

THE Kentucky Kernel

Friday, September 16, 2005

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Study looks into race at UK

Dayton law professor puts UK Law School among top-10 'whitest'

By Tricia Spaulding
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The UK College of Law is one of the top-10 "whitest" law schools in America, according to a study by Professor Vernilla Randall at the University of Dayton in Ohio.

Randall, a race-law expert, said UK's law school is 62 percent white — a grossly skewed misrepresentation of the minority population at large.

Randall said a major contribution to this problem is relying solely on test numbers as "proof of intelligence and ability," as law schools only want to improve their national rankings.

Her study also stated law schools "misuse" the Law School Admissions Test in the admission process, which creates a "discriminatory process."

Utilizing an applicant's entire profile for admissions would allow more opportunities for minorities to make it into law school, Randall said.

UK uses a "full-file review," said UK College of Law Dean and professor Allan Vestal.

The admissions committee, which is made up of faculty members, a student representative and the associate dean of admissions,

See Law on page 2

Singer brings all that jazz

Spotlight Jazz Series opens with No. 1 singer-songwriter Lizz Wright

By Jenisha Watts
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The Spotlight Jazz Series, the longest running collegiate series in the country, will start the year off at UK with singer-songwriter Lizz Wright, the No. 1 artist on the Billboard Contemporary Jazz chart.

Wright will perform songs from her latest album, "Dream Wide Awake" Sunday at 7 p.m. in Memorial Hall.

Wright said she was inspired to create the album while traveling around the world on tour.

"When you are on tour by yourself, distance and time become unreal," said Wright. "It makes you have a deeper root within yourself."

Charlie Olivera, music performance sophomore and director of Spotlight Jazz, wanted to

See Jazz on page 2



COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP
Singer/songwriter Lizz Wright opens this year's Spotlight Jazz Series 7 p.m. Sunday at Memorial Hall.

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COOL CATS 2005-06



Sophomore Mike Barnes and seniors Chris Zaremski and Josh McConnell hope to lead the Cats to consecutive winning seasons for the first time since 2000-01 and 2001-02.



Drew Matichak, junior goalie, blocks shots during UK hockey practice Tuesday at the Lexington Hockey Ice Center.

Club Cats put their money where others' mouths are



Derek Poore
SPORTS EDITOR

They've never had the varsity blues because they're not a varsity sport.

They don't have a big-time, Division I budget or the backing of a superpower athletics department.

But the UK hockey team packs one of the rowdiest crowds in the rarest of places for the northern sport — Kentucky. And in the days of athletics departments whining about being unable to sustain sports or how teams lean on the revenue of football and basketball, UK hockey sucks it

See Poore on page 2

Puck Nasty

Following a 20-win season, UK hockey reloads in pursuit of recognition and a national championship

By Laura Nelligan
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

It's not a bar, you can't get alcohol, and it's 55 degrees inside.

But thousands of UK students pack the Lexington Ice Center every Friday and Saturday night when their Cool Cats are in town.

And starting with tomorrow night's opener against Northern Kentucky University, they are officially back in town.

"Without a doubt, we have the best fans in all of club hockey," team captain Chris Zaremski said. "We pack the house every night... it's one of the main reasons I came here."

The season was scheduled to open today against Louisville, but the Cardinals didn't have enough players at the time of tryouts to field a team. Luckily, according to Sosnowski, the Norse of NKU stepped in.

"We're really using the game on Saturday to look at all the individual players, get them into a game situation, and see what they can really do," said Sosnowski, who is entering his third year as coach of the Cool Cats.

Sosnowski said he was very happy with the senior class and that he puts a lot of pressure on them to lead.

"In the off-season, we sit down in-

dividually with those guys and challenge them to become leaders and lead the group of young guys," he said. "The most positive thing that these guys bring to us is leadership, that they are gonna work with the young guys and mold the young guys into a team. With a 25-man roster, one of the things that we really try and get away from is the cliques. We try and mold them into getting everyone together as a team."

Senior captain Chris Zaremski, who was an assistant captain last year, is enthusiastic about his leadership role and confident with the amount of talent on the team.

"Being the team captain is a really exciting privilege for me," Zaremski said. "We've kind of been going through a rebuilding phase since I've been here, but (this year) we brought in probably the best crop of rookies. Without a doubt we have the most talent on the team."

"It is really exciting to be in a position where I can help lead the talent and get the team going in the

See Hockey on page 2

Next Game

Saturday at Midnight
UK vs. Northern Kentucky

Health Services advises student insurance

By Shannon Mason
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Elementary education senior Katie Canterbury is covered under her father's health insurance — at least for a few more years.

