

KENTUCKY KERNEL

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Board approves tuition, replaces renewable energy fee

By Jill Laster
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Students will not be paying a fee originally designed to purchase renewable energy, the UK Board of Trustees decided yesterday.

The board approved tuition and student fees for the next school year yesterday. It passed a 9 percent tuition increase for in-state students and a 6.6 percent for out-of-state students. The board approved a \$36 increase in student fees, removing a recommendation for a 50-cent UK Greenthumb fee by Pat Terrell, UK's vice president for the Office of Student Affairs.

Terrell presented her proposal to the Board of Trustee's Student Affairs Committee yesterday morning. Earlier this spring, the seven-member Student Fee Committee recommended a 75-cent fee, but Terrell proposed 50 cents.

Staff trustee Russ Williams proposed an amendment removing the Greenthumb fee, which would have

given UK Greenthumb and UK's Sustainability Task Force oversight for about \$13,000 during the fall semester.

Instead, he proposed adding 50 cents to the Student Center fee charged to every student.

The amendment and the new student fee amounts passed in the Student Affairs Committee by a 3-1 vote. Student Government President Nick Phelps and trustee Sandy Patterson were the other two votes in favor of the amendment. Faculty trustee Jeff Dembo opposed it.

In an interview after the meeting, Williams said he wanted the cut because the student fees proposal did not detail any specifics on how the money would be spent; it only gave the amount.

Phelps voted for the amendment for similar reasons. "There was no clear vision, and it shouldn't have even made it that far,"

Williams also said that he wanted the Greenthumb fee removed because other fee-based services did not receive the money they wanted from the proposal and because UK President Lee Todd's position is that the university, not students, should fund sustainability efforts.

"We said what we would do, even if we didn't have it penny by penny."

TAYLOR SHELTON
Greenthumb
co-coordinator

unanimously. It then passed unanimously in the full board meeting.

Taylor Shelton, co-coordinator of UK Greenthumb, said the organization does not have an itemized budget for how to spend the money but said it would have been used for renewable energy.

"Anybody who said we didn't make it clear, I call shenanigans on them. We said what we would do, even if we didn't have it penny by penny," Shelton said.

Todd has said he will supplement the funding for sustainable energy through discretionary or non-recurring funding, said UK spokesman Jay Blanton. In the context of UK's \$2 billion operating budget for the 2008-09 school year, it will not be impossible to find \$13,000, he said.

While details have not been worked out, the Sustainability Task Force would probably have oversight of the money, and UK Greenthumb would have input, Blanton said.

Taylor said he is skeptical if the funding will go to the sustainable energy goals the Greenthumb fee would have provided for. It might, instead, go to smaller education efforts, he said.

In 2006, students voted for a referendum that would support a sustainabil-

ity fee of between \$6 and \$8. The SG referendum was non-binding, meaning UK does not have to enforce it, and students approved it at about a 2-to-1 ratio.

Terrell said while she saw a total \$6-to-\$8 student fee increase as a possibility, she did not think a new fee of \$6 or \$8 for sustainability would be realistic in the next few years.

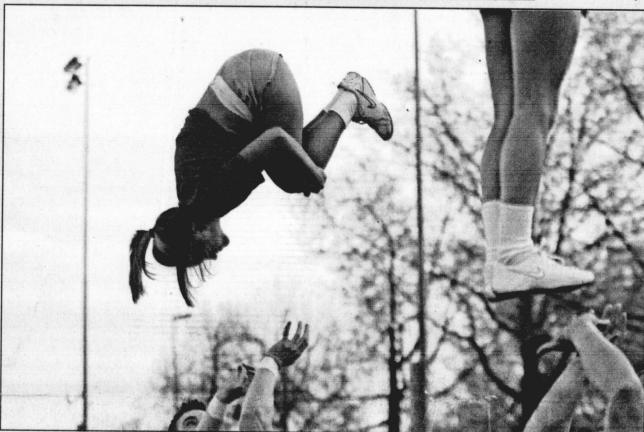
Not passing the Greenthumb fee ignored the resolution and student votes, Shelton said. To sit at the full board meeting and hear trustees vote against the fee was shocking, he said.

"I was excited about the coincidence of Earth Day and that UK is moving toward a sustainable campus, but somehow UK finds a way to let me down every time," Shelton said.

The tuition and fees, including room and board and dining costs, will now go to the Council on Postsecondary Education for approval in May. For the first time, the CPE will hold hearings on tuition rates for each university on April 30 and May 1.

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FLIPPIN' OUT



Alli Greer, a communication disorders freshman, flips in the air at an informal practice by the UK cheerleaders last night at the UK Intramural Fields. KRISTIN SHERRARD | STAFF

With the sun shining and temperatures reaching the mid-70s, several members of the UK cheerleading team met for an informal practice last night at the

UK Intramural Fields. Team members gathered just after 7 p.m. to take advantage of the nice weather and practice stunts in the field.

Newly elected SG Senate appoints leaders

By Katie Saltz and Kelli Long
news@kykernel.com

The new Student Government Senate met for the first time last night to swear in the senators and appoint leadership positions.

After swearing in SG President Tyler Montell and Vice President Grant Mills, Sen. Jackie Colgate was elected as the senate president for the upcoming school year. Colgate said her experience as a senator and a committee chair is a great help to the position and she hopes to draw on past successes to guide her in the job.

"I've been a part of SG for four years," Colgate said. "I have seen great senate presidents, and I have huge shoes to fill, and I hope to meet people's expectations."

The Senate also unanimously approved the budget for the summer months, which comprises \$2,600 of the \$4,500 surplus from this year. Tyler Fleck, who served as the director of constituency services this year, was confirmed as chief of staff for Montell's administration.

Fleck will work in the SG office this summer, preparing for the coming school year. Fleck said his priority is maintaining communication with UK administrators and with Frankfort.

"One of the most important things is keeping the relationship with administration strong," Fleck said. "Also important is to focus on diversity, and getting students involved."

Committee members were appointed and the chairs were elected at the meeting. Sen. Kara Osborne will chair Internal Affairs, Sen. Kelsey Hayes will chair Academic and Student Affairs and Sen. Adam French will chair Appropriations and Revenue.

French said he felt prepared to lead the committee that controls student funding requests, and he has new ideas to avoid this year's situation, when SG allocated all of the A&R funding by February.

"I wouldn't have put myself in the position to get nominated if I wasn't prepared. I have seen what works and what doesn't," French said. "I'm working on another amendment that will set aside 45 percent for second-semester projects. There are good projects in March and April that should be treated the same as projects in September and October."

Montell said he felt confident in the new Senate, calling them the "most diverse and most capable" group he had ever seen in SG.

"I am pleased with the enthusiasm and involvement that I have seen tonight," Montell said. "I hope that every senator feels that they have a voice."

The Senate also made appointments to the University Senate, the Impeachment and Censure Committee and the Summer Senate. Sen. Justin Stewart was elected as Senate coordinator and Sen. Lauren Anker was elected as the Committee on Committees member-at-large.

"I wouldn't have put myself in the position to get nominated if I wasn't prepared. I have seen what works and what doesn't."

ADAM FRENCH
Appropriations and
Revenue chair elect

Students to rally in support of Beijing Olympics

By Todd Bivins
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Olympic celebrations across the world are running into protest, but a UK student group hosting a 2008 Beijing Olympics rally is encouraging students to bridge cultural differences on campus.

The Chinese Student Association will present exhibits highlighting the Beijing Summer Olympics today and tomorrow in the Student Center park from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"We hope to ask the public to be open-minded about the many aspects of China as well as its great and many contributions for the 2008 Olympics," said Xiaojin Ma, a second-year electrical and computer engineering doctoral student.

Twelve committee members of the CSA organized the event, and more than 200 Chinese students have volunteered to help.

The exhibits will highlight the people within the university and the state who have connections in the Olympics, Olympic history, and the diversity and modernization of China.

"For the Chinese, (the Olympics) are a precious chance to introduce ourselves to the world. And for the world, it is the best time to see a brand new, modernized, more energetic China," said Ma, who was born in Beijing.

Olympic celebrations around the world have met protests from demonstrators rallying against China's recent crackdown on anti-government riots in Tibet.

Criticism of China's human rights record has turned the Olympic torch run, which travels through six continents, into a contentious trek for support for the Beijing Olympics. Ma said the riots do not have a place in the Olympics, which he said should be an international celebration.

