

FRIDAY KENTUCKY KERNEL



Dawg pound

The Cats come home, ready to take on the Georgia Bulldogs | 10

October 25, 2002

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Homicide suspect kills himself

Crime: Police say man would have been arrested; suspect's statements showed inaccuracies

By Emily Hagedorn
STAFF WRITER

The suspect accused of killing a UK-area man two weeks ago has committed suicide, Lexington police said Thursday. Michael Isaac Stacy, 24, of Lexington, was found dead Oct. 14 in his estranged wife's home at 441 Shawnee Ave., said Lt. James Curless of the Lexington Police Rob-

bery and Homicide Unit. Stacy was the only suspect in the Oct. 8 homicide of Kenneth Ashley Jones, 27, of 512 Euclid Ave. Curless said he believes Stacy purposefully set fire to the bedroom and died of smoke inhalation and burns to his body. Lexington police determined it was suicide because no attack marks were found on Stacy's body, he said.

"It's an assumption made upon what we found in the investigation," Curless said. "If he was knocked out, bound or handcuffed, it would have shown in the autopsy." No one else was hurt in the fire, and damage was contained to the bedroom. Curless said there are



Stacy

many motives for the suicide, including a pending divorce and a possible murder charge. Just one day before Stacy's death, police interrogated him about Jones' murder. Jones died from blunt force trauma to the head, Curless said. The two men were acquaintances, though neither were UK students. Curless said he thought theft was one of Stacy's motivating factors. "Some things were missing from Jones' apartment,"

Curless said. "Some people I've talked to said he made incriminating statements and confessed to the homicide." Curless said there were discrepancies and inaccuracies in Stacy's statement. Two search warrants were served on Oct. 13, but due to Stacy's death, they were never carried out. Curless said incriminating evidence would have been uncovered if Stacy hadn't committed suicide. "Would he be arrested by today if he hadn't died?" he said. "Yes."

Stacy's criminal history includes convictions for reckless driving, driving without a seatbelt, driving without insurance and failure to change address. The police are running toxicology tests on Stacy and conducting more interviews for the case, but Curless said the bulk of both investigations has been carried out. Anyone with information related to the homicide, arson or death investigation is encouraged to contact the Lexington Police's Robbery and Homicide Unit at 253-3700.

'Cause this is thriller, thriller night'

A night of the living dead

Members of the Mecca Dance Studio practice to reenact the street dance from Michael Jackson's 'Thriller.' The performance will start at 7 p.m. Sunday at the Kentucky Theater and finish at the Mecca Studio.

MARK BOILEY | KERNEL STAFF



Dancing in the street: Mecca dancers will perform Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' downtown Sunday night

By Derek Poore
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

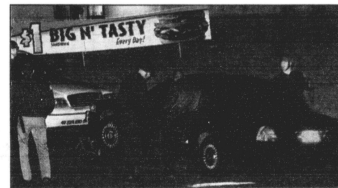
Jamie Barton needed a little rhythm in her life. Last month, she coaxed friend Hollie Cordle into taking part in the Mecca's live production of "Thriller" downtown. "Please, it's Michael Jackson. Need I say more?" said Cordle, an integrated strategic communications sophomore. The two are part of a

group of around 40 people of all ages, who have been rehearsing for the past five weeks to present a live street performance of Michael Jackson's hit music video "Thriller" this Sunday night at 7 p.m. Starting at the Kentucky Theater, and featuring a reinvented graveyard sequence from the original music video, on the lawn of the new courthouse, the zombies with step will be entertaining down-

town all the way to the Mecca studio and gallery on Limestone. Melissa McCart, the dance leader, said everyone has really developed a sense of camaraderie from the rehearsals. McCart said she had to tone down some of the complex moves because of the time constraints for rehearsal of the project. "The amount of moves and counts are really minute compared to the original," McCart said. Barton, an undeclared sophomore, had some dance

experience from show choir in high school, but said the routine is hard to learn for some of the dancers. Cordle said the routine is still complex. "It's really hard to get the counts down," she said. Barton said one of the fun and creative parts of the whole process was the make-up and costume process, and trying to get that "undead look." "I think I'll run over my costume with my car," Barton said. See THRILLER on 4

Sniper suspects apprehended, ends manhunt



Members of a joint tactical response team enter vehicles in a parking lot at the McDonald's in Myersville, Md., early Thursday. At a nearby Interstate 70 rest area they took into custody, John Muhammad, a 41-year-old Army veteran, and John Lee Malvo, a teenager described as his stepson, who were wanted for questioning in the three-week wave of deadly sniper attacks.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROCKVILLE, Md. — One of America's most extraordinary manhunts culminated Thursday in the arrests of an Army veteran and a teenager, asleep at a roadside rest stop who authorities believe are responsible for a bloody three-week sniper spree that left 10 people dead. John Allen Muhammad, 41, arrested with 17-year-old John Lee Malvo, appeared in court, and was ordered held without bail. Both, said Montgomery County Police Chief Charles Moose, are considered suspects in the sniper attacks.