She hopes to have a job with her own insurance by the time she is dropped from her dad's insurance in four years.

"I think that's what everybody hopes," she said.

Many students are dropped from Medicaid when they turn 19 and others are dropped from their parents' insurance when they turn 23, said Dr. Gregory Moore, director of University Health Services.

This is one reason, Moore

said, that about two million college-age young adults are uninsured and twice that number are underinsured.

Moore said being underinsured means the student's policy may be very inexpensive and just cover accidents or only a small portion of the hospital bills.

Moore said another reason students do not have health insurance is because they are in a "late adolescence" mindset.

"They think it won't happen to them," he said.

While most students do not think they will need insurance, Moore said there are always accidents when insurance is extremely beneficial.

Lindsay Joseph, a second-

year master's student in the College of Public Health, is currently doing her capstone project on uninsured and underinsured students.

"I'm looking into the causes, problems and outcomes of being an uninsured or underinsured student," Joseph said. "Then I'm going to apply that to UK and do an assessment of the situation and see what is the best direction for us."

Moore said the university offers a health insurance plan to students that costs about \$650 per year. Joseph said her advice to students would be to become educated about insurance.

"Regardless of your coverage, educate yourself," she said.

"Know what you have or what you should have."

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Health FYI

For more information on health insurance check out the University Health Services website:
<http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/UHS/>

Or, look at the health insurance recommendations from the American Health Care Association:

http://www.acha.org/info_resources/stu_health_ins.pdf

Newsroom: 257-1915

Hockey

Continued from page 1

right direction for the future."

The Cool Cats lost a few key players, which cost them not only experience but inspirational leaders as well.

"We lost Rob Dennis last year, who would just do anything," Sosnowski said. "We're gonna miss that heart. We lost Alex Poulos, who was one of our leading scorers. He was president of the club and an integral part. We're gonna miss not only his talent on the ice, but his leadership off the ice. Matt York was another guy with a lot of heart."

After losing two-year captain and anchor defenseman Colin Hoss, Sosnowski said that one task this summer was to go out and recruit some solid defensesmen. The coaches have put a lot of effort into recruiting and believe that the new freshman will give them the depth they lack from graduating seniors.

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette selected newcomer

Tony Valerino as Pennsylvania Player of the Year. "For us to get a kid like that is kind of like Tubby (Smith) getting a McDonald's All-American," Sosnowski said. "It just doesn't come around that often that we get the best player in the state of Pennsylvania."

In addition to Valerino, John North is another talented newcomer with what Sosnowski calls "blazing" speed. "He's the fastest guy on the team," Sosnowski said.

"You can put the puck anywhere, five feet in front of him, five feet behind him, he's gonna catch the pass, and he's got one of the quickest shots I've seen. Johnny Mica is another newcomer that we're gonna rely on. You can't knock the kid off his feet. He's not very big, but he's got incredible balance and incredible hands. He can put the puck in the net."

The Cool Cats have also brought in a few guys with experience. Andrew Gibson was offered college scholarships before choosing to walk on at UK. James Tracy, who was talked up by Sosnowski for his quick feet, previously played NCAA hockey.

"I think the biggest thing

2005-06 UK Hockey Schedule

Sat., Sept. 17 Northern Kentucky
 Fri., Sept. 23 at Oklahoma
 Sat., Sept. 24 at Oklahoma
 Sun., Sept. 25 at Oklahoma State
 Fri., Sept. 30 Kennesaw State
 Sat., Oct. 1 Georgia
 Fri., Oct. 7 at Big Muddy Tournament
 Sat., Oct. 8 St. Louis, Mo.
 Fri., Oct. 14 Oakland
 Sat., Oct. 15 Oakland
 Fri., Oct. 28 at Illinois
 Sat., Oct. 29 at Illinois
 Fri., Nov. 4 Wright State
 Sat., Nov. 5 Wright State
 Fri., Nov. 11 at DePaul
 Sat., Nov. 12 at DePaul

we did in the off-season is add speed, quickness, and the ability to put the puck in the net," Sosnowski said. "We added depth to the blue line and guys that are just good, solid defensesmen."