"I don't think there is a relationship be-

tween politics and the Olympics," Ma said. "The Olympics are a bridge for people to know each other rather than a prize for political reasons or a place to show political demands."

The torch relay, which started on March 31, is expected to last 130 days and covers a distance of more than 220,000 miles, according to the Beijing 2008 Olympics Web site (<http://en.beijing2008.cn/>).

"Politics has nothing to do with our exhibition," Ma said. "I believe China will warmly welcome over 200 nations to its capital to celebrate sportsmanship, athleticism, participation and the human spirit."

Thus far, the torch has met protest in cities such as Olympia, Greece, Paris, London and San Francisco.

The International Olympic Committee is considering canceling the rest of the torch's world tour, according to its Web site (www.olympic.org).

Louisville's walk-off single hands UK rare non-conference loss

By Matthew George
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LOUISVILLE — The Dream Game may be switching its sport of allegiance. The title, usually reserved for the annual basketball game between UK and Louisville, has recently been a more accurate description of the annual home-and-home series between the two schools' baseball teams.

On April 9, a Keenan Wiley walk-off home run gave the Cats a 12th-inning 7-6 win in front of a school-record 4,099 fans. Last night, it was the Cardinals' turn to get a taste of the dramatic. U of L third baseman Chris

Dominguez dug in the batter's box facing every baseball player's dream situation. Bottom of the ninth. Tie game. Bases loaded. Two outs.

He did not let the opportunity slip by. Dominguez delivered a ninth-inning walk-off single that gave the Cats a 6-5 victory last night in front of a regular-season record crowd of 3,652 at Jim Patterson Stadium.

"I got the first guy, but the next guy I got behind in the count and left the ball up," said senior reliever Brock Baber, who struck out Justin McClanahan right before giving up the game-winner. "I gave him the chance to see a lot of pitches.

Fortunately for them, they got a hit."

Baber entered the ninth with zero wiggle room. A single, an intentional walk and an ill-timed second walk from senior reliever Andrew Albers left Baber a bases loaded, one-out situation when he took the mound. But Baber did not shy from the situation.

"You've got to go in with the mindset that you're going to be the hero or goat," Baber said. "That's the risk, you take when you come in. You just kind of have to come in with ice water in your veins knowing there is a



Rose

chance to win it or a chance to lose it."

U of L's late-inning victory handed UK its first non-conference loss in 22 games. The Cats' last non-conference loss came at Evansville on May 9, 2007.

Despite the loss, UK head coach John Cohen drew positives from last night's game, which, along with the game played in Lexington earlier this season, had an NCAA postseason feel.

"I think it's great for college baseball in the state of Kentucky," Cohen said. "I think it's

come a long way. When I got here five years ago and we were playing in the old Cardinal Stadium you could have fired a machine gun into the stands and not hit anybody. It was probably very similar at that place."

"I think it's neat for both clubs," he said.

And not all was lost for Bryan Rose, the seldom-used redshirt freshman, who entered yesterday's contest with just one career home run and eight starts, had a career day at the plate.

Rose belted two home runs and a double, part of a four-RBI performance that almost provided UK enough lift for a win. "He's really been swinging

the bat well, and (senior first baseman Brian) Spear has been struggling a little bit, so we moved him into the four-hole," Cohen said. "He's going to be a great hitter. He's a very talented kid; he's really going to hit."

Cohen said he wanted to start Rose against Florida on Sunday, but couldn't because the freshman was suffering from a concussion.

"I saw the ball well and got a few pitches that I liked, and I got a chance to drive them," Rose said. "It was definitely exciting. It would have been a lot better if we had got the game, but that's the way it goes some times."

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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 — A friend who's sometimes flaky has a good suggestion now. Follow it to find another outlet for your talents. But don't give up your day job yet.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 7 — Shake off a grumpy mood by reviewing your assets. Think of something you have, rather than what you must do without. You will discover you're in a better position than you thought.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is a 7 — Working with others can be a real hassle sometimes. Power struggles are overcome by staking

out territories. Make that top priority or you won't get anything done.
Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is a 6 — It's not a good time to gamble, or take any kind of risk. Hide out in a safe place and watch to see what happens next. Wait until the dust clears.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 7 — There's quite a bit of confusion, and unexpected changes. It's not safe to bet, even on a sure thing, yet you could get a lucky break. Take care.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is an 8 — Tempers are liable to flare, about practical matters. You're resisting the restraints you've put there for your own good. Relax. All will end well.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is a 7 — You're getting bored with the routine and want to try something new. It's not easy to accomplish this, but it should turn out pretty well. Come up with something fun.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is a 7 — You finally can afford to

get something you've wanted for a while. That's always a delicious feeling. Enjoy it to the max.
Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 7 — Use the experience you've recently gained to revise your thinking. Finding out what doesn't work helps you narrow down your choices.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is a 7 — For the next four weeks you'll have new advantages. You'll be luckier than usual and find it easier to focus. Add those to your other talents and you're unbeatable.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 6 — Try not to worry about things you can't change. Get together with friends instead, for a favorite activity. Doing something physical is a healthy distraction.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 7 — Lessons you learned the hard way help you make a better choice. Continue to do what you have to do to bring in the paycheck.
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THE DISH

The comedian talks movies, motherhood and Oprah with Us

Tina Fey isn't like most celebrities. Proof? "Someday," she says wistfully, "I hope I can just stay home and write jokes for other people's movies." It won't happen soon. "The Saturday Night Live" alum not only stars in and writes for "30 Rock" (NBC, Thursdays, 8:30 p.m.), she takes the lead in the comedy "Baby Mama" (out April 25). The Pennsylvania native, 37 (who has daughter Alice, 2, with composer Jeff Richmond), chats with Us.

Q: In the movie, you play a buttoned-up business woman, while Amy Poehler is the loony surrogate. Did you secretly covet the crazy-girl role?

A: We flipped a coin the night before we started shooting. Actually, in terms of comedy, I think I am a good straight person. If this movie does OK, maybe we'll switch roles for our next one.

Q: Did Alice inherit your comedy gene?

A: She's the funniest person in the house. She's so expressive too. The other day she goes, "What's that pirate doing?" It was a garbage man with a head scarf.

Q: Is it true Oprah Winfrey will guest on "30 Rock"?

A: Hopefully. I just did her show and mentioned it. She

said, "I'll do it!" As I walked off, the ladies who work for her gave me all their business cards. So I have proof!

Q: Do you have a trophy room for your two Emmys?

A: They sit on a high bookshelf in my living room. They're heavy and sharp — too dangerous to have around a toddler. But I get up every day to gaze at them from 4 to 5 a.m.

— By Mara Reinstein

The return of 'Gossip Girl'

"Gossip Girl" executive producers Josh Schwartz and Stephanie Savage give Us a peek at the five new episodes starting April 21 (CW, 8 p.m.).

Who's in charge? The show left off with Jenny (Taylor Momsen) challenging the queen-bee status of Blair (Leighton Meester). "Jenny is the character who's in a real transition," Schwartz says. "She's gotten a taste of power, and power corrupts." But, he adds, "Blair won't go down without a fight." Troublemakers Georgina Sparks (Michelle Trachtenberg), a former friend of Serena van der Woodsen (Blake Lively), returns and unveils more of Serena's shady past.

Says Schwartz, "It's going to test Dan [Penn Badgley]." Another issue: "She's hanging out with her soon-to-be stepbrother, Chuck Bass [Ed Westwick]," says Savage.

Expect a van der Woodsen-Bass wedding in the finale. The big reveal: Who will be coming out of the closet? Says

Schwartz, "We can only say it's one of the guys."

— By Lauren Schutte

Celebs' nanny troubles

Adultery! Extortion! Tell-all! When caregivers turn on their star employers:

Rob Lowe: On April 7, the actor alleged via blog that his nanny of seven years, Jessica Gibson, was trying to extort \$1.5 million from him and wife, Sheryl, 46 (they have sons Matthew, 14, and John, 12). "My family is devastated," wrote Lowe, 44, who says he's being falsely accused of sexual harassment. He's filed a lawsuit against Gibson.

Madonna: In 2007, the pop icon's former nanny Melissa Damas shopped a book proposal full of juicy details. Among her claims? "Not even running water for showers" is permitted while Madonna, 49 (mom to Lourdes, 11, Rocco, 7, and David, 2), sleeps. The tell-all was reportedly dropped by its publisher after Madge's legal team stepped in.