A gun found in the suspects' car — a Bushmaster AR-15 rifle — has been linked by ballistics to 11 of the 14 shootings, including one in which no one was injured, said Michael Bouchard, an agent with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. The AR-15 is the civilian form of the M-16 military assault rifle. As a soldier, Muhammad



Muhammad

See SNIPER on 4

U.S. has unseen motives in Iraqi conflict, panelists say

Investment: Protection of oil, reaction to Sept. 11 drive U.S. movement in Iraq, according to panel

By Stephanie Boven
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The hypothesis that Bush's motive for the war on Iraq is fueled by oil was raised Thursday night at a panel discussion entitled "The Consequences of a U.S. War with Iraq." "Americans don't know that \$120 billion has been invested in the Caspian Sea region in the last 12 years," said UK history professor Bob Olson. "Such donations from the United States and Europe are for the purpose of undermining the monopoly of Middle East oil, he said. Olson said the world currently consumes 42 billion barrels of oil per day,

and this number is expected to jump to 80 billion in a span of a few years. He said in addition to oil, Iraq's possible use of chemical or biological warfare in the Turkey water supply, which includes up to 700 possible dams that affect the entire Middle East region, is a reason why the United States is targeting Iraq. Nayef Samhat, a professor from Centre College, said Arabs in the Middle East have a different perspective. He said the main issue from the Middle Eastern standpoint is the Israeli and Palestinian conflict.

See PANEL on 5

Greeks prepare for Homecoming Step Show

Tradition: Developed by slaves, step movements tell stories through body motion and rhythmic sound

By NeShauna V. Mahin
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"AKA is the only way!" Moments before, senior Brandy Johnson sat listlessly on the stage with five of her Alpha Kappa Alpha sisters, relishing one of few moments of rest they would get that night. But when they stood, hands faced down and flat, noses high in the air, every trace of exhaustion was gone. It was time to represent. It's been a custom of black fraternities and sororities to represent their organizations in the tradition of

stepping, which tells a story through movement and sounds of the body. A longstanding element of black culture, stepping was derived from slaves, brought from Africa, were stripped of everything, including methods of communication and entertainment. "The Western world took the instruments away, but we just put the drums in our bodies," Johnson said. "We found a way to communicate." In a building nearby, the AKA's "brothers" were also



RACHAEL KERLEY | KERNEL STAFF

Members of Alpha Phi Alpha practice their step routine for the 3 p.m. Step Show at Heritage Hall Saturday. This fraternity's routine symbolizes hard work throughout life.

See STEP on 5

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS

The Low-down

"[He] seemed completely out of it. He was drooling, [with] droopy eyes."

A police spokesperson, after last month's arrest of actor Nick Nolte for driving under the influence. The drug in his system was GHB, also known as a date-rape drug.

Free flu shots available for students

Flu shots for students will be offered from Oct. 28 to Oct. 31 by University Health Services. The flu shots are free with a valid student ID to all part-time or full-time students attending UK or LCC. Appointments are not necessary.

Students can receive shots at the following locations: the WT Young Library south wing entrance from 5 to 9 p.m. Monday, Oct. 28; the Whitehall Classroom building from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29; the Hall of Fame, across from Big Blue Deli, Kentucky Clinic building from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30; and LCC's Academic Technical building lobby from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31.

This is a campus-wide approach to make shots available to students, said Dr. Turner, director and head team physician clinical professor. Many students take advantage of the free flu shots given by nurses from the UK hospital. "Last year around 800 received shots, but it was an atypical year because we couldn't get the vaccine," Turner said. "The year before that the vaccine was plentiful and around 2,000 received the vaccine."

Turner expects 2,000 to 3,000 people to get the shot this year. The vaccine that students receive is to prevent influenza or the "flu," a serious disease that can keep students from a week of classes and activities. Influenza is not the 24-hour bug that is from viral or bacterial causes. Instead influenza "is caused by a virus that spreads from infected persons to the nose or throat of others," according to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The CDC suggests that people living in dormitories be vaccinated to prevent outbreaks. Symptoms of the flu come suddenly and can be fever, cough, sore throat, shaking, sweating or headache. The best time to receive the flu shot is in October or November because the flu season peaks between January and March. Sometimes even those who are vaccinated may get the flu, but it will be a milder case. A person should be vaccinated each year due to flu virus mutations. For more information call the Phone Information Nurse at 323-4636. Information about influenza can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/nip>.

By Elizabeth Van Kersen, Staff Writer



Ky. agriculture gets federal aid

WASHINGTON — Kentucky's farmers are getting some help from the Department of Agriculture. Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman signed an emergency declaration Thursday making Kentucky livestock producers in every county eligible for cash assistance for feed and pasture losses due to drought. In addition, crop farmers and ranchers throughout the state will be eligible for emergency low-interest government loans. University of Kentucky economist Gregg Ibandahl, who co-wrote an annual agricultural review and outlook, said this week the net farm income in Kentucky could drop as much as 33 percent to around \$800 million this year. That would match a decade low seen in 1995.

DOWN & OUT IN BEVERLY HILLS: When Nick Nolte was arrested last month for driving under the influence, the drug in his system was GHB, a drug known in nightclubs as a date-rape drug because of it can cause users to lose consciousness. So say Los Angeles prosecutors, who filed two misdemeanor counts against the 61-year-old actor yesterday, for driving under the influence and possession of a controlled substance. Reuters reports. Police stopped Nolte on Sept. 11 on the Pacific Coast Highway, near his Malibu home, because they said his Mercedes was making its tires squeal and swerving into oncoming traffic. A police spokesperson said at the time that the actor "seemed completely out of it. He was drooling, [with] droopy eyes." Authorities speculated at the time that he was under the influence of a drug other than alcohol, but it wasn't until Wednesday that they disclosed that the blood test showed gamma hydroxybutyrate, or GHB.