In two weeks of practice, Sosnowski said they have been implementing their systems, like their basic puck

Fri., Nov. 18 Duke
 Sat., Nov. 19 Duke
 Fri., Dec. 2 at Bowling Green
 Sat., Dec. 3 at Bowling Green
 Fri., Dec. 9 Southern Indiana
 Sat., Dec. 10 Indiana University
 Purdue University Indianapolis
 Fri., Jan. 13 at Dayton
 Sat., Jan. 14 Dayton
 Fri., Jan. 20 at Tennessee
 Sat., Jan. 21 Tennessee
 Fri., Jan. 27 at Purdue
 Sat., Jan. 28 Purdue
 Fri., Feb. 3 Western Illinois
 Sat., Feb. 4 Western Illinois
 Fri., Feb. 10 Virginia Tech
 Sat., Feb. 11 Virginia Tech
 Fri., Feb. 17 at American Collegiate Hockey Association-Southeast
 Sat., Feb. 18 Regional Playoffs

moving system and defensive system.

"We've pretty much just been working hard and getting back into the fundamental," said junior Drew Matichak, the Cats' starting goalie. "We're just getting back into the groove."

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Poore

Continued from page 1

Some major basketball programs can't even say they're self-sustaining. UK hockey can.

In what's become a rite of passage for UK students, and what started as an idea in 1984, weekend hockey is as rowdy as its tagline: "The puck drops at midnight."

"These kids just want to play hockey," general manager Ian Ward said. "It's astronomical something like this happens."

Ward divides his time between his regular job and helping head coach Mike Sosnowski run the club.

"It's a lot of work," Ward

said, "but it's worth it."

From his first stint as GM in 1994, Ward has commanded the UK hockey battleship for more than ten years. He coached the team in the 1997-98 season. He hired Sosnowski three seasons ago.

For the love of the game, UK hockey is a tight-knit group. Everyone shares the financial load of carrying a competitive team.

Income trickles in from advertising and players. Athletes always say they'd pay to play their sport, Sosnowski said. These guys really do.

"It's not just talk," he said.

The players fork over \$500 to be on the team - for equipment, jerseys and a share of travel money - but it doesn't stop there. They pay the club \$250 for T-shirts, which they have to turn around and sell.

UK hockey made national news when Ashley Judd posed for a schedule poster wearing nothing but a UK hockey sweater. Each year a huge chunk of UK hockey's funds comes from the sexy wall art, which drew rave and criticism.

"You know, we'd love to get a check for \$81,000," Sosnowski said, the amount the club has to raise every year. "But we have to raise the money."

Admission tickets help, but the hockey club gets none of the concessions at the Ice Center.

The Ice Center's aura may be traced to Jim Hinkley, who has announced UK hockey games since 1994.

"Our announcer is great and we almost lost him," Ward said. Hinkley was approached by another school, but Ward said he wanted to

stay. "He's a great guy. That's how dedicated to UK hockey he is."

Now UK is starting to dip into recruiting pools of better-known hockey schools, snagging a Pennsylvania Player of the Year winner, Tony Valerino.

If the sports world desires to see where athletics have gone, look at UK hockey. No prima donnas. No chartered jets, and no cribs in Cali.

Professional athletes get paid. College stars get spoiled.

UK hockey pays to play. And they love every minute of it.

Derek Poore can be heard on the "Big Blue Review" on WFLR 88.1 FM Sunday nights from 9 to 10 and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. E-mail dpore@kykernel.com.

Jazz

Continued from page 1

help increase the awareness of what jazz music is about. Overta believes jazz music goes beyond famous musicians such as Miles Davis, Charlie Parker and John Coltrane; there's a whole world of music in jazz she aims to expose to people.

"We feel jazz is a very important (and) significant jazz

artist right now," Overta said. "There is a lot of merit in bringing her here."

Wright, who blends a variety of music in her songs, said she is ready to perform for the UK community and will be performing some additional gospel songs.

Wright grew up in southern Georgia. She was the middle child of a minister and spent her childhood listening to gospel music.

"Music is how I got out of the world that I was raised in," said Wright.

Wright said she had a lot

of pressure on her to act conservative, which made her feel different from everyone else.

"I was treated as a golden-child," said Wright. "I felt pressured to be good and reasonable; (I) couldn't be creative at the same time."

Wright later moved to Macon, Ga., and attended Georgia State University for a year, where she studied classical music.

"I hadn't taken out the time to ask myself if this is what I really wanted," she said.

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Law

Continued from page 1

looks at an applicant's entire file, not just scores, Vestal said.

A personal statement is included in the application file, which allows the applicant to let the committee their background, challenges, foats and other personal information.

"We actually read those - some don't," Vestal said. "It gives the applicant an opportunity to let the committee know how they differ

from other applicants." He also said that Randall's study is "flawed and inaccurate" because it does not take other important factors into account.

