

KENTUCKY Kernel

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UK, government disagree on Tobacco Institute's purpose

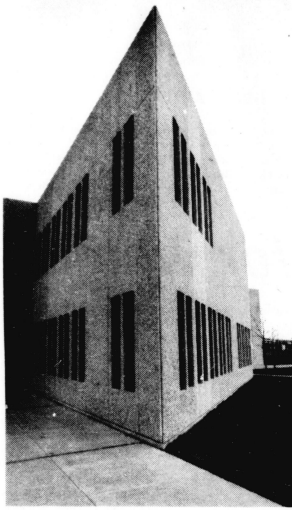
If the University's assessment of proposed budget cutbacks in UK's Tobacco and Health Research Institute is accurate, the agriculture department must be incompetent in making policy decisions on tobacco research, because it doesn't understand how the institute functions.

The suggestion to remove more than one-third of the institute's budget came from Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland, who said too much time was being spent on developing agricultural techniques, and not on investigating the dangers of smoking.

But according to Wimberly Royster, graduate school dean, the institute's funds come from state cigarette tax revenues. A cut in federal funds would only harm the School of Agriculture.

If that's correct, the federal government's ignorance bespeaks a lack of awareness about the nature of the research itself. Is the government really concerned about the nature of the research, or is it caught up in a mania to shave dollars from the budget? Of course, many critics will say this is only a new facet of HEW anti-smoking efforts.

That's uncertain for now, but the proposal to make cutbacks does seem a bit premature, notwithstanding the fact that it's misdirected. By state law, the Tobacco Institute is required to make "every effort to prove or disprove the charge against tobacco products and to preserve and strengthen tobacco programs in the Commonwealth." Additional information and discussion on the institute's work is needed before contemplating action, if it is necessary.



Added hours for campus recreation

After recalculating their budget, campus recreation officials recently were able to find enough salary money to extend the hours when the Seaton Center, Alumni Gym and Memorial Coliseum are open for students. It was a step that was urgently needed, and the department deserves congratulations for taking action.

Closing hours at the gyms have been extended from 11 p.m. to midnight, weekend hours have been lengthened, and pool hours in the coliseum have been increased. Also, the Seaton Center saunas were opened for night and weekend use, after a petition requesting such a change was received.

Athletic facilities are more crowded than almost anything else at UK. It's still difficult to find court time or pool time, but for anyone willing to stay up a little later, at least the opportunity is now there.

The best solution, of course, would be to keep the facilities open 24 hours for maximum use. It's improbable that money will be available to construct new buildings in the next few years, so UK would be better off trying to find ways to get more from existing facilities, through longer hours, better scheduling and by offering a wide range of activities.

Letters to the Editor

Family apartments

The recent article in the *Kernel* about new housing units going up on the south campus has prompted me to comment and make a few suggestions to campus housing (if they're interested).

The idea of putting four single students in a two-bedroom unit seems to solve some of the statistical problems housing planners face with UK's student population, but obviously overlooks the idiosyncrasies of four single, unrelated folks trying to live together. I can understand why no one is in a big hurry to sign up for a place over there — finding even one compatible roommate takes time and grace.

As I understand it, there will be a certain number of these units open to student families who qualify. As the housing rule now stands, a family must have at least two children to get a two-bedroom unit. Since there are only about 20 two-bedroom units now existing in Shawntown, I can understand the rule for families being required to have two or more children to qualify. In light of the new units going up though, I think this rule should be changed to allow any full-time student family (one child or more) to qualify. I realize that many of the student families in Shawntown come from countries where high density living is the norm, but I'm sure the average family does not find the austerity of living in a one bedroom unit with one child an easy thing to manage, even with the current low rental rates.

We are on the waiting list for the new two-bedroom units, and I want to comment a bit on neighborhood planning. I purposely chose to live on North Campus because I have small children and am family oriented. The prospect of living in the near vicinity of

young, single kids whose lifestyles and social needs may be in conflict with my own bothers me. Whoever lives over here needs to be aware that older kids who are over the drinking age in cars pose a real threat to children.