Inmate says Williams harassed her

FRANKFORT — Prison inmate, Lori Radford-Sandlin, alleges Kentucky Senate President David Williams sexually abused her and insisted on sex instead of financial reimbursement for representing her. Williams said she is desperate to get out of prison and accused Gov. Paul Patton or Attorney General Ben Chandler of playing politics in disclosing the allegations. Chandler's office said it made an inquiry but determined there are no allegations of criminal wrongdoing and referred the matter to the Kentucky Bar Association. Officials in both Patton's and Chandler's offices said they followed standard procedures, and denied any political motivation.

State Fair attendant killed by ride

RALEIGH, N.C. — A State Fair ride attendant was killed Thursday when he slipped or stepped in front of the swinging car of a pendulum-type ride, officials said. State Agriculture Department spokesman Mike Blanton said the man was working on the "Banzai" ride, in which passengers are swung back and forth, increasingly higher. The attendant was identified as Ervin Allen, 41, of Philadelphia, a longtime employee of midway operator Amusements of America, based in Monroe Township, N.J. Blanton said. Allen was apparently killed instantly; an autopsy was to be performed Thursday afternoon.

House explosion kills three residents

CHERRY VALLEY, Ark. — An explosion caused by a possible gas leak destroyed a house, killing three residents. The family had just replaced their butane heater with a new heat pump, said Billy Pitts, whose parents and brother died in the explosion Wednesday night. Kenneth Pitts, 73, and his wife had recently been staying with his parents, Justin Pitts, 98, and Jewell Pitts, 96, to help out the elderly couple. Lenore Pitts was not injured in the explosion. Detective Roger McElroy said a gas leak possibly caused the explosion, but an investigation is continuing.



Two airport security screeners fired

CHICAGO — Two federal security screeners were fired for turning their backs on their posts while a man entered an O'Hare International Airport terminal without going through security, officials said. The firings, announced Wednesday by Transportation Security Administration, are the first among the 44,000 security screeners hired by the federal government to safeguard airports after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The man was seen on surveillance tape entering through the checkpoint's exit on Oct. 15; officials said an investigation found it took security agents six minutes to call police and shut down the terminal. Police never found the man. O'Hare TSA chief Isaac Richardson would not discuss the incident other than to say the two guards were "no longer with us."

THE UNSTUCK: "Stuck on You," another twisted-but-heartwarming tale of oddballs from the Farrelly brothers ("Dumb and Dumber," "There's Something About Mary"), has been stuck in development for a decade. Now, however, Variety reports that it's become unstuck, now that Greg Kinnear and Matt Damon are available to play the main characters, a pair of conjoined twins who move to Hollywood to follow one twin's dream of becoming a movie star. Peter and Bobby Farrelly plan to direct the film in February, with an eye toward a fall release. Like their other movies, it'll be gross but not too gross, aiming for a PG-13 rating. The greenlight from 20th Century Fox means that the Farrellys' other project -- a new Three Stooges comic adventure using the characters originated by the late Moe and Curly Howard and Larry Fine -- will wait until 2004 to shoot.

Tornado hits Texas college, one dead

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas — A tornado touched down at a college campus near downtown Thursday afternoon, killing at least one person, damaging buildings and causing other injuries. One person died when a wall collapsed at the Del Mar College campus, assistant police chief Ken Bung said. College spokeswoman Claudia Jackson said four other people were taken to hospitals for injuries. Police were unable to immediately inspect damage because the area was still being raked by storms. Bung said. Weather Service meteorologist Steve Smart said cluster of storms moving over the area spawned the tornado.

Hostages still held in Russian theater

MOSCOW — Medics dragged the body of a young woman shot by Chechen rebels from a Moscow theater Thursday as the attackers threatened to kill their hundreds of hostages unless the Russian army pulled out of Chechnya. Two women jumped from a window under Chechen fire and escaped. Forty rebels, including women who claimed to be widows of ethnic insurgents, stormed the theater before the second act of a popular musical at 9:05 p.m. Wednesday. The woman, shot in the chest, was the only known fatality of the hostage-taking as it moved into its second day. Three Americans were among the hostages.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

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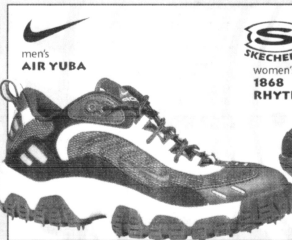
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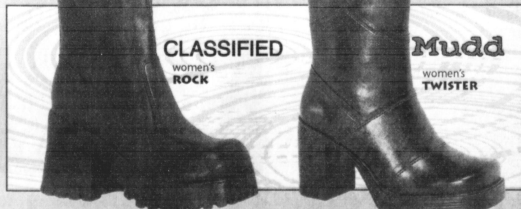
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ON THE MENU


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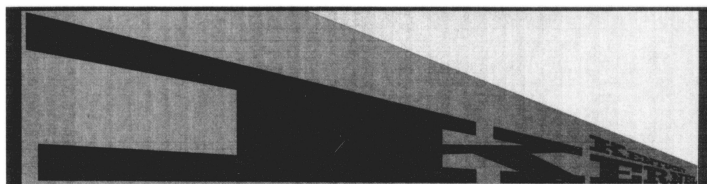
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THRILLER

Continued from page 1

Mecca co-founder Teresa Tomb told dancers how to create their ghoulish look.

"You can go to Goodwill or Salvation Army. Get clothing people would typically be buried in," Tomb said.

She said clothes can be stressed with bleach and spray paint and left overnight in dirt and mud, similar to what the costume designers of the original "Thriller" did.