"You need to take a look at the programs of the law school to gauge whether we're doing an adequate job in this respect," he said.

"There are a number of programs that don't get factored into her conclusion that I think are important." Randall's study also stated that this underrepresented population has difficulty trusting the system because there aren't enough people who actually work in the sys-

tem and share ethnically diverse backgrounds.

"This law school has for many years had a priority of making sure that the composition of the student body is diverse as possible to serving all communities in the state," Vestal said.

"Look at the history of our admissions process and the more modern history of efforts to make the composition of the law school, the bar and the bench in this state diverse," he said. "We are not satisfied... we would like it to be more diverse."

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CORRECTION

In yesterday's Kernel, an article about Booker Noe incorrectly identified him as the last living grandchild of bourbon distiller Jim Beam. Two other grandchildren are still living. Also, Noe did not graduate from UK, but did attend school here for a time.

To report an error, please call The Kernel newsroom at 257-1915 or e-mail asichko@kykernel.com

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 September 20, 2005
 4:30pm-6:00pm
 106 Student Center
 Please R.S.V.P. to 257-1109 by noon, Sept. 20th

Cats won't use injuries as crutch

By Chris Johnson
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

This team is beat up. But, cliché or not, UK's coaches won't let the 2005 Wildcats use their lackluster luck as an excuse.

"We need to see how adversity is dealt with as a team," UK head coach Rich Brooks said. "I hope they have the resolve to roll up their sleeves and get it done."

Safety Marcus McClinton was the only defensive starter injured in last week's victory over Idaho State. That could prove vital for the squad to stop IU's physical wide receivers.

Junior Karl Booker, who started the Louisville game in 2004 and substituted for McClinton after his injury last week, remembered the 2004 Indiana squad as a bruising rush-oriented attack.

"They're passing more this year than last year," Booker said. "They've got tall, physical wide receivers."

Then-junior John Pannozzo started at fullback for the 2004 Hoosiers. Perhaps emblematic of the Hoosier defense, or at least as a testament to his own athletic abil-

ity, Pannozzo switched sides of the ball this season and is now the Hoosiers' first-string middle linebacker.

Booker testified to the Hoosiers' athleticism and the skill of Blake Powers, the Menard County (Ky.) product starting at quarterback for IU.

"They got a lot of athletes," Booker said. "Their quarterback is poised, patient...he gets balls to receivers."

Freshman linebacker Braxton Kelley said communication on defense, especially in getting to Powers, would be a key to UK stopping the Hoosier attack.

"We've got to get pressure on the quarterback," Kelley said. "We've got to call out coverages better. We didn't last week. We've got to know what other people's responsibilities are."

"We definitely need a pass rush," Brooks said. "IU throws well and they've got a good line to protect them."

Kelley and Booker thought a low-pressure situation would prove beneficial in the Cats' first road trip of the season.

"We just need to go out and play football," Kelley said.

"It's any normal week," Booker said. "We're just getting ready to play."

Injury Updates

Wide receiver Glenn Holt and defensive end B. Jay Parsons returned to practice Thursday. Both players are recovering from sprained ankles suffered in last week's victory.

Several players with limited game experience are likely to start or see a lot of action this week, because of the rash of injuries.

Sophomore strong safety Roger Williams — who picked off his first career pass last week — is slated to start for the first time in his collegiate career. Wide receivers John Logan and De-Moreo Ford, a sophomore and freshman respectively, freshman defensive tackles Myron Pryor and Ventrell Jenkins, and sophomore strong safety Dallas Greer should see plenty of playing time as well.

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Krystal Ball

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Sept. 16, 2005



- Megan Boehnke** (11-3)
Indiana 24 UK 17
South Carolina 21 Alabama 17
Florida 27 Tennessee 17
Miami 21 Clemson 14
Florida St. 34 Boston College 21
UofL 34 Oregon St. 14
Notre Dame 17 Michigan State 10
- Andrew Martin** (11-3)
Indiana 31 UK 21
South Carolina 42 Alabama 35
Florida 20 Tennessee 17
Florida St. 28 Boston College 20
Miami 41 Clemson 3
UofL 35 Oregon St. 27
Notre Dame 21 Michigan St. 16
- Adam Sichko** (11-3)
UK 24 Indiana 20
South Carolina 20 Alabama 17
Florida 27 Tennessee 14
Florida St. 35 Boston College 21
Miami 24 Clemson 14

