Corporations all over the world use the educational tool to hold international meetings for their companies in the virtual meeting space, he said.

More information on Second Life, including how to join, is available at its Web site (www.secondlife.com).

"You won't see too much that's bizarre (on UK's Island). However, if you wander off the island, you may encounter some wonderfully bizarre things."

CHRISTOPHER RICE
Political science professor

NEWS BRIEF

Beshear to present budget tonight

Gov. Steve Beshear will give his budgetary recommendations tonight for the 2008-10 biennium before a joint session of the Kentucky House and Senate.

Beshear's State Budget Address will be his first as governor. Like the State of the Commonwealth Address two weeks ago, Beshear's recommendations are non-binding. Any budget in Kentucky must be passed by the general assembly during the legislative session, ending in April.

The address will air at 7 p.m. on KET. The video will also be available during and after the address on KET's Web site (www.ket.org/legislature).

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