UK's own radio station, WRFL, will simulcast the "Thriller" soundtrack Sunday.

An "All Ages" show will follow, featuring the bands, Of Montreal and Big Fresh. The street performance is free and open to the public, and the "All Ages" show is \$5.

Members of the Mecca Dance Studio practice their re-enactment of Michael Jackson's 'Thriller.'



MARK BOBLEY | KERNEL STAFF

SNIPER

Continued from page 1

received a Marksmanship Badge with expert rating in use of the M-16, according to Army records.

Muhammad is due back in court Tuesday on a federal firearms charge stemming from a 2000 court order in Tacoma, Wash., that barred Muhammad from harassing or using force against an ex-wife and children.

Malvo is considered by the court to be a juvenile, and all of his proceedings are closed. Police said he was being held as a material witness, pending charges.

A law enforcement official, speaking on condition of anonymity, outlined developments that led to the arrests.

On Thursday Oct. 17, a Montgomery County, Md., public information officer received a call from someone they now believe was the sniper. The caller referred to

a robbery-homicide in "Montgomery."

The next day, a priest received a call from someone who mentioned a crime in Montgomery, Ala. It's unclear whether the caller referred to the sniper killings, but the conversation prompted the priest to call the hotline. Authorities put the two calls to

for many families." White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said.

But who were these two suspects, and why might they have unleashed terror on Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia?

Muhammad, a veteran of the Gulf War, converted to Islam, according to The Seattle

Times. The time was 3:19 a.m.

Three hours earlier, Moose had announced that Muhammad and a juvenile were being sought and issued a nationwide alert for a blue, 1990 Chevrolet Caprice with New Jersey plates.

A motorist and an attendant spotted the car and called police.

The Caprice is co-owned by a New Jersey resident, Nathaniel O. Osborne; FBI officials said he was being sought as a witness.

The car has an opening in its trunk that would permit someone to lie inside and fire the rifle while remaining hidden, two federal law enforcement sources told the Associated Press.

That could explain the lack of spent shell casings in most of the shootings, the officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Investigators now believe that the Caprice was involved in all the shootings. Sightings of white vans and box trucks were attributed to erroneous witness accounts.

"You have lifted a shadow of fear for many families."

- PRESIDENT BUSH, TO MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE CHIEF, CHARLES MOOSE

gether.

Evidence from a Sept. 21 robbery attempt outside a liquor store in Montgomery Ala., which killed one employee and wounded another, then led police to Malvo and Muhammad.

"We have not given in to the terror," Moose said. "Yes, we have all experienced anxiety, but in the end resiliency has won out."

President Bush called Moose and told him, "you have lifted a shadow of fear

Times. Malvo is a citizen of Jamaica.

The Times quoted federal sources as saying the two had been sympathetic towards the hijackers who attacked the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

But there was no indication, authorities said, that they were linked to al-Qaida.

The two were arrested without incident by members of the sniper task force at a rest stop in Frederick County, 50 miles northwest of Wash-

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CAMPUS CALENDAR

Homecoming Week! October 21-27, 2002

The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities. Registered Student Orgs. and UK Depts. can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information is to appear at: <http://www.uky.edu/CampusCalendar>. Call 257-8867 for more information.

| | |
|---|---------------|
| MEETINGS *Revised Bible Study, 7:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 245 FREE! | Fri 25 |
| ACADEMIC *Math Tutoring, 1:00-5:00pm, Math Resource Center 063 Classroom Building | |
| SPECIAL EVENTS *Homecoming Parade, 8:00pm, Euclid Avenue *Homecoming Pep Rally, 9:00pm, Stoll Field *La Residence Française, 5-9pm, Keeneland Hall | |
| SPORTS *UK Hockey Game vs. Bowling Green, Midnight, Lexington Ice Center, \$5.00 at the door *Tex Kwon Do practice, 5:30-7:00pm, Alumni Gym Loft | |
| ARTS/MOVIES *Dan Mason and Joseph Barber, soloists, 8:00pm, Singletary Center *Piano Recital, Going Beyond the Notes with Jennifer Ku, 12:00am, Lucille Caudill Fine Arts Library | |
| SPORTS *Homecoming Football Game, UK vs. Georgia, 7:00pm, Commonwealth Stadium *UK Hockey Game vs. Bowling Green, Midnight, Lexington Ice Center, \$5.00 at the door *Equitation Team Invitational Horse Show, 9:00am, Miami of Ohio University Oxford, OH *Tex Kwon Do practice, 11:00am-12:30pm, Alumni Gym Loft | Sat 26 |
| MEETINGS *International Student Bible Study, 8:30pm, Baptist Student Union *Alpha Kappa Psi Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 203 | Sun 27 |
| ACADEMIC *Math Tutoring, 6:00-10:00pm, Commons Rm. 307 *Math Tutoring, 6:00-10:00pm, Holmes Hall Lobby *Physics Tutoring 21/12/13, 7:00-9:00pm, Commons 307 *Chemistry Tutoring 106/107, 7:00-9:00pm, Holmes Hall Lobby *Biology All 100-level, 7:00-9:00pm, Holmes Hall Lobby | |
| SPECIAL EVENTS *Pre-Halloween Party with Of Montreal and Big Fresh, 7:00-10:00pm, Mecca 1209 N. Limestone, \$5.00 | |
| ARTS/MOVIES *Halloween Spooktacular, 3:00pm, Singletary Center | |

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UK

"Punch-Drunk Love" leaves you addled, a little dizzy and overcome by a pleasing, unplaceable sensation — one best summed up in the movie's title.