Jude Law: In 2005, Daisy Wright revealed to a Brit tabloid she had had an affair with Law (who has sons Rafferty, 11, and Rudy, 5, and daughter Iris, 7, with actress ex-wife Sadie Frost, 42). The actor, 35, issued a public apology to then-fiancee Sienna Miller, 26, saying, "There is no defense for my actions." The couple split in 2006.

— By Maria Spano

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Basketball: Men's SEC Basketball Tournament, Atlanta, GA; Women's SEC Basketball Tournament, Knoxville, TN
Blazer Marching Band; NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament, Memphis, TN; UK Basketball Pop Star

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STUDENT RELAXES FOR ELEVEN STRAIGHT MINUTES!
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Seniors relish final games as Cats

By Bobby Reagan
breagan@kykernel.com

The 2008 campaign for the UK softball team is coming to an end, as are the careers of five seniors.

Starting today, the Cats (16-31, 3-19 Southeastern Conference) will host their final two opponents at the UK Softball Complex this season. UK will face Eastern Kentucky today at 5 p.m. before a three-game set with Georgia this weekend.

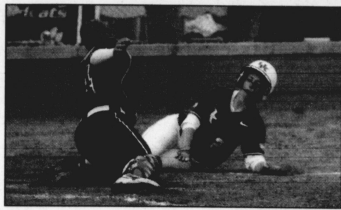
The Cats weren't given much credit by SEC voters at the beginning of the season with most preseason polls picking UK to finish dead last in the conference. Much to the chagrin of the Cats, the polls have been right, as UK has posted just a 3-19 record in the conference.

But despite UK's struggles this season, seniors Audrey Meyer, Samantha Allen, Megan Jolly, Ashley Dimkich and Lindsay Brogdon will play their final games in blue and white with the belief that they've pointed the program in the right direction.

Although they have a combined record of 77-139, Dimkich said they have jumpstarted the program, which is only in its 12th year of existence.

"We have taken steps in the right direction, especially with coach (Rachel) Lawson, who is a great teacher of the game," Dimkich said. "This program will be competing for SEC titles in the coming years."

The Cats won't be taking home any hardware this year for the regular season and likely won't have the chance to compete in the SEC Tournament in Baton Rouge, La. Because only the top eight teams from the



ELLIOTT HESS / STAFF Senior first baseman Ashley Dimkich slides into home plate during UK's doubleheader loss to Louisiana State on April 9 at the UK Softball Complex.

conference make the trip, the Cats would essentially have to win every remaining game and hope the teams ahead of them lose nearly every game.

That's disappointing news to Dimkich and the seniors, but she said the Cats should be back into postseason play "in the next couple of years."

The seniors realize their days are numbered as Cats, but they said they will never forget the experience — from the grueling 6 a.m. workouts to the frequent road trips.

"I'm not ready for this to end, but I know I can always look back at memories and think of the good times," Meyer said. "Some of my best friends are the four other girls that are seniors with me this year."

Meyer said despite coming in two years later than the rest of her class — she's a junior-college transfer — she was welcomed with open arms and now finds it hard to grasp that they're all leaving.

"This year has gone by faster than I could have ever imagined,"

Meyer said. "I feel like I could look back to yesterday and I'm moving into Kentucky and getting to know these girls."

UK hasn't had many positive memories as far as the scoreboard goes of late — the Cats have won just three of their last 24 games — but many of UK's struggles can be attributed to a wealth of injuries and a depleted roster.

When the Cats were healthy, they stormed off to a 13-10 start, proving the seniors were tuning the program into a legitimate threat for years to come, Dimkich said.

While a disappointing finish might not show the national pundits how far the program has come, Dimkich said critics need to look no farther than UK's upset over then-No. 6 Tennessee on March 15 to see how much the Cats have improved.

"That game is probably the one that sticks out of all the games in my four years here," Dimkich said. "We were able to turn some heads, and teams started taking us seriously."

SPORTS BRIEF

UK adds six athletes to Hall of Fame

UK announced its 2008 inductees into the UK Athletics Hall of Fame on Monday night during the CATSPY awards, adding six former UK athletes as a part of this year's class.

The class includes football player Al Bruno (1948-50), men's basketball player Tony Delk (1993-96), track athlete Tim Harden (1993-96), diver Tina Johnson (1994-96), men's basketball player and athletics director C.M. Newton (1949-51; AD 1989-2000), and men's golfer Johnny Owens (1947-50).

The UK Athletics Hall of Fame was started in 2005 to recognize and honor persons whose participations and contributions enriched and

strengthened the university's athletic program, according to a UK news release.

The original class in 2005 included 88 individuals who had previously had their jersey retired by UK.

To become eligible for inclusion into the Hall of Fame, an athlete must be five years removed from UK's program. To have a jersey retired, there is a 10-year waiting period.

A committee consisting of Hall of Famers, media members, campus representatives, and current coaches and administrators elects new inductees each year.

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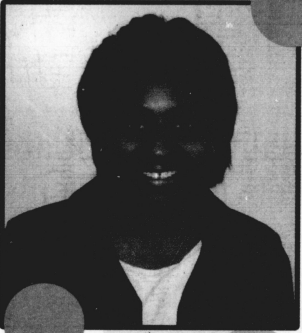
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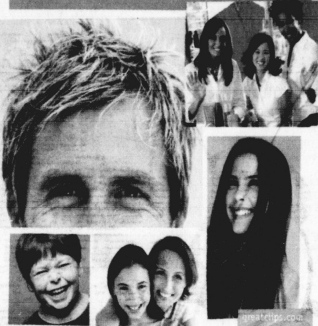
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The opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas. Unlike news stories, the Kernel's unsigned editorials represent the views of a majority of the editorial board. Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the opinions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

■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

Gun group's efforts to spark dialogue are praiseworthy

While we don't agree with the stance of Students for Concealed Carry on Campus, we welcome their recent effort to generate an intelligent discussion on the subject.

During an event organized by the group Monday, John Lott, a visiting senior research scientist at the University of Maryland spoke in support of allowing concealed weapons on campus.

We also applaud the group's decision to invite Capt. Kevin Franklin of UK police, who defended UK's stance on gun control and responded to audience members who opposed the school's policy. It's not a fair discussion when only one side is allowed to voice its opinion. The presence of both Lott and Franklin gave voices to both those who support concealed carry and those who are against it.

Monday's event was intended to educate and persuade people about the issue of concealed carry weapons, said David Burnett, president of Students for Concealed Carry on Campus, in a Kernel story yesterday. Bringing a speaker to campus and allowing an open dialogue are certainly more edu-

ational than the empty-holster demonstrations the group organizes.

UK policy currently bans carrying concealed weapons on campus, and a bill in the state legislature that would permit concealed carry on campus failed to make it out of a House committee before the legislative session ended earlier this month, according to yesterday's story.

Having a true dialogue about guns with two experts helped students develop informed opinions on this heated issue.

In his speech, Lott said that whether to allow guns on campus is a cost-benefit matter: People may commit violent acts using guns, but they may also use guns to prevent violent crimes from happening. We agree wholeheartedly, but our conclusion is the exact opposite of Lott's.

If guns were allowed on campus, the potential for the increased endangerment of non-gun-carrying students far outweighs any protection that a gun may afford.

Regardless of our opinion, students should learn about the subject themselves and form their own opinions. Monday's event helped to inform the student body and to spark intelligent dialogues, and such events should be continued in the future.

McCain's economic policies are looking a lot like Bush's

The following editorial appeared in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on Monday:

The Democratic candidates for president are working hard to convince voters that a John McCain presidency would be the equivalent of a third term for George W. Bush. McCain is making their job easier.

The Arizona senator and presumptive Republican nominee already shares the president's views on the need to stay the course in Iraq. Now, as he begins rolling out his domestic proposals, McCain seems determined to echo the president there as well. Last week, he unveiled his cure for what ails the American economy: more tax cuts!

Not only does he want to extend the tax cuts Bush and the Republican Congress enacted in 2001 (parts of which he voted against in the Senate), but he also has some new ones all his own. It's Bushonomics: The Sequel. McCain proposes a summer-long suspension of the 18.4 cents per gallon federal gasoline tax. "The effect will be an immediate economic stimulus," he said. That's true; it will stimulate people to keep burning gasoline.