Why not open more of these new two-bedroom units to families, married couples and graduate students? Perhaps some of the folks waiting to get into Commonwealth Village might prefer to locate somewhere on the busline. Use the smaller efficiencies and one bedroom units for undergraduate housing. Also, how many of the married students (with families) who go to L.T.I. realize that they are eligible for this low-cost student housing? I believe there is a large group of students and temporary faculty who would find these units most attractive if they were opened up to them.

Carol A. Carstens Computer Science sophomore Future theologians

A story in Friday's *Kernel* quotes a Lexington Theological Seminary student as saying that on the first day of classes at UK no one would swear in front of him. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Then he goes on to say "I had to swear in front of them first to show that I was human." Okay, he proved he is human, but is this would-be minister of the life and love of God aware of what else he revealed? Where is the Lordship of Jesus Christ in everyday living? This world wants to see Christianity show forth a righteous standard that is worth imitating and becoming a part of. People need to be shown that in Christ there is a higher quality of life than that they are now experiencing.

The article goes on to produce additional evidence that the seminary students are "just like any other

students." What then do they have to offer to a lost and dying world that hungers to know God in a vital, personal way?

Seminary President Wayne H. Bell is quoted, "... we approach the Bible as a piece of literature." Let me share a few quotations from this "piece of literature."

"And do not be conformed to this world." (Romans 12:2)

"Therefore bring forth fruits in keeping with your repentance." (Luke 3:8)

"If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." (Luke 9:23)

"Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely, on account of Me." (Matthew 5:11)

"So they went on their way... rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name." (Acts 5:41)

"Because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth." (Revelation 3:16)

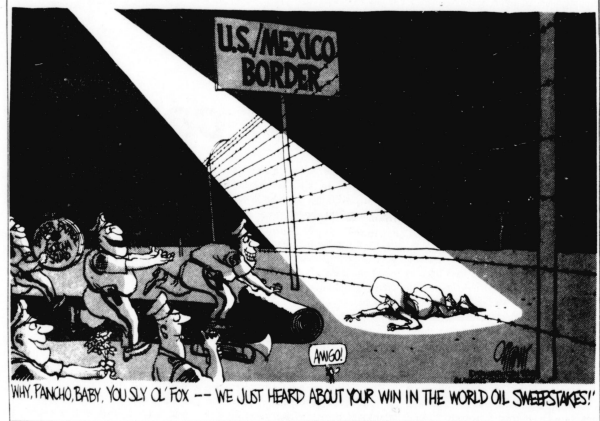
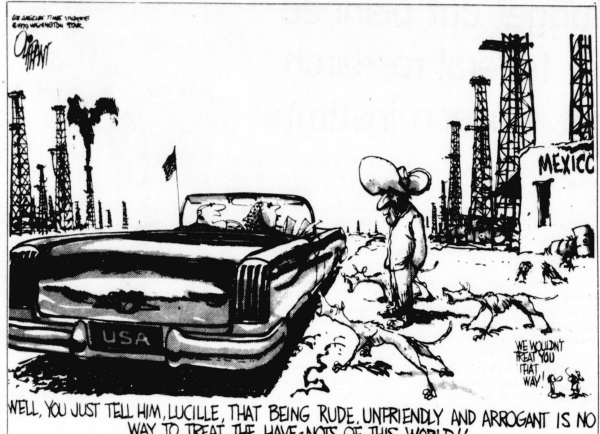
"But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him." (Romans 8:9)

"I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints." (Jude 3)

"That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved." (Romans 10:9)

Students of theology, are you listening? Then "prove yourself doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves." (James 1:22)

Paul L. Cornelius
Agronomy and Statistics
Associate Professor



Black and white

How much has really changed?

By ROBERT HEMENWAY

Amidst the excitement of the 1978 NCAA basketball finals the whole nation watched Coach Leonard Hamilton exhort players, plan strategy, and consult with Joe B. Hall.

of the call of nature, instructed census takers to search for bathrooms, they found that 29 percent of the housing units lacked at least some plumbing facilities.

In the early 1940's, 60 percent of the white people interviewed believed

1970, they received less than one percent of all investment and property income. In other words, 99 percent of the investment earnings in his country goes to whites. And every time an investment banker makes a decision he has no reason to think of the effect his action may have on black people.