A.O. Scott, The New York Times

"Two thumbs up."
Ebert & Roeper

"Amazing."
David Ansen, Newsweek

"Sandler's performance as a shy salesman given to sudden bursts of anger becomes tender and moving as he stumbles into love. Sandler can act, beautifully."
Peter Travers, Rolling Stone

"Adam Sandler is absolutely perfect...Emily Watson is sublime. 'Punch-Drunk Love' is an extraordinary experience."
Bruce Kirkland, The Toronto Sun

"Punch-Drunk Love" is not only one of the edgiest romantic comedies ever made, it's a romantic comedy on the edge, on the edge of being a comedy, on the edge of being romantic, on the edge of sanity and on the edge of the leading one — of American movies themselves."
Geoff Pevere, The Toronto Star

Paul Thomas Anderson is, in the best sense, a filmmaker who is driving everything — the audience, the form, his collaborators, himself most of all — to go further than they have before.
Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times

A P.T. ANDERSON PICTURE
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STARTS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25 AT A THEATER NEAR YOU

U.S. should wait in Iraq, foreign panelists say

An outsider's look in: International panelists talk about how other countries view the United States

By Joshua Thomas
STAFF WRITER

UK panelists from around the world agreed on one thing Thursday night — the United States should wait for international support before attacking Iraq.

A panel of six people representing Germany, Russia, Mali, Colombia, Turkey and Pakistan gave their views about the attitudes of other countries toward the United States prior to and after Sept. 11. This discussion, which took place in Jewell Hall, was hosted by the Bluegrass Chapter of the United Nations Association.

There was a need for this forum, said Karen Banks Lockwood, director of the Patterson School of Diplomacy, after many of her students realized there were negative opinions about the United States.

"They wondered, 'Does everyone really hate us?'"

German Bayona, from Colombia, said that many of his countrymen thought of the United States as a place with the opportunity for higher education and employment with good salaries. "They didn't want to deal with the problems of violence and poverty that were so common in Colombia," he said.

Zeynep Alemdar, from the Turkish Republic, said that her country has always been a staunch supporter of the United States. However, as Islamic influences begin to play a larger role in government, there seems to be an identity crisis.

Nadja Weber of Germany said that her country was fascinated with America because it was a country that seemed to have everything. Opinions have changed over the years, however. In the decades following World War II, many of the United

States' problems, such as racism, became apparent to other countries.

All of the panelists said that there was sympathy for the United States after the events of Sept. 11. Many in the European community were "shocked," according to Weber.

All urged caution when dealing with the prospect of war with Iraq and dealing with terrorist groups such as Al-Qaeda.

"The United States must be a responsible leader, and if it is planning to lead the world in its struggle against terrorism, it must consider other nations' wishes," said Dimitri Ivanov, a Patterson School student from Russia.

The night provided some perspective for American students who attended the forum, one student said.

"I was already aware that there were many negative opinions about the U.S.," said Chuck Clark, a political science sophomore. "But it was nice to get those opinions out in the open so that others could be educated."

of brother/sisterhood. And while it's all this, one student said it also has to be off the hook.

"We have to entertain," said Larry Jackson, president of the N.U.B.A.N Council, the overseeing body of Black Greek organizations. "This is your reputation. Not just your chapter, but you're representing them all."

And that is what is now intended by Black Greek step shows: communication of each organization's individual strengths to the audience. Jackson, a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, said his group steps to demonstrate endurance.

"We all try to demonstrate our purposes," Jackson said. "One of ours is hard work."

Evidence of this is abundant in the Alpha practice room. Nobody part is left unused. With every stomp of their feet and clap of their

hands, sweat glistens and rolls down their faces.

Getting every step right is a critical part of the routine. Humor also finds its way into the routine when the performers brainstorm over ways to make their introduction unique. Innovation is key to a successful step performance.

It's these creative battles that make Black Greeks known for their competitiveness in stepping, but senior Rayshawn Mitchell said he's looking forward to every group's presentation. It's his own performance he's worried about.

"I don't want to make a mistake," he said. "It's like messing it up for the whole frat ... we want to make sure we have a good show."

The step show is Saturday, Oct. 26 at 3 p.m. in Heritage Hall. Doors open at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door.

and would like to see Iraq disarmed," Olson said. "Other countries are essentially disarmed, politically, except for Iraq."

Michael Desch, a professor in the Patterson school of Diplomacy at UK, said the Sept. 11 attacks induced Bush's actions.

"Oil is key," he said. "However, Sept. 11 was the inciting moment that changed Bush's foreign poli-

cy from a humility-oriented and realist (perspective) to pin-pointing a triangular Axis of Evil."

One UK student agreed. "It almost seems now we're saving face," said Jessica Kordis, a political science senior. "We were sucker-punched Sept. 11. We're mad, and we're going to hit someone, and Saddam's been the pain in our ass for 20 years."

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UK

STEP

Continued from page 1

putting in work. "Huuuugh! HUUUUGH!" "I love my A-Phi! I love my A-Phi!"

The men of Alpha Phi Alpha have been preparing for this year's Homecoming Step Show since summer.

Long days and late nights have forced them to compromise relationships and grades, all of which make some the brothers question their willingness to do it again. But in the end, it all comes down to one thing: stepping.

It's about respect, showing love for your organization, demonstrating talents, skills and creativity all in the name

PANEL

Continued from page 1

Olson said that Iraq is the main threat that challenges Israel. "Israel is vital to the U.S.

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OUR KAT'S LOVE THE CATS!