McCain's gas tax holiday would save customers \$3.68 on a 20-gallon fill-up. That's in the short run. In the long run, it wouldn't help at all. The surest way to reduce oil prices is to cut demand, as painful as they are, high gasoline prices encourage conservation. That's how a free market works, and a traditional economic conservative — as McCain likes to boast he is — would stay out of the way. A cut in gasoline taxes would take us in the wrong direction — toward more consumption and even higher oil prices. As a result, we would be sending more American dollars to the oil sheikhs, Iranian extremists, African dictators and Latin demagogues who sit on the world's oil supply.

Plus, the federal gasoline tax funds the Highway Trust Fund, which pays for building and repairing highways, roads and bridges. The trust fund already is \$2 billion in the red because

Congress authorized more road projects than the fund can afford. A summer-long tax holiday would add \$8 billion to \$10 billion to the shortfall.

McCain also proposes a grab-bag of other tax cuts: The corporate income tax rate would fall to 25 percent from 35 percent. He would double the excise tax on dependents for individual income taxes. People could choose to file under present income tax law rates or under a new "flatter-tax" program with only two tax rates. Guess which one they'd choose.

He'd also phase out the alternative minimum tax, not a bad idea in and of itself, but he says nothing about how he'd replace the lost revenue.

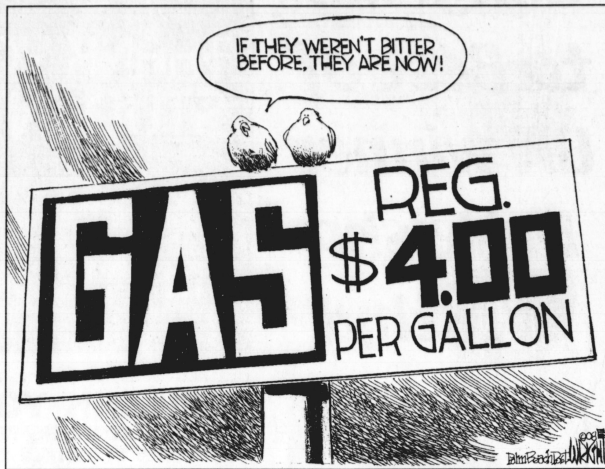
All of this would cut federal revenue at a time when the Office of Management and Budget reports that the budget was \$310 billion in deficit for the first half of the fiscal year. That number could go higher if recession reduces tax collections.

McCain promises \$100 billion in spending cuts to help offset his tax cuts, but he's fuzzy about how he'd reach that number. He'd veto all congressional earmarks, which would save \$18.3 billion. Much of the rest would come from what he describes as "program review and other budget reforms."

In the meantime, he'd put a one-year freeze on discretionary spending except for defense and veterans' benefits. Discretionary programs include education, law enforcement, housing, transportation, national parks, environmental protection and cleanup and countless other important and essential government functions and services.

All candidates, Democrats included, talk more about the nice things they would do for voters than how to finance them. But McCain has undergone a peculiar transformation as his quest for the White House has advanced.

He opposed most of the Bush tax cuts in 2001 and 2003. He said it didn't make sense to cut taxes during a war, particularly when most of the benefits flowed to the wealthy. He was right then. He's wrong now.



DON WRIGHT, The Palm Beach Post

Unpopular, unqualified candidates make wins unlikely for Ky. Dems

2008 is looking good for Republicans in Kentucky. And after a rough two years, Nov. 4 should be a great night.

Presidential candidate John McCain will carry Kentucky in November. Neither Democrat will come close to him; moreover, if Barack Obama is the nominee, he will get blown out of the water. In every region of the state, McCain leads Obama. In Eastern Kentucky, some polls show Obama's support to be in the mid-teens with McCain garnering more than 70 percent support. When television ads start to remind us of Obama's elitist lamentation that rural voters cling to guns and to God because they are bitter, I can only imagine McCain's lead widening.

Sen. Mitch McConnell will also win re-election. I have a hard time seeing Ben Chandler working very hard for Bruce Lunsford, the likely Democratic challenger to McConnell, after Lunsford's negative ads doomed Chandler's gubernatorial bid in 2003. Then again, Lunsford will continue to

have the support of Gov. Steve Beshear. But with Beshear's failures increasing daily, I don't know how much help that will be. I wouldn't want to be associated with somebody whose disapproval rating is higher than his approval.

In addition to having to run with Obama and the support of Beshear, Lunsford is going to talk about his business experience. He boasts that he helped grow his business from three employees to 62,000. But that is not the entire story of Lunsford's business experience. In fact, I am going to quote some of Chandler's 2003 ads.

Lunsford's real experience lies in the fact that he was CEO of a nursing home that was fined for Medicare fraud by the Department of Justice.

The fines totaled over \$100 million and included such offenses as poor senior care, fraud and overbilling. (Lunsford has said the company was not fined but merely paid to settle the charges without conceding guilt, according to an Associated Press report.) Chandler ran an ad in which Martha Stevens of Louisville asserted that her mother was abused in one of Lunsford's nursing homes. She notes her mother's broken fingers, skin tears and malnourishment. How does overseeing a business like that give you the experience you need to be a U.S.

Senator?

With Obama and Lunsford at the top of the ticket, the rest of the De-

With Obama and Lunsford at the top of the ticket, the rest of the Democrats are going to have a tough time in Kentucky.

mocrats are going to have a tough time. Brett Guthrie is a great candidate in the 2nd District and should have no problem winning that seat. Anne Northup will reclaim her congressional seat this year, too. She posted impressive fundraising numbers, nearly doubling what Yarmuth raised in the first quarter. Moreover, Yarmuth now has to try to explain why he supported resolutions for Ramadan and Hanukkah while voting "present" on a resolution for Christmas.

With Democratic candidates like these, I don't see how Republicans in Kentucky can't have a good year this year.

Thomas Roberts is the chairman of UK College Republicans. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

ABC debate's questions on flag pins obscured this election's real issues

Let 'em eat flags! This slap at voters otherwise concerned about their next mortgage payment comes not from Marie Antoinette, but appears to be the message from the elitist managers at ABC News.

Moderator Charles Gibson admonished Sen. Barack Obama during the Democratic primary debate last week that should he insist on appearing in public sans flag pin it could be a "major vulnerability if you're a candidate in November."

Genuine "major vulnerabilities" have seldom been disposed of quite so easily. Politics, however, may have arrived at such a point where, alas, the flag pin is the last resort of the scoundrel.

"Look, I revere the American flag," Obama explained during the debate. "I would not be running for president if I did not revere the country."

Instead of wearing the flag pin, however, the senator said he preferred showing his patriotism by acts that help solve real political problems.

"What I've tried to do is to show my patriotism," he said, "by how I treat veterans when I'm working in the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee; by making sure that I'm speaking forcefully about how we need to

bring this war in Iraq to a close because I think it is not serving our national security and it's not serving our military families and our troops well; talking about how we need to restore a sense of economic fairness to this country, because that's what this country has always been about ... distracts us from what should be my job when I'm commander in chief."

Co-host George Stephanopoulos chimed in, "If you get the nomination, you'll have to beat back these distractions." Already this key 21st debate, the last one scheduled before the Democrats name their nominee, was chest-deep in the trivia swamp.

The multi-trogs of the candidates, which had been croaking over the past weeks, were forced to dance obscenely for the first 55 minutes by the ABC "newsmen," so-called.

George Stephanopoulos, of course, is not a journalist. Charles Gibson is, but he's not much of a moderator. This odd couple plowed deep furrows on what's left of the respectability of TV debates. Follow-up critiques centered not so much on the two candidates keying on the Pennsylvania primary, but on the moderators teetering on trivia.

Boy George may not be a bad person, but he flies under a false flag. Imprinted as a political operative, Stephanopoulos earned demerits as much for his trivia pursuit the other night as for his career conflicts. Having served as senior adviser on policy and strategy in the Clinton White House, he might have been moved by earnestness either to recuse himself

from the debate or to explain his Clinton problem.

Instead, he carried the night-soil for the wife of his former boss, the 42nd U.S. president, who afforded Stephanopoulos the White House gig that launched him.

Were this not bad enough, Stephanopoulos took one of his key questions, the one about the former Weather Underground activist, as reportedly directed to him by twisted, talk-show host Sean Hannity. Like so many high-profile conservatives, Hannity's patriotism is as shallow as the prick of a flag pin and just as misleading.