Although there are many hopeful signs — civil rights legislation, more black people entering college, some job opportunities being created — blacks are in many ways worse off today than they were 10 years ago. This fact has been lost in the symbolism of public images — black women in laundry commercials, a black doctor on *General Hospital* — but it is well worth remembering the next time UK plays on television.

There is much to do if the United States is to achieve a democracy, or the University of Kentucky is to become truly "an equal opportunity employer." Although the University pep band no longer plays "Dixie," the Confederate flag still hangs from dorm room windows less than a block away from Wildcat Lodge. Occasionally they also serve as decorations in the Office Tower. The appearance of the flag may seem unimportant, but it is sure to be noticed by black faculty invited to the campus to discover the Kentucky atmosphere. Such Confederate artifacts might even be noticed by another kind of recruit, a seven foot center with a soft jump shot.

Robert Hemenway is a professor in the English department. His column usually appears every other Wednesday.

'office tower blues'

The scene contrasted sharply with other Kentucky visits to the tournament, the Wildcats winning previous NCAA titles with white players and white coaches. Welcoming the symbolism of a new era, we congratulated ourselves on how far the University had come.

How does a society, and its educational institutions, measure racial progress? Are blacks better off today than they were 20 years ago? Has Affirmative Action dented discrimination?

Statistics tell part of the story, and the tale is surprisingly grim. Between 1964 and 1969 black income as a percentage of white income gradually increased. By 1970 the typical black family earned 60 percent as much as the typical white family. Now the income differential has begun to widen again. Today, the black family earns only about 57 percent as much as the white family.

black were not intelligent and could not be educated. By the mid-1960's a full 40 percent had changed their minds, willing to attest to the fact that blacks had brains. One way to think about such "progress" is to ask why this question was still being asked.

Numerical gains do not always mean growth. If a number is too small though, it can not be camouflaged. The University of Kentucky has steadily increased its percentage of black faculty; seven tenths of one percent of the faculty is now black. Figured from zero, this seems to be progress. In fact it is tokenism, even though the University struggles to address the problem.

It is difficult to arrive at meaningful measures of racial progress (a more apt phrase might be "white progress"). The census bureau considers such items as income, employment, education, housing, and living conditions, but it never places these economic indicators within a larger context. More meaningful than black family income is the fact that gross sales from black businesses fell from 10.6 billion in 1969 to 7 billion in 1975, or that while blacks received 6.5 percent of the total U.S. income in

Johns and Cairns standout

Too many obstacles block UK's 'Tobacco Road'

By THOMAS CLARK
Staff Writer

It could have been a stark picture of poor folk in the backwoods South. It could have been a depressing, dramatic look at people who have resigned themselves to their fate, but have yet to stop dreaming.

The UK Theatre production of *Tobacco Road* could have been extremely good theatre, but it fell short.

Randy Allen Johns leads a cast of 11 actors as an old farmer who has long-since ceased to farm and is merely waiting to die. His portrayal of Jeeter Lester was the best of the show, always praying for God's bounty while stealing just enough to tide him over until it comes.

Suffering from him was his wife Ada, played by Gina Cairns. She is an old, withered, withdrawn woman. She has seen all her dreams die except two; to see her daughter escape her common-law husband and move to the city, and have a good dress to be buried in.

Both characters are always crying for the better things of life but are too lazy to attempt to change their directions. Ada and Jeeter are more than willing to let any one of their 17 children — most of whose names they can no longer recall — pull them out of their poverty and support them.

But the simple fact that their children have never returned to their birthplace, have never so much as sent word about the birth of children, speaks of

what sort of parents the Lesters are. Even when they are faced with eviction from their home, they refuse to work for the needed rent money, looking instead to their children for help.

Johns and Cairns established themselves well in their roles. Cairns seemed especially comfortable in her role, standing for scene after scene on the front porch of her shack, staring off into the distance as if merely waiting for her salvation. But it never comes. What does come is Sister Bessie Rice, a self-appointed guardian of morals, religious watchdog and practicing hypocrite. She has placed her eye on the youngest of the Lester children, Dude.