UK's Datlow qualifies for UK hosted tourney

Meet at the net: UK doubles team, five individuals play this weekend at UK and Lexington Tennis Center

By Josh Yost
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Elliott Datlow joined five other UK singles teammates in qualifying for the Omni Hotel/ITA Region III Indoor Championships with two wins Thursday.

Three UK men's tennis singles players and one doubles team will be seeded in the tournament hosted by UK this weekend.

It's the second tournament that UK has hosted during the individual tournament season so far. The tournament will continue through Sunday at the Hilary J. Boone Tennis Center and the Lexington Tennis Center.

Datlow, a senior, continued his stellar play and advanced out of the qualifying bracket to the main draw with two three-set wins.

Datlow defeated Adam Maskill of Murray State by a score of 3-6, 7-6(4), 6-1, in the first round. Then he defeated Luis Aguerrevere of Tennessee Tech 6-4, 1-6, 6-2 to advance to today's main draw.

"This will be one of the biggest tournaments that I've ever played in," Datlow said. "I've worked really hard to make it this far and hopefully I can continue to play hard in the main draw."

For the second straight tournament, sophomore Jesse Witten will be the No. 1 seed. Witten suffered an early exit in his last tournament because of a twisted ankle. He will open play at 2 p.m. on Friday at the Boone

Tennis Center.

Junior Karim Benmansour received the No. 7 seed in the tournament and will also play his first match at 2 p.m. Friday at the LTC. The other seeded UK singles player is sophomore Evan Austin at No. 14. Austin will play his first match at 3:30 p.m. Friday at the LTC.

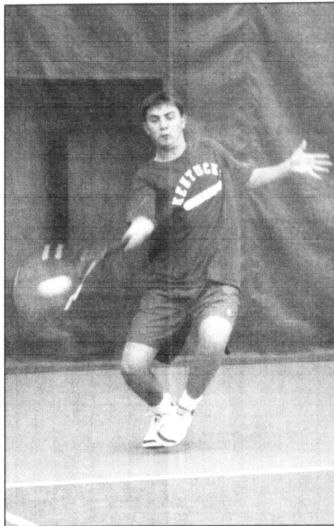
Both Rahim Esmail and Matt Emery will also participate in the main draw of the tournament. Emery opens play at 9:30 a.m. Friday at the LTC. Esmail received a first-round bye and will play his first match at 5 p.m. Friday at the LTC.

If Esmail reaches the third round, he could face a rematch with Alex Hartman of Ole Miss. Esmail upset in Hartman in an earlier tournament at UK.

Doubles partners, Austin and Benmansour, earned the No. 5 seed for the tournament. Also playing doubles for UK will be the team of Witten and Esmail, along with Emery and Alex Hume.

This tournament is one of the most important of the individual tournament season for UK, said UK Coach Dennis Emery.

With more than 120 players from 29 different teams, it's one of the largest tournaments this fall. The singles winner, singles finalist and the doubles champion automatically qualify for the Omni Hotels National Indoor Championships in Dallas, Texas, later this fall.



JOHN WAMPLER | KERNEL STAFF

Winning ways

UK senior Elliott Datlow returns a serve from Tennessee Tech's Luis Aguerrevere in Datlow's 6-4, 1-6, 6-2, win Thursday. Datlow and five other UK singles qualified for the Omni Hotel/ITA Region III Indoor Championships played this weekend and hosted by UK.

"This is a really big tournament for us with 20 of the top 100 players in the country participating," Emery said. "The great thing about

playing in these national tournaments is the quality of the play; if you don't play your best, you'll lose."

UK riflers welcome Buckeyes to Armory

Chad Summers
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Fact or fiction: UK has a rifle team that is ranked No. 2 in the NCAA and was runner-up for a national championship last year.

Actually, the factual rifle team is routinely ranked in the top five nationally.

But a common misconception is that the riflers perform at halftime of UK football games.

In fact, the Rifle Cats have several meets all across the nation, including a shoot-off with Ohio State Saturday at Buell Armory.

They compete in smallbore and air rifle competitions at three different positions. They have 40 shots at each position, and six hours to complete the all their shots. The individuals earn points for their teams based on accuracy.

UK Coach Harry Mullins has 10 shooting stars on the co-ed team. Seniors Robert Krukoski and Crystal Hamilton both enjoyed winning seasons last year, but said they would like to leave UK with a national championship in West Point, N.Y., in February. Coach Mullins is entering his 16th season as the head coach.

"Every year our goal is to win our conference, and then claim victory in the NCAA," Mullins said.

In the early 1990s the Cats won the air rifle competition national championship, but they have not claimed the entire crown since Mullins has been at UK.

Led by returning All-American junior Bradley Wheelon, the Cats are hoping that togetherness will lead to winning the NCAA tournament. They recently spent 46 hours together in a van traveling to West Point for a triple meet against Army and UTEP.

With the loss of two graduating seniors, three new freshmen — Robert Donoho, Vicki Goss and Eric Surber — will have extra pressures on them to come in and step up right away, Mullins said.

"The good thing about the way our sport is set up is that we don't have to be great right away," Mullins said. "We'd like to be (great), but it's all about peaking at the right time for the NCAA qualifiers and then the NCAA's."

You won't see the riflers at the Homecoming football game Saturday. The Cats will have their first home meet of the year at 8 a.m. Saturday in the basement of Buell Armory against OSU, though. Next week they travel to Alaska-Fairbanks to challenge the top ranked Nanooks, who have won the last four national titles.