Vice President Dick Cheney, for example, likely has trunks full for such flag pins, all made in China. Yet few Americans have achieved his dubious record of patriotism. As a young man, he begged for and received a record five military draft deferments from his patriotic obligation.

As a senior, Cheney first helped initiate the Iraq invasion; then his former company, Halliburton, proceeded to plunder billions in no-bid U.S. contracts.

Further, the loyal U.S. soldiers, who, unlike the draft-age Cheney, answered their country's call to arms in Iraq, have been woefully mistreated upon their return by the regime of President George W. Bush and Cheney.

Compulsive flag-pin wearing does not make a citizen a patriot. Les Payne is a columnist for Newsday. 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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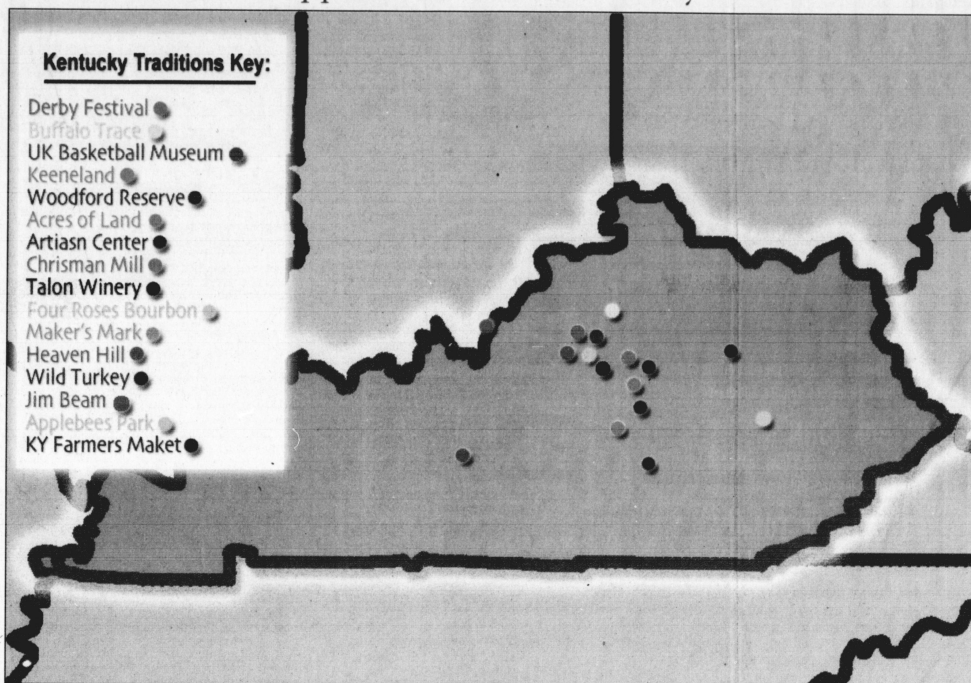
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Among the finest of Kentucky traditions is the legacy of thoroughbred horseracing. The beloved tradition of horseracing is woven into the landscape, economy and culture of the Bluegrass. Our state slogan, "Unbridled Spirit", reflects that tradition as do the names of sports teams, companies and organizations state-wide.

One exemplary icon of the Kentucky horseracing tradition is Keeneland Race Course, here in Lexington. For many in the Commonwealth, the excitement of live horseracing brings them out to historic Keeneland to experience the sights, sounds and sophistication of thoroughbred racing.

Taken from Keeneland's website, here are several things you may not know about the great Kentucky Tradition at Keeneland.

Keeneland is uniquely structured in that it operates as a non-dividend-paying corporation. Its directors serve without compensation and stockholders do not receive dividends. Profits are returned in the form of higher purses to horsemen, capital improvements, and generous contributions to charitable, educational and research organizations.

Keeneland's proud tradition continues today under the leadership of Nick Nicholson, president and chief executive officer. In 2006, Keeneland again underscored its commitment to the horse by installing a revolutionary Polytrack racing surface on its main track as part of a major track renovation project that also widened and improved the turns to make them safer.

The Track Kitchen is one of Keeneland's best kept secrets that you want to know about! The track kitchen is located near the barn area (follow the signage or look for the black water tower). Except for major holidays, the track kitchen is open year-round daily at 6 a.m. and is open for lunch during races and sales.

At Keeneland for three weeks in the spring and fall, Kentuckians embrace the thoroughbred racing in its finest form in arguably the most beautiful setting possible. However, Keeneland not only offers live racing; Keeneland is also the proud home of "the world's most prestigious Thoroughbred auction company, unmatched in the quality of our horses, the diversity of our clientele, our state-of-the-art facilities and our client amenities."

When it comes to the Derby Tradition, a trip to Louisville isn't the only

option: Join in the Derby Party at Keeneland!

Although live racing at Keeneland Race Course ends on April 25th, that doesn't mean Keeneland shuts down. On Derby Day, which is Saturday May 3rd this year, Keeneland will be hosting what is known as the world's biggest Derby Party and you can be a part of it!

Many will argue that enjoying Derby Day in the heart of the Bluegrass at Keeneland is just as nice as trekking to Churchill Downs. Although you won't see any live horses you can view all of the Derby Day races on huge TVs outdoors while enjoying a picnic in the paddock, or you can reserve a seat indoors at one of Keeneland's dining options.

You can still dress up, wear hats, bet on the races, drink mint juleps and celebrate the great Kentucky tradition. A handicapping seminar is offered in the morning for those who want to enhance their betting knowledge and live music will be featured all day long.

It is no doubt that the Derby experience at Churchill Downs is an experience all its own. When it comes to the Kentucky Derby, the Lexington Convention and Visitor's Bureau points out that "Louisville Has the Race, but Lexington Has the Reason!" With over 482 horse farms in Lexington and surrounding counties, Central Kentucky is no doubt the epicenter of horseracing—All the better reason to spend Derby Day here in Lexington!

This year save money on gas, avoid the crowds of people and forgo the infield at Churchill Downs, and instead, experience the best of the Derby tradition at Keeneland this year! If you have questions about the Derby Party at Keeneland, call 859-254-3412.

Information for this article was provided by Keeneland and the Lexington Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

A Chocolatey Twist on Bourbon

Kati Tharp | Kernel PR

Bourbon is to Kentucky as apple pie is to America. This oak-aged spirit has filled the Solo cups of people across Bluegrass since the Revolutionary War (History Lesson: Solo cups were not used during the Revolutionary War). Bourbon gained so much popularity that in 1964 an act of Congress declared bourbon whiskey "America's Native Spirit." Bourbon is the choice drink of Kentuckians young and old.

But in 1939 Kentucky chocolatiers Rebecca Gooch and Ruth Hanly added a sweet new twist to the bar favorite: chocolate. These Willy Wonka's of the Bluegrass combined Rebecca Ruth's delectable chocolate with chopped pecans, vanilla wafers, cocoa, powdered sugar and, of course, bourbon.

The delicious little sweets are great as gifts for friends, a little kick to a family party or even for a creative pre-drink (if you add enough bourbon that is).

Kentucky Bourbon Balls

Ingredients:

- 1 cup finely chopped vanilla wafers
- 1 cup finely chopped pecans
- 1 1/2 cups confectioners' sugar, divided
- 2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa
- 2 tablespoons Kentucky bourbon
- 1 1/2 tablespoons light corn syrup

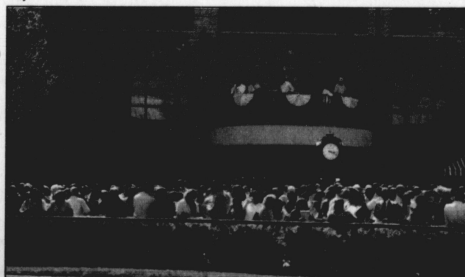


Photo by Margaret Liles

Old Kentucky Candies located on Southland Drive make bourbon balls. You can also go on kitchen tours of the candy store.

Combine the vanilla wafer crumbs, chopped pecans, 1 cup of the confectioners' sugar, and the cocoa. Combine the bourbon and corn syrup and stir into the dry mixture. When thoroughly blended, cover and refrigerate the dough for 1 hour or more. Sift the remaining confectioners' sugar onto a large piece of waxed paper. Take 1 tablespoon of the dough, shape it into a ball, and roll it in the sugar. Repeat until all the dough is used. Store them, covered, in the refrigerator.