Marie Henderson plays the role of Bessie and her performance leaves much room for improvement. Bessie is never quite believable, either as a religious zealot or as a monumental hypocrite. In the interest of tension, Henderson would have done better to put her portrayal on the border of overstatement, than to consistently underplay the role as she does.

Dude, played by Gary Galbraith, is exactly the opposite. He has pumped his character full of life and the energy of a young man desperate to escape his environment. His lusty performance is almost awkward in contrast to the seemingly exhausted attitude of the remaining cast.

This lack of pace is the major flaw in the UK production.



Randy Allen Johns portrays Jeeter Lester in the UK Theatre's *Tobacco Road*.

James Kirkland's script is not a major achievement in playwrighting, although it has attracted audiences steadily since it played 3,182 performances on Broadway in the late 1930s. What has made *Tobacco Road* a success is its dramatic tempo; with it the play is powerful, but when that tempo dies, so does the play's appeal.

The UK company, under the direction of Charles Dickens, has not instilled this sense of drive in its performances. The tension needed to keep the audience involved in the family's hardships was allowed to lapse often; and when the final tragedy comes, there is no shock, no sorrow, no surprise. The tension could have been aided by a more effective setting. Robert Ploch's work is suitably stark in its appearance, but it is simply not the broken-down shack that Jeeter swears is ready to fall down at the slightest provocation.

All the boards are perfectly in place, the windows and doors are complete and work easily and the foundation looks

to be solid. Even the yard is immaculate. It simply doesn't fit with the laziness of Jeeter and his clan.

Tobacco Road is a difficult play for an audience to grasp. To perform it well requires a solid cast with a definite

understanding of their roles who then transfer these emotions effectively to the audience.

Somewhere in this production, the transfer was not carried off and the result is disappointing for the audience.

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Novelists offer drama project for television

By TOM JORY
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — It sounds a bit like the TV critic's wildest dream. The country's foremost novelists write original drama for television.

"We're part of the way there with Cheever," says Robert Kotlowitz, programming director at New York's public TV station, WNET. "and my hope is that we can get three or four others for the first season. "Once we have four or five scripts in hand, we can begin production. I would like us on the air for the 1980-81 season."

Programs in what Kotlowitz hopes will become an annual series would be offered to stations in the Public Broadcasting Service network. Indeed, John Cheever, winner of the 1978 National Book Award, already has written an original teleplay for WNET's *New Drama Project*, and the station has approached four other distinguished writers, including Nobel Prize-winner Isaac Bashevis Singer. Kotlowitz says Ken Cavender, in charge of WNET's Script Development Unit, also has asked Tom Morrison, Reynolds Price and John Irving to consider participation in the first phase of the project.

"The only problem we've heard about," says Kotlowitz "would be the writer's obligation to books in progress at the moment."

The specially-commissioned Cheever drama, tentatively called *The Shady Hill Kidnapping*, was read for reporters recently by a cast that included Tammy Grimes, Barbara Barrie, Bill Hurt and Charles Kimbrough.

"We expect the most serious work from these people," says Kotlowitz of the writers "and I think in *The Shady Hill Kidnapping* we have an example of Cheever's most serious work.

"They are all writers with reputations they feel protective about as they should, and they feel they should always be seen at their best."

A \$75,000 grant from the

William & Mary Greve Foundation will pay for the initial stages of the project, but additional funding obviously will be required. Writers will be paid guild rates. "In talking with the writers, money is about fifth on their list of questions. It has not been a problem to date," Kotlowitz says.

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Northpark 233-4420

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Fri & Sat 11:30

THE NORTH AVENUE IRREGULARS PG 1:35-3:30, 5:20-7:20, 9:15-11:10
Fri & Sat 11:00

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Fri & Sat 11:30

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The *Kentucky Kernel*, 210 Journalism Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky. 40506 is published each class day during the spring and fall semesters and weekly during the summer session.
Third class postage paid at Lexington, Kentucky 40511
Subscription rates are mailed \$5 per year or one cent per year non-mailed

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sports
Cats sign 22 to football letters