“Every year our goal is to win our conference and then claim victory in the NCAA.”

— Harry Mullins, UK Rifle Coach

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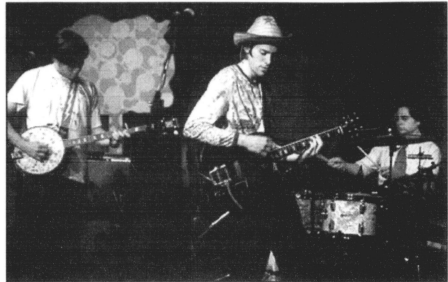
Sunday vs. Northern Illinois @ 2:00 p.m.

Soccer matches are played at the UK Soccer complex off Alumni Drive and are free with a UK student ID.

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Of Montreal will play '60s pop at Mecca's



Not from Canada
Of Montreal will play at 8 p.m. Sunday at Mecca. Tickets cost \$5.

PHOTO FURNISHED

Rock: Georgia-based band Of Montreal will perform at Mecca after the street performance of 'Thriller'

By Robbie Clark
STAFF WRITER

Of Montreal, a throw back '60s retro pop quintet, will perform for the Lexington community Sunday evening at Mecca.

With the name Of Montreal, one might come to the conclusion that the members of the band would have originated in Canada, more specifically Montreal. This is not the case.

The band has been based out of Athens, Ga., for the past five and a half years.

"The city of Montreal had this immense effect on me, so I figured I would name the band after it," said front man David Barnes.

The other members of the band include drummer and vocalist Jamey Huggins; bassist and percussionist Derek Amsted; saxophonist Dottie Alexander and lead guitarist Andy Gonzalez. This current lineup of play-

ers has been playing together for four years.

Of Montreal's music spawns from the influential groups of the '60s, like The Kinks, Barnes said.

"Our music is reminiscent of psychedelic pop and the sounds you hear from the British Invasion. We put more emphasis on melodies and harmony arrangements," Barnes said. When writing lyrics, Barnes also fashions his creative techniques to that of previous songwriters.

"I write a lot of songs that are character sketches of people I may see on the street or sitting in the park like Ray Davies would do with The Kinks," Barnes said. "Others are just simple day to day vignettes that people take for granted."

The final production for Of Montreal's songs goes through many stages before it becomes polished, according to Barnes.

"We usually work with a song a couple of months before we present it to an audience. I'll work out a rough draft then show it to the rest of the band. We all work on the contributions and arrangements," Barnes said.

Of Montreal's latest album, *Aldhis Arboretum*, was released under the independent record label Kindercore Records. Writing for underground labels, according to Barnes, has provided a more lax environment that would not be available if working for a mainstream organization.

"There's no pressure from our record company. We don't really try to be relevant to our generation," Barnes said. "We have been able to create our own voice."

This Sunday's performance from our record company will be Of Montreal's third visit to the Lexington area, a stopover the band looks forward to, according to Barnes.

"There's always a great group of kids that come out to see us."

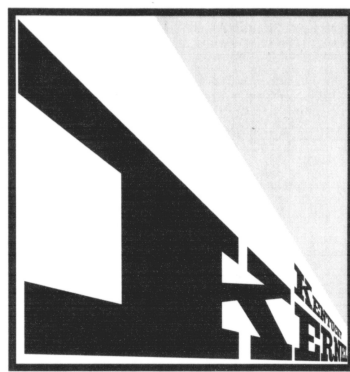
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READER RESPONSE

Headline misleading

To the editor:

"One in three women raped every year," the Kernel claimed in a headline Oct. 17. While 87 percent of Americans may believe made-up statistics, this headline strains the limits of credibility to an extreme. If this were true, every woman could expect to be raped once every three years on average.

The article itself states merely, "one in three women will be raped." This assertion, while shocking, is simply not supported. The addition of the words "every year" transforms a questionable statistic into patent farce. Such careless ad-libbing with the facts trivializes the violent crime of rape.

The U.S. Department of Justice's National Crime Victimization Survey shows a dramatic decline in rape occurrence over the past decade. The article cites the 1999 survey, yet fails to report this trend. Why? The 2001 survey demonstrates that rape occurrence is lower than it has been in nearly 30 years. Yet, this survey, the most recent, is not even mentioned in the article. Why not? The article only selectively quotes those statistics that pump up the fear factor.

"There is terror in numbers," Darrell Huff wrote in "How to Lie with Statistics" (1954). The propagation of a "rape crisis" of epidemic proportions serves to terrorize young women. Rather than prevent rape, such fear mongering prepares women to be victims.

Feminist author Katie Roiphe attacks what she terms "rape crisis feminism" as a throwback to Victorian-era sexism "The Morning After: Sex, Fear, and Feminism on Campus" (1993). The emergence of the rape crisis movement in the 1980s coincided with the growth of the Christian right, stricter standards of sexual morality, wholesale attacks on abortion rights and the decline of women's rights in general.

Exaggerated rape statistics foster a climate of fear and intimidation on campus. The Kernel should strive for accuracy rather than sensationalism.

KEITH HAUTALA
 STAFF SUPPORT ASSOCIATE, DIVISION OF UROLOGY

Ride the bus, it's free

To the editor:

This is in response to a Oct. 15 letter referring to the need for more parking on UK's campus for commuters. Actually, we do not need more parking on campus; we need fewer vehicles. UK has very little greenspace as it is, the last thing we need to do is smother the earth with more concrete so that we may have a place to secure our pollution mobiles. Besides, the average cost to create a parking space ranges from \$8,000-\$12,000. I would prefer my tuition and tax dollars go to more worthy and less damaging causes.