Photo by Margaret Liles
Keeneland opens the first weekend in October and April with College Scholarship Day.



Wine and Dine In the Warm Sunshine

Jillian Rogers | Kernel PR

Kentucky is known for two things: horses and bourbon. People come from all around to experience these traditions of the Bluegrass. But one of this state's best kept secrets are the wineries. The mental picture of huge valleys, miles of grape vine and...California come to mind when you think of wineries. But surprisingly (and conveniently) wine country can be found as close as right here in Lexington. Acres of Land Winery, Chrisman Mill Vineyards and Winery, Equus Run Vineyards, Talon Winery and Vineyards and Wild-side Vines can all be found in or around Lexington.

If you're looking for an exciting day trip, The Acres of Land Winery Store is located on Nicholasville planning a party or if you're just curious about the vineyards, visit Chrisman Mill Vineyards and Winery and Talon Winery and Vineyards. Both located in Lexington, these wineries are definitely must sees for all wine enthusiasts. Even if you're just a beginner, Chrisman Mill and Talon have something for you.

According to Chrismanmill.com, since 1997 Chrisman Mill has been owned and operated by husband and wife, Dr. Chris and Denise Nelson. Their love for wine has served them well. Over the last 11 years they have created a beautiful place where couples, families or friends can come, sip on wine and relax.

Chrisman Mill has won multiple awards for their wine. But if the commended wine isn't enticing

enough, maybe their café and wine store is. Visit their gourmet store in Hamburg village for fine wine themed gifts and delicious food.

If you're looking for more of an experience or planning an event, visit their vineyard in Nicholasville. There



Photo by Margaret Liles

The Acres of Land Winery Store is located on Nicholasville planning a party or if you're just curious about the vineyards, visit Chrisman Mill and Talon have something for you.

you will find beautiful scenery and a relaxing atmosphere. The vineyard is a great place to host a wedding reception or any kind of special event.

For more information about their hours, wine, store and location visit them at www.chrismanmill.com.

Another winery that is worth your while is Talon Winery and Vineyards. Tucked away off Bates Creek Road, Talon is a great place to get a taste of the rolling country side without the gas bill. Surrounded by ponds and red roof barns, Talon has multiple locations that will suit any event.

According to www.talonwine.com, they have a few places to host your event. For big parties, you have the option of Ca "barn"et Barrel Barn or the

Monarch Pavilion. The Ca "barn"et Barrel Barn is located near the "Old Pond" and is accompanied by a large patio, great for a dancing. The Monarch Pavilion is equipped with an indoor kitchen and a covered, outdoor seating area. For smaller, more intimate gatherings try the Homestead Tasting Room. This "room" is actually a historic barn built in the 1790s. Here you can sample their award winning wine in the actual tasting room. You can also purchase bottles of the wine from their wide selection. They also offer the Private Tasting Room. With seating for 20, the tasting room is located in Homestead.

Talon's knowledgeable staff can help you pick out the wine best suited for you and your taste. You can't go wrong with this wine. According to www.talonwine.com, their wines have "won medals at competitions including the International Eastern Wines Competition, the Lonestar International Wines Competition, the Wines of the South Competition and the Indy International Wines Competition."

For more information about this family owned winery, visit them at www.talonwine.com.

Chrisman Mill and Talon are only two of the many Kentucky wineries. Located across the state, these wineries and vineyards are great places to take a break from the Bourbon Trail. So if horses and bourbon isn't your thing, then stop by a Bluegrass winery. The Kentucky Wine and Vine Fest is a great place to start if you're feeling lost. For more information, visit <http://www.kywineandvine.com/tickets.htm>

KY PROUD

Brittany Ball | Guest Writer

With so many choices of food products in Lexington it is easy to overlook the important purchases like staying Kentucky Proud. Farmers in the area help the community by supplying local grocery stores and markets, providing the freshest choices of locally grown products.

Lexington's very own Farmers' Market benefits from these locally grown products. Opening 33 years ago as the Farm and Garden Market Cooperative Association, this small downtown street market has grown into a large scale market offering products that one can only find here. From mid-April until late November, four days a week, Lexington's Farmers' Market operates and sells a wide variety of produce, flowers and body care products.

Among the array of products one will also find local wines, honey products, herbs and locally produced cheeses and breads. It is a great place to go and get fresh items at cheaper prices. Marketing junior Meg Phillips says, "Growing up, my mom would always go to the Farmer's Market to get better prices and better quality vegetables. The vendors were very friendly and it was a great way to support the community."

Vendors work very diligently all year to offer the best supply of crops. They travel from across the state to sale their products in the Lexington Farmers' Market. Vendors such as Blue Moon Farm come from Madison County to sale their produce and Good Thymes Gardens travels from Mercer County. With such a variety of products to purchase from vendors anyone could find something to enjoy at the Lexington Farmers' Market.

Our local Farmers' Market also has a calendar of special events happening throughout the month. Having live bands and chefs lining the street, Farmers' Market has a great atmosphere no matter what age. Several times throughout the month Chef Josh Moore of Good Foods Market and Cafe will be demonstrating great and easy dishes that can be made at home. On May 10 Chef John Foster will be downtown at the Spring Greens and Mushroom Festival. This is a great way to be able to ask questions and learn something fun about cooking.

It is important to remember to give back to Kentucky and to be Kentucky Proud. Jarrod Crowder, a freshman majoring in agriculture economics, says, "I think that Lexington's Farmers Market is very important because it gives local residents a chance to buy local farm fresh products at an affordable rate. It also gives residents a chance to ask important questions to the farmers such as what kinds of chemical are being used or when the product was harvested." So when buying Kentucky Proud you are helping your community and keeping your money towards food in the state. Purchasing Kentucky Proud products is simple, look for the label at your local grocery store or farmers market.

Visit the Lexington Farmers' Market website for more information on events, products and great recipe ideas. Also to learn about where to shop for Kentucky Proud products or consumer information visit their website at <http://www.kyagr.com/kyproud/index.htm>.

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It's Derby TIME

Logan Mayer | Guest Writer

Every first Saturday in May, the global microscope looks down on our beloved Louisville, Kentucky. In perhaps the most eloquent day of the sporting year, all eyes turn to our fine state for the "fastest two minutes in sports." This Derby weekend is not only a proud day for our state, but merely a finishing touch to a wild and festive three week celebration. Senior Matt Gandolfo, a Louisville native, said "The Derby Festival is a great way to celebrate Kentucky's culture and heritage leading up to its proud day."

The Kentucky Derby Festival entertains every one of all ages as it is comprised of events that use land, water, and sky. Whether your six years old or sixty years old, from Thunder Over Louisville until pastime, Louisville has your entertainment covered. "For me, it is like a 3 week Christmas celebration" according to Senior Patrick McMahon.

The Kentucky Derby Festival was kicked off on April 12th this year with its annual Thunder Air Show and world famous Thunder Over Louisville. The fireworks show, which attracts hundreds of thousands of people from all across the region, has been called the "Grand-daddy of them all" by the Discovery Channel in their documentary of firework shows across the country.

As the celebration

rolled on, basketball lovers, especially University of Louisville and University of Kentucky fans, had an opportunity to catch their up and coming stars at the Derby Festival basketball classic. For many fans, it is there first attempt to see their incoming recruits. True blue fan and senior Beau Beckman keeps a close eye on this event each

SOUP RECIPE



year. He says, "this is a great chance to see the recruits you read about on paper actually play."

The social scene in Louisville during these two festive weeks is not left behind either. Thousands of young professionals and college students come pouring out for a night at the Chow Wagon at Waterfront Park. Beginning April 24th and running through May 2nd, people from all walks of life come out to celebrate the Derby the best way they can. Many nights feature live music and beverage vendors are always there to serve in a time of need. Senior Chris Wiedmar says he "marks his calen-

dar to get his hands on elephant ears and funnel cakes on the river."

April 26 holds two special Derby races, the Balloon Race and the KDF Marathon and miniMarathon. The Balloon Race kicks off at 7 a.m. and can be seen in the skies when the runners take their mark at 7:30 am. "My friend Alisa and I made a goal to do the mini this year as a New Year's resolution," explained senior Megan Nethery.

As the Derby quickly approaches, many spectators find entertainment by attending the Soap Box Derby on the 27th and the highly touted Great Steamboat Race on April 30th. While these are simply a few of the events, there are many others that make these two weeks a spectacular occasion for everyone to enjoy.