- UofL 42 Oregon St. 31
Notre Dame 17 Michigan St. 13
- Josh Sullivan** (11-3)
Indiana 24 UK 17
South Carolina 35 Alabama 17
Tennessee 14 Florida 10
Florida St. 32 Boston College 28
Miami 21 Clemson 13
UofL 42 Oregon St. 30
Notre Dame 14 Michigan St. 3
- Chris Johnson** (10-4)
South Carolina 38 Arkansas 13
Alabama 21 South Carolina 20
Tennessee 27 Florida 16
Florida St. 27 Boston College 20
Miami 37 Clemson 17
UofL 28 Oregon St. 17
Notre Dame 27 Michigan St. 14
- Hilly Schiffer** (10-4)
UK 14 Indiana 7
South Carolina 28 Alabama 17

- Florida 30 Tennessee 14
Florida State 24 Boston College 14
Miami 21 Clemson 17
UofL 28 Oregon State 21
Notre Dame 34 Michigan State 21
- Doug Scott** (10-4)
UK 21 Indiana 20
Alabama 14 South Carolina 0
Tennessee 28 Florida 21
Florida St. 29 Boston College 6
Miami 35 Clemson 14
UofL 28 Oregon St. 7
Notre Dame 42 Michigan St. 35
- Tim Wiseman** (10-4)
UK 38 Indiana 34
South Carolina 14 Alabama 12
Florida 20 Tennessee 17
Boston College 24 Florida St. 17
Miami 17 Clemson 10
UofL 28 Oregon St. 14
Notre Dame 21 Michigan St. 16
- Derek Poore** (9-5)
Indiana 28 UK 24
Alabama 17 South Carolina 14
Florida 31 Tennessee 24
Florida St. 20 Boston College 14
Miami 38 Clemson 21
UofL 27 Oregon St. 20
Notre Dame 24 Michigan St. 14

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Answer: "What she said" the artist on the panel - THE BREAKFAST CLUB

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By Henri Amiel and Mike Argon

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BRAD STURGEON, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

IN OUR OPINION

Stop, drop and use your brain

Congress declared September National Campus Fire Safety Month after six students were killed in four fires at Miami University in Ohio, Southern Adventist University in Tennessee, Penn State University and the University of Maryland in April. Though some may dismiss these as isolated incidents, we're glad to see attention brought to this oft-ignored issue.

Fire safety is something we students simply brush to the very back of our minds, usually in the space reserved for citing the complete works of Shakespeare in chronological order (sonnets included).

But we need to resist the temptation to dismiss it. Fire safety should always be, at the very least, on the

perimeter of our thoughts. Unfortunately, we always seem to think fires happen to other people — never to us. If and when it does, after

thoughtlessly left a candle burning in Blanding Tower or our apartment and our living to have been reduced to a pile of ash, we'll wish we'd given fire safety the weight it deserves.

The four on-campus demonstrations scheduled throughout the month are

excellent reminders. In an effort to raise awareness, the Lexington Fire Department and campus fire safety officials are handing out T-shirts, showing spectators how to properly use fire extinguishers and giving tips for what to do in the event of an emergency.

Ignoring fire safety comes at the risk of disastrous, even fatal, consequences for students' personal property and lives.

These demonstrations reinforce not only the notion that fire safety is a tangible, pressing issue, but also that the university cares about the welfare of its students.

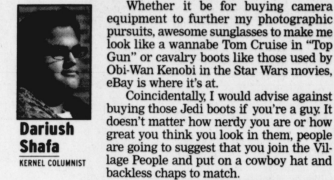
"Being part of this campus means being safe," UK Emergency Management Director Christy Giles said in the Sept. 8 Kernel, "and we want to help everyone achieve that."

With the fire-safety campaign's continued visibility on campus this month, we hope its message is clear: Students are at risk, and with precautions in place, there's no reason we can't be an accident-free university.

It shouldn't have taken six fire-related student deaths nationwide in one month to bring attention to fire safety, but sadly, it did. Let's work toward preventing future tragedies by paying attention to these demonstrations on the walk to class for the next two weeks.

Sure, call my fashion weird — I'm invisible

Let's say that I wrote this column after a week of sleep deprivation. It would probably go a little something like this: It's official — eBay is the most glorious invention in the history of the universe.



Darius Shafa
KERNEL COLUMNIST

Whether it be for buying camera equipment to further my photographic pursuits, awesome sunglasses to make me look like a wannabe Tom Cruise in "Top Gun" or cavalry boots like those used by Obi-Wan Kenobi in the Star Wars movies, eBay is where it's at.