By CHARLES WOLFE
Associated Press Writer
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ACC 202 Help Session.
VIOLENCE, SEX AND THE EVENING NEWS
18 WLEX NBC
27 WKYC CBS
46 KET PBS
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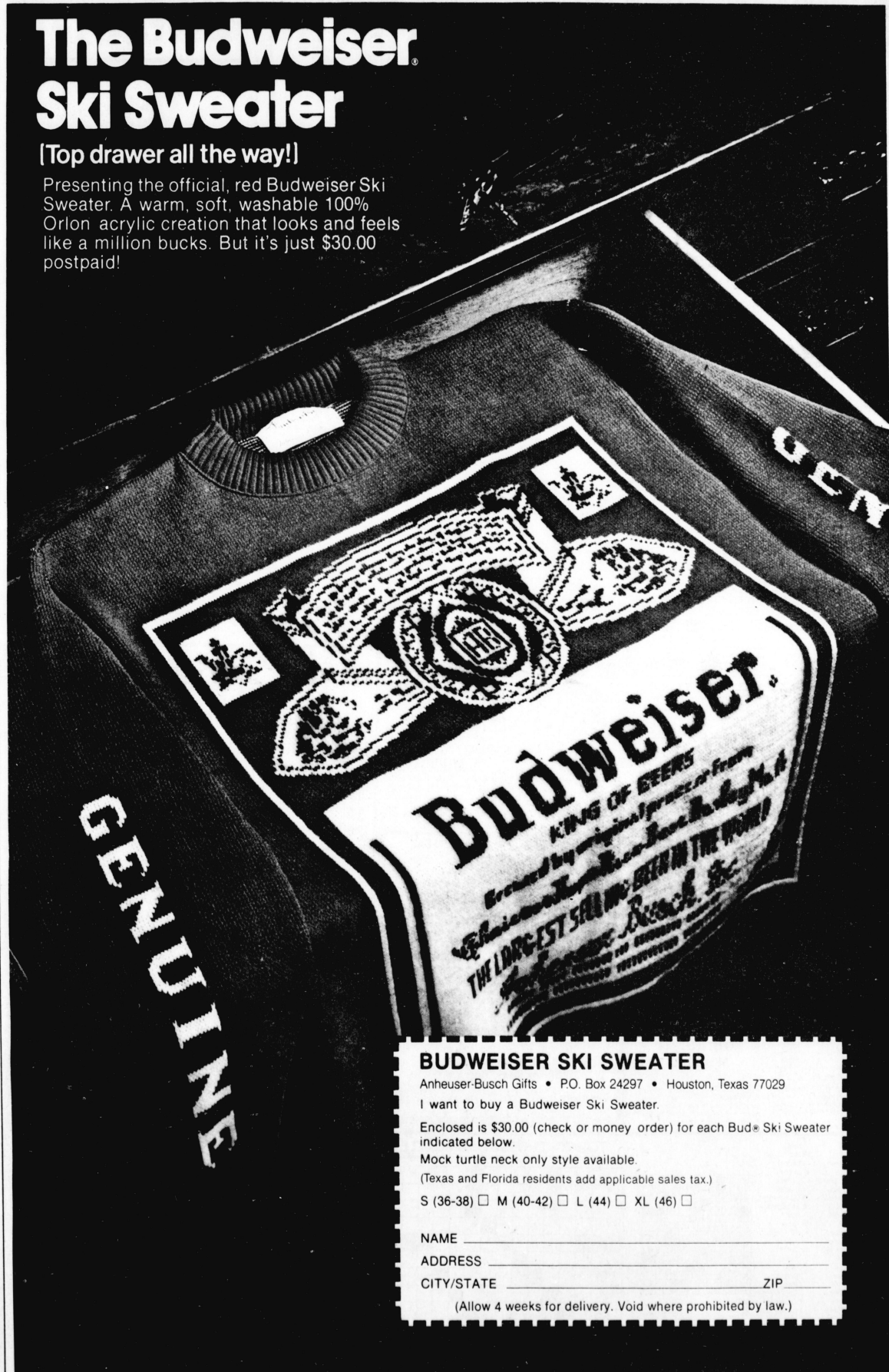
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14 Oil: Informal 53 Dialect
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17 Minerals 57 Other
18 Speeder 58 All Prefix
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