Whether you love or hate Louisville, the Kentucky Derby Festival is a proud three weeks to be part of this great commonwealth. Every person, whether from Kentucky or not, should partake in this yearly holiday. Senior Ryan Jones assures those unfortunate people yet to experience the Derby that "it is a one of a kind event you will never forget."

While the rest of the world watches for two minutes in May, Kentuckians celebrate their great life in this state through land, water, and sky. Happy Derbying!

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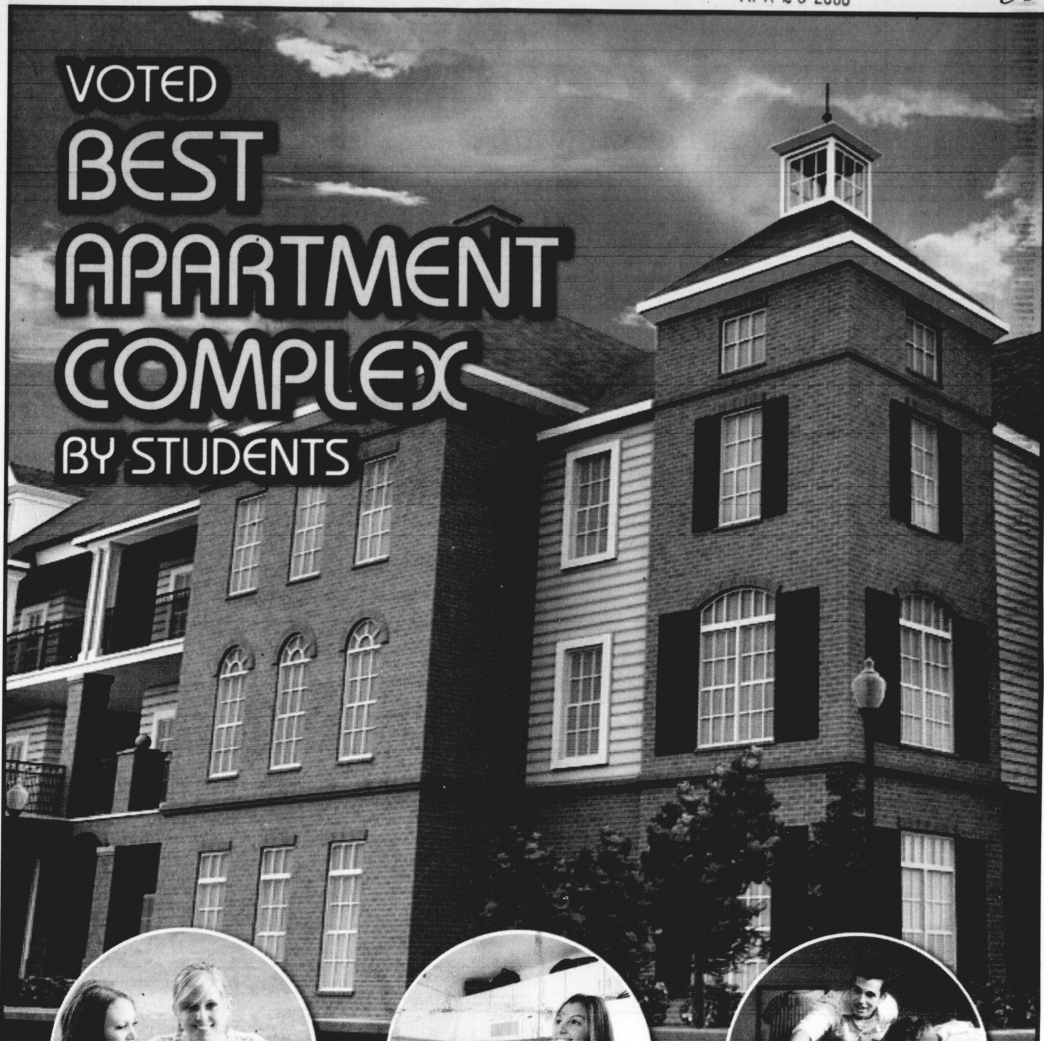
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
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PHOTO: JEFFREY HARRIS/STUDIO CITY

Around Town:

What to do in Lexington?

Jenna Mullen | Guest Writer

Although the end of the school year is quickly approaching, there are plenty of events taking place that should fill up our calendars until the rest of the school year and into the summer months. All of Lexington's hot spots are taking advantage of the time that is left and making sure UK students are striving to attend these "must-see" affairs.

For starters, already coming up later this Friday, April 25, both basketball player Ramel Bradley and popular local musician Jonathan Webb will be performing at The Dame. This will be the first time the two really perform with one another. The night will launch at 9 p.m. with an opening performance by Jonathan Webb, where he will play his full set of music without Ramel.

After he opens up the show, he will then help introduce, DJ and start-off Ramel's act. The two are set to perform with one another for a period of time, only to lead into Ramel's solo act, where he is going to present music from his new album titled "Do You Know." Any fans of Kanye West, Jay-Z and Talib Kweli will enjoy hearing him take the stage. After he is finished performing, Ramel will be selling his new CD, where he will be signing autographs as well. His album will also be sold at Kennedy's book store and other stores on campus.

Anyone interested in attending this event can

purchase tickets online at Dameky.com or arrive early and purchase a ticket at the Dame entrance. Admission for the event is \$5 a person. Not only is this occasion the first real time the two artists are performing with one another, this event is also one of the Ramel's last appearances he will be making before leaving town.



Photo by Margaret Liles
Applebee's Park is the home of the Lexington Legends. There are also many concert and other events held here especially during good weather.

If you enjoy listening to Jonathan Webb and Ramel perform, the Jonathan Webb Music Festival is going to be held the very next night, Saturday, April 26 in Paris, Ky. The festival is an all day, all night music concert that is predicted to have a very large turnout and is anticipated to be the largest all night music festival in the state of Kentucky. Along with obviously Jonathan Webb, Larry Redmond, Zach Deputy and Ramel "Smooth" Bradley will also be making an appear-

ance at the event. The four artists will be performing all together, while also playing their individual pieces as well. The cost to attend the event is a \$10 admissions fee. The gates to the festival are opening at 11 a.m., however, the music performances do not begin until 8 p.m. For driving directions to the festival please visit

For all you country music fans, tickets are still on sale for the Keith Urban and Carrie Underwood "Love, Pain and the Whole Crazy Carnival Ride" tour. The concert is being held at Rupp Arena on Saturday, April 26. The concert begins at 8 p.m. The tickets have prices ranging from \$39.50 to \$69.50.

Also at Rupp Arena, the Blue Man Group is performing the following night on April 27. It is for the groups "How to be a Megastar" tour 2.1. Tickets for this concert are also still on sale and can be purchased on the Rupp Arena website.

If you do not feel like spending much money to hear live music, April 26 The Fishtank Bar and Grill is hosting an event where Lexington native musicians will be performing. These artists include Drew Carman and Dylan Solise of Americana Outfit - The Corduroy Road - with a special guest, Paleface. The group's performance begins at 10 p.m. The bands music is influenced by old-school country music, with an added twist of punk rock energy.

These events are only taking place this upcoming weekend. One can only imagine the events that Lexington has planned for us the rest of the summer. So keep your eyes peeled, ears open and mouths spreading the news of where the popular events are attracting the masses.

JonathanWebbmusic.com. Applebee's park also has some fun events coming up in the next few days. Tomorrow on April 24, it is "College Cornhole Tournament and Thirsty Thursday Night" at the Lexington Legends versus the Lakewood BlueClaws game. The game begins at 7 p.m.

Also on April 26, the park is having a fireworks display after the game for entertainment. That game also begins at 7 p.m. Tickets to enter the event cost \$5.

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The Very Best of Blue

Josh Lehman | Guest Writer

The rich history and tradition of the University of Kentucky Basketball program is common knowledge in Lexington. This storied program has years of winning tradition and the championships and banners to back it up. The University of Kentucky Men's Basketball Team is considered one of the most elite basketball programs in the nation. UK is the winningest men's college basketball program in the nation.

Through the completion of the 2008 NCAA basketball tournament, Kentucky now has a total of 1,966 all-time wins. Kentucky also leads all NCAA schools in all-time winning percentage at 76%. Kentucky has won a total of seven NCAA Men's Division I Basketball Championships, second only to UCLA who has won 11.