Coincidentally, I would advise against buying those Jedi boots if you're a guy. It doesn't matter how nerdy you are or how great you think you look in them, people are going to suggest that you join the Village People and put on a cowboy hat and backless slippers to match.

In case you couldn't tell, the topic of fashion has been on my mind lately. A co-worker commented to me that my wardrobe seems to be solely made up of black T-shirts with white logos or writing, blue jeans and Hawaiian shirts.

The funny thing is, instead of being strangely oblivious to my fashion blasphemy, I am perfectly aware of it. In fact, I'm trying to be completely bizarre.

As if you couldn't tell from the fact that I regularly wear a pair of old-man moccasin slippers.

Also lending plenty of awesomeness to my general aura is my camouflage jacket. Not only is it tough, warm and stylish, it also apparently renders me invisible to everyone. I could be standing right behind you now, wearing this jacket, and you'd have no way of knowing because I'd blend in perfectly with the taupe walls.

That's the only way I can explain all my friends running into me for no other apparent reason.

In a stunning display of delusion, I could swear upon the burning fires of all the suns in this universe that my wardrobe only enhances my pure awesomeness and makes me positively irresistible to women, like that guy in the supermarket in the Tag commercial.

But if I said that, I'd either be a big liar or worthy of being committed to the nearest asylum. Not that I'd mind a nice, soft padded room, a cozy straitjacket and a handy-dandy drool cup.

But on the flip side, I have many redeeming qualities that make me a prime candidate for all the ladies.

Years of watching episodes of "MacGyver" have been put to good use. If you're ever looking for someone to build a bionic duck out of a stick of gum and a can of tuna fish (in oil, for the moving parts), I'm your guy.

But like all good men, I have downsides. I've been known to laugh maniacally for no apparent reason, my secret vice (OK, not so secret anymore) is a strange love of terrible pop music (I'm listening to Briny Spears' "Toxic" right now, in commemoration of her spawning a child), I'm scared of the dark, and I love "Stargate SG-1," mostly because I miss Richard Dean Anderson from when he was in "MacGyver."

Still, I am quite the catch. I'm pretty sure this is the best column I've ever written. I'm going to sleep now.

Darius Shafa is a journalism senior. E-mail dshafa@kykernel.com

The pledge makes us one nation, under nationalism, with brainwashing for all

Scores another point for common sense. On Wednesday yet another federal judge ruled that the words "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance are unconstitutional when recited in public schools, as they are an endorsement of religion. The decision, handed down by Lawrence K. Karlon of Federal District Court in Sacramento, Calif., was immediately met with the predictable outrage from religious groups who see the ruling as another act of judicial activism.

What the religious right doesn't seem to understand is that religion of any kind does not belong in public schools in the form of a state-endorsed exercise. When a student recites the Pledge of Allegiance in its current form, he or she is affirming a belief in God. For a public school, a government-funded institution, to endorse this is completely absurd. In a country that prides itself on freedom and equality, it is hypocritical to have students recite a pledge espousing a belief in God, lumping religious faith and national pride together.

This is not to say an individual's religious beliefs cannot exist in a public school. Some seem to hold an unfounded theory that taking God out of the pledge and prohibiting state-sponsored prayer in public schools would create a spiritual vacuum where students would not be allowed to profess their faith. However, students can still wear shirts with Bible verses on them and have days when they meet at flagpoles to pray. The issue at hand is whether it's appropriate — and it isn't — for public schools to endorse religion.

But my discontentment with the Pledge of Allegiance doesn't end with the inclusion of "under God." The entire concept makes me very uneasy. The image of my high school history class all standing alongside

its rows of desks, reciting the same words in a monotone cadence, is very reminiscent of some sort of Hitler Youth, nationalistic brainwashing ceremony.

The idea that, beginning in kindergarten, we as a society urge our children to memorize and recite a pledge of national pride is unsettling — when children learn the words to the pledge, they don't have a full comprehension of what they are saying every morning. Just in the same way that a religious institution would not demand that a child make a profession of faith at such a young age, neither should we expect a 6-, 12- or 16-year-old to pledge allegiance to a nation and set of ideals he or she can barely comprehend. Not to mention that "invisible" is practically impossible to say when you're still trying to master lowercase letters.

"Liberty and justice for all" means having the freedom to grow up and decide if you want to pledge allegiance to the United States. For some, this may be so. But to others, for whom liberty and justice has been elusive or nonexistent, the idea of pledging allegiance to this country may not be agreeable. And when a student refrains from pledging allegiance in the morning at school, this is often looked down upon, especially with the warped concept of "patriotism" that has become commonplace in this country since Sept. 11, 2001.

Churches, synagogues, mosques and other places of worship exist so that we may all exercise religious freedom the way we choose. In the same way, we all have a right to express ourselves, including our pride and dedication to our country, in the manner we choose. From kindergarten through high school, children learn the history of this country and how it functions, as well as other important skills they will need to function in society. Shouldn't our focus be on preparing children for their future, and not insisting that they engage in a daily nationalistic ritual?

Doug Scott is a journalism senior. E-mail dscott@kykernel.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

War isn't for liberation, Pro-war writer illogical

As a principal organizer of last Thursday's "Stop This War!" rally, I feel it incumbent upon me to respond to Leah Bourne's letter. "Protesters are ultimately selfish," in the Sept. 13 Kernel.

For the sake of brevity, I will not even attempt to address the bevy of falsehoods and half-truths articulated in that letter. Instead, I will respond only to the one substantive nugget to be found therein: namely, that the United States is engaged in a war to liberate Iraq.

I want to be clear — the United States is not in Iraq to liberate anyone. The United States is in Iraq to gain access to the oil located within its borders. Human rights have not been and will not be a barrier to the success of this mission. The proposed constitution backed by the U.S. and soon to be put to referendum is, in fact, a step back for women in Iraq. Furthermore, the U.S. has incarcerated more than 17,000 Iraqis without charge, thus violating due process — a basic human right.

Those of us who care do hope and pray that something resembling real democracy will take root in Iraq. Unfortunately, there is little reason for optimism in this regard. The United States and its European allies have a bleak track record. Real democracy has not generally been the result of colonial occupation — Iraq stands as a shining example of this fact.

Those of us who do not support this war — who are, in fact, vocal in our opposition — are not selfish, and we are not racists. We merely refuse to be misled by propaganda. We simply cannot support murder in the name of oil. We cannot sit by and watch it happen.

Leah Bourne, who trashed anti-war protesters in her Sept. 13 letter, has managed to become a philosophy senior without learning the first thing about logic. She begins with a historical fallacy: that the only reason protesters aren't being imprisoned by the Gestapo today is because Americans fought the Revolutionary War 230 years ago. Canada, however, gained independence from Britain without a revolutionary war and fought on the side of Britain against both the Nazis and, later, international Communism.

Her other arguments show an equal lack of logic. She never considers the possibility that anti-war protesters might oppose genocide, terrorism, forced abortion and the oppression of women — and support freedom, human rights and the rule of law — but might nevertheless conclude that invading other countries and killing thousands of people is not the way to achieve these worthy goals.

The most basic principle of morality states that if an action is wrong when we do it, it is also wrong when we do it. Saddam Hussein committed the supreme crime of international aggression when he invaded Kuwait in 1990. George W. Bush committed precisely the same crime when he invaded Iraq in 2003. We can tell the U.S. invasion of Iraq was illegal simply by asking what we would think if some superpower were to accuse the United States of possessing weapons of mass destruction, invade our country, destroy our armed forces, kill tens of thousands of American civilians, capture or kill our leaders, torture American prisoners, try to control our natural resources, set up a puppet government and build "temporary" permanent military bases on our soil.

BRANDON ABSHER
philosophy graduate student

GEOFFREY M. YOUNG
UK graduate

Submissions

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

E-MAIL opinions@kykernel.com

Note to Readers

The Opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas.

Unlike news stories, The Kernel's unsigned editorials represent the views of a majority of the editorial board. Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the Opinions page reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of The Kernel.

Online Poll Question

Should the Board of Trustees renew UK President Lee Todd's contract?

Yes, and it should raise his salary
Yes, but it should not raise his salary

No

Vote online at kykernel.com

Actors wear different hats to open new season

By Melissa Smith Mallory
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The downtown theatre company, Actors' Guild of Lexington, will open its season with "Crowns," a rousing musical tribute to hats. Actors' Guild has worked with the Roots and Heritage Festival, which started last weekend and continues this weekend, for five years. Artistic Director Richard St. Peter says the company always tries to coincide the opening of the season with the festival.

Adapted by Regina Taylor from a picture book by Michael Cunningham and Craig Marberry, "Crowns" is based on the tradition surrounding hats and meanings to black women. By talking about hats, Taylor is able to

inject the stories with black history and culture.