The men's basketball team has won 43 regular season SEC championships, followed by Tennessee with 8. They have also won 25 SEC tournament titles, the remaining SEC teams have won 20 combined. These statistics and records put into perspective the absolute dominance Kentucky Basketball has illustrated since its inception in 1902. The University of Kentucky is NCAA Basketball. Almost all Kentucky Basketball fans know about the tradition and dominance of the program, but to get the most personal feel with

the history of the program, a visit to the UK Basketball Museum is a must. With all the amazing plays, memories, coaches and players that have been apart of this historic program, the museum provides a sanctuary so you don't miss any part of Kentucky Basketball history.

When you first walk into the museum you are welcomed by Center Court—the perfect Big Blue welcome. The museum provides an All-American Gallery and History Timeline, which provides information on all of UK's All-Americans and the eras in which they played. They have a Virtual Court where you can lace up your basketball shoes against your favorite Wildcat in a virtual one-on-one game.

If you are looking for an in-depth look into the past of coaches and players, then you have to stop by the Coaches' and Players' Perspective exhibit. The Coaches' exhibit gives you an inside look at Wildcat coaching through the years and the Players' exhibit lets you go inside the UK locker room and see the typical day of a star UK player lives.

Relive some of the most thrilling and exciting games in Wildcat history and the teams that provided us with these moments in the Great Games' Great Teams exhibit. Make the call for some of UK's most memorable moments and feel like

Info provided ukballmuseum.org

Cassow Leland at the Broadcast Booth exhibit or follow the history of media coverage of the Cats from newspaper pages to the TV screen.

The UK Basketball Museum is located in the heart of downtown Lexington in the Shops at Lexington Center next to Rupp Arena. Museum hours are Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm, and Sunday noon-5pm. General admission to the museum is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students, but there are also group admissions for school field trips and large groups. The museum provides a banner and jersey filled room where meals and refreshments can be served for meetings and parties.

You can rent the museum after hours for unforgettable parties. It is also possible after your tour of the museum to take a tour of Rupp Arena and visit the locker rooms and experience the history of Rupp Arena.

Rupp Arena tours are only available by reservation on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The University of Kentucky Basketball Museum is more than just a place for housing memories and traditions; the museum is an interactive visit inside the world of UK Basketball. There is something there for everyone, paying tribute to the exciting history of college basketball's premier program.

What Exactly is Kentucky Burgoo?

Kati Tharp | Kernel PR

sauce and dry chili powder. It is usually served with biscuits or cornbread, ground beans, whole wheat or potato starch are used to thicken the stew. The deciding factor to whether or not your Burgoo is just right is if a spoon can stand straight up in the stew.

Burgoo is not just a food for Kentuckians, but it also brings families together. During economic depression, people would bring one or several ingredients that were in good supply and bring them together in one huge pot. The stew was so large that they would use 2-by-4 studs to stir the meal, which is where Burgoo's nick name "2-by-4 Soup" came from.

Perfecting Burgoo is a science and for the people that make it, personal recipes are held close to their hearts and are always kept a secret. These secrets are shown off at family gatherings, church or company picnics, any place to bring a group of friends together.

If you really want to show off your Burgoo perfection, try the International Bar-B-Q. It is held in Owensboro, the largest city in western Kentucky. Business, churches and charitable organizations get teams together and enter them in the festival to decide who has perfected the art of Burgoo. The festival is held every year on the Friday and Saturday before Mother's Day right on the river front. Over 1,500 gallons of Burgoo is served at the festival every year.

I now don't think of Burgoo as a disgusting mystery soup but as a fine Kentucky delicacy. I actually might have our cook make some up before the school year is over.

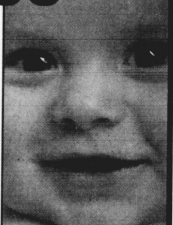
"I think it's from Eastern Kentucky?"
"I'm not from here. I think it's stew."
"How do you spell it?"
"It's chili, kinda."

These are some of the responses I received when I asked some friends if they knew what Kentucky Burgoo was. Not being from Kentucky, I was in the dark as to what Burgoo was until our house cook asked me if I wanted him to make it for lunch. He explained that he takes beans, cornbread and any kind of meat he can get his hands on and puts it all together until the concoction is so thick that a spoon can stand straight up in the pot. I declined.

Recently, after doing some research on this curious food, I found that it's not the grade school cafeteria mystery meat it sounded like. When Burgoo first originated, it was a way for communities short on money to create large meals together. These people strained for money would bring to the pot anything they could get their hands on—including squirrel or opossum. Now Burgoo is usually cooked with mutton, beef, pork, chicken or veal. The people that concoct this stew take pride in perfecting their personal recipe.

So what is Burgoo exactly? It is a mixture of meat and a combination of vegetables, corn, lima beans, tomatoes and okra. Burgoo also has many pieces that are individual to each person that makes it; that is why no Burgoo tastes the same. Some of the spices used include: cinnamon, nutmeg, cider vinegar, hot sauce, Worcestershire

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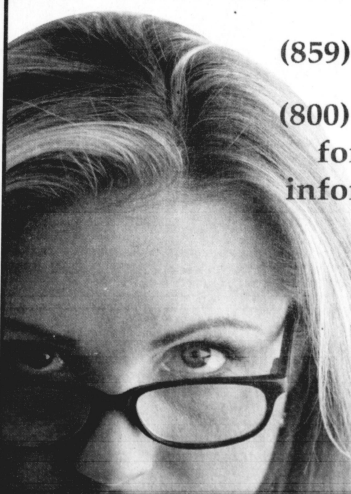
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Info provided kentuckybourbontrail.com

The drink of the Derby, the drink after a long day's work, the drink of little whiskey girls, the drink of country songs, the drink of Kentucky... Bourbon Whiskey. Ninety-five percent of the world's bourbon comes from the fields, distilleries and hands of Central Kentucky.

Kentucky has been producing bourbon for over 200 years beginning with the migration of the Scots and the Irish. During the 1800s it came to be known as bourbon whiskey. All bourbons are whiskey, but not all whiskeys are bourbon. The requirements for whiskey to be called bourbon whiskey include: being made in America, of at least 51% corn, be distilled at 160 proof (80 percent alcohol), aged in charred oak barrels for at least 4 years and made of all natural ingredients.

Many of us college students get to enjoy the taste of bourbon, which comes from the caramelized barrels, rye, wheat, malted barley and the water that runs through limestone beds. Others can just appreciate the uniqueness that bourbon contributes to Kentucky. At this moment, approximately 4.5 barrels are aging in

many Kentucky warehouses.

Kentucky is famous for its bourbon trail, which includes seven different well-known

Each location gives a tour of the distillery and land, history of each specialized bourbon and tasting for people ages 21 and up.



Photo provided by Googleimages

distilleries. The trail runs throughout the fields of Kentucky and include Buffalo Trace, Woodford Reserve, Four Roses, Wild Turkey, Maker's Mark, Heaven Hill and Jim Beam and are highly recommended in the respective order. I do, however, suggest a mode of transportation that does not include you driving.

Each of the trails are all less than \$5 and include about an hour tour of each distillery.

The first stop on the trail is Buffalo Trace, the oldest distillery of them all, making bourbon even during prohibition. Four Roses will be the next place to stop and "mellow out." Call first though—they are closed some summer months. Then, you can try the Wild Turkey bourbon, specially made with honey to add some extra sweetness. Lastly, top the day off with the high quality Woodford Reserve and also ob-

serve some of Kentucky's famous thoroughbreds.

Four distilleries will probably be enough trails for one day, especially if you are drinking at each stop. One other great aspect of visiting the trails—you can have a unique experience at each individual town. Frankfort, Versailles, Lawrenceburg, Loretto, Bardston and Clermont all offer special hometown restaurants and lodging.

Start day two with Maker's Mark, where you can dip your own individual bottle of bourbon in the famous red wax. Next hop over and visit the independent family owned Heaven Hill Distilleries. The last stop on your bourbon trail will be Jim Beam, the top seller of bourbon whiskey.

There is much more to these famous distilleries than just bourbon; there is a long history of Kentucky buried deep in the trail. Even if you don't have a free weekend, try to at least treat yourself to one of these historical Kentucky landmarks. To find out more information or make reservations, go to www.kentuckybourbontrail.com.

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