As it is explained to the show's central character, the predisposition to cover one's head is drawn from Saint Paul's letter to the Corinthians, in which he tells women to cover their heads to signal their allegiance to God. While allegiance isn't publicly shown everyday, these women take Sundays very seriously and cover their heads in every way imaginable.

Faith fuses with fashion as the women tell their stories through speech and song. Wonderful gospel melodies dominate the music, as many of the songs revolve around the Protestant church and what happens at the services.

"Crowns" is a little fish out of water, a little love story,

If you go:
What: "Crowns"
Where: Actors' Guild of Lexington
141 E. Main St.
When: 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday
Sept. 16 - Oct. 8
3 p.m. Sunday Sept. 18 - Oct. 9
How much: \$24 Regular
\$18 Seniors (65+)
\$15 Students

a little journey to find one's identity. To cover everything that hats represent to the women portrayed, the story must include all of this. Several types of services are de-

scribed aside from the usual Sunday one.

By showing these different ceremonies, Taylor allows the show to pinpoint all of the significant trials of life. With religion being such a big factor in many people's lives, the hats reserved for church take on a weighty significance.

After debuting in New York City in 2002, the show has literally swept the nation, being performed in nearly every big city, and finally here in Lexington.

"It's a pretty extraordinary show dealing with some of the fundamental parts of life. And it's a fantastic excuse to sing some of the greatest gospel songs written," says St. Peter.

E-mail: features@kykernel.com

Taking a bite out of the big Apple

I can't see how anyone can say that college kids are unhealthy. Everywhere I turn I see apples: big apples, small apples, mini apples and apples on the go. Not only in different sizes, but colors: red, green, yellow, pink, blue, silver and black.



Phillip Gravatte
KENTUCKY COLUMBIAN

yet, I'm talking about Apple iPods, the cute little MP3 players that everyone's sporting these days. It isn't that I have a hatred for iPods, it's just that I think they are an enormous rip-off. People want to get in on the action with portable music that isn't bulky and inconvenient like CD players or, even worse, tape players, so they take a bite out of the big Apple before they look anywhere else for a better deal.

Currently, Apple has six different iPods to choose from: iPod shuffle, in 512 MB form, can hold up to 120 songs, and the 1GB version can hold twice as much. Next is the iPod nano, relatively new and soon to replace the old iPod-mini. The thing about this iPod that makes it at all worthwhile is the size, and given, if you're looking for something practically intangible this would be the iPod for you. The nano comes in two options; 2GB and 4GB, the first holding 500 songs and 1,000 for the latter. Last in the lineup would be the original iPod, which comes in 20GB (5,000 songs) and 60GB (15,000 songs). This nifty music player not only plays music, but can do it in color! This is great, assuming you walk around and watch your screen instead of looking around, or choose to watch all the pretty colors instead of finishing your homework.

The features of the iPod are positive in some aspects and negative in others. For

example, the size of the iPod is a huge benefactor, for a fast moving lifestyle like the ones lived by students and people in a faster moving economy; there is no time to fumble through cumbersome technology. iPods do just that for people; get the music, files or pictures with no time wasted at all.

On the flip side, iPods are something to be reckoned with when it comes to controls. iPods, instead of buttons have what they call a "click wheel." This touch sensitive wheel allows the user to click on the desired option along with scrolling options with a light spin of the thumb. Even though users may come accustomed to using the "click wheel", it does seem to be over sensitive and hard to learn at first. Another downfall to the iPod is charging the battery. Although wall outlet chargers and car chargers are available, iPods come with only a charger which connects directly to the computer. This makes long distance travel

hard for people who don't want to spend the extra money to get a portable charger.

The cheapest rates for the iPods are \$99 for the shuffle 512MB and \$120 for the 1GB. The nano runs \$199 for 2GB and \$249 for 4GB. Finally, the iPod 20GB costs \$299 and the 60GB is a hefty \$399.

As you can see, iPods are expensive, especially for college students with a tight budget. But if the time is taken to research, one can find that a 60GB MP3 player can cost as little as \$262, the same price as the 4GB nano. Understandably, the 60GB would be larger, and doubtfully as sharp as the nano, but for the price it would be well worth it, especially if you're looking to lose the CDs and go digital. Although every MP3 player has its downsides, getting what is worth your dollar is something everyone should look into before running out and buying the last pretty pink iPod at Best Buy.

E-mail: features@kykernel.com

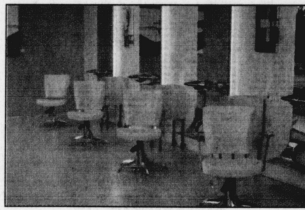
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