To reduce the stress on the University and the environment, all UK students, faculty and staff living in Lexington should begin riding the LexTran bus. All UK affiliates can ride anywhere in Lexington for free until May 2003 by merely showing your UK ID card.

This is a result of a \$1.6 million grant received by LexTran from the University of Kentucky Quality Improvement Program to promote alternative transportation. We can do our part to protect the environment while simultaneously reducing dependence on oil, increasing the longevity of our vehicles and saving money just by riding the city bus.

You can even do your homework or read the paper during your commute. Seems like a win-win situation for everyone. All buses are even equipped with a bike rack. This program needs our support so that it may continue in the future. Please give it your consideration before imprudent decisions are made concerning parking and irreparable damage is done. You can access LexTran bus routes at www.lextran.com.

CHERYL EDGE
 NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT SENIOR

Preview inaccurate

To the editor:

On Friday, Oct. 18 at 8 p.m., I attended one of the best student concerts I have ever been to at UK. The group, Momus, was amazing and added lots of humor and theater to their pieces to keep things interesting and fun.

They played classical, jazz and even a great arrangement of Super Mario Bros.

The reason that I'm angry is because this concert was previewed in the Kernel as being Sunday, not Friday. The Momus quartet, who had an article about them on Oct. 18, was basically done a disservice by its own student newspaper.

The Kernel should be a newspaper that supports the students and the activities they do (like making an incredible CD and putting on a concert for it).

In this case, the Kernel failed and possibly hurt the exposure and audience that this fine student group could have had.

NICK NAPLIOTIS
 MUSIC EDUCATION SENIOR

ATTENTION CAMPUS LEADERS

The Dialogue page is seeking submissions from leaders throughout the UK campus and community. If you are involved in any type of organization that deals with UK students and would like a chance to reach 30,000 readers, we want to hear from you. Send us an e-mail at dialogue@kykernel.com



STOCK MARKET LIMBO

IN OUR OPINION

More than part-time jobs behind graduation rate

UK's graduation rate is not as alarming as UK officials' nonchalance about the figure.

The Kernel reported Monday UK's 27.2 percent four-year graduation rate, which lags behind several top-tier public universities.

But UK officials cited no data about what factors could have affected the low rate. Instead, officials said things like jobs, major changes and students failing or withdrawing from classes can affect the graduation rate.

While all these factors are valid, they are not unique to UK; students everywhere face these problems.

Yet the University of Virginia still graduates 82.6 percent of its students in four years, the University of North Carolina graduates 66.9 percent and the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor graduates 63.8 percent. Compare these statistics to UK's 57.2 percent 6-year graduation rate.

And if it is unfair to compare UK to public schools of this caliber, consider Florida, which graduates 50.2 percent of its students in four years, almost doubling

UK's mark.

UK's percentage of freshmen returning for their sophomore year, 77.7, also trails. Virginia, UNC, Florida and Georgia have all posted freshmen retention rates of 90 percent or higher since 1999.

If UK is serious about offering top-flight public education, it is time for the school to study what University-controlled factors are lowering graduation rates. Find out how many students are slowed because a class was not offered when needed, because a class was repeatedly full or because of inadequate advising.

UK's graduating senior survey does not adequately address all of these questions. Of the survey's 74 multiple choice questions, four address advising and two address whether a required course was offered when needed. These sections should be expanded and the results of future surveys.

The resulting data would offer concrete data about why students are graduating, which would trump the present situation: attributing the rate to part-time jobs, withdrawals and major changes.

CONTACT US

E-mail

Send us your letters and comments by e-mail. Address your thoughts to dialogue@kykernel.com

Snail mail

Send your thoughts via the postal service to: Dialogue Editor, 035 Graham Building, Lexington, KY 40506-0042

Include this info

Include your name, year in school, and major classification for publication.

Please include a phone number and/or e-mail address for confirmation.

Guest opinions should be 700 words and should not address previously printed material.

Letters to the editor should be between 250 and 350 words.

The Kernel reserves the right to edit any submitted materials.

Records for sale at surplus prices

Robert Brammer

CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST

Do you think your private records that are kept by UK faculty and staff, such as grades and Social Security numbers, are reasonably secure? If so, this might make you want to reconsider.

UK periodically holds surplus auctions in the Reynolds building to resell computers and other equipment that were formerly used by UK faculty and staff members, but are no longer needed by the school.

None of the equipment auctioned off is particularly state of the art, but sometimes you can get a reasonably good deal on an old, yet useful, computer.

After buying a lot of used computers at a recent surplus auction, I was very surprised by what I found when I booted them up for the first time.

The hard drives on these comput-

ers contained not only operating systems, but programs such as Grade Keeper, which allowed me to sift through the names, grades and Social Security numbers of all the students who had taken a particular professor's class in the fall semester of 2001.

I also found that the hard drives contained personal items written by the professors, including speeches, department memos, and of course, video games. I am told by a staff member that the departments are supposed to erase this sort of information from these computers before they are surrendered to the surplus department for resale at auction. But my experience suggests this does not always occur.

The revelation of a university student's grades to an unauthorized party is not simply a breach of etiquette, it is actually an illegal act under the Federal Educational Right to Privacy Act, more commonly known as the Buckley

Amendment. This law was passed in 1974 to protect the privacy of student academic records. In other words, mistakes like this could conceivably cost UK some money if they were discovered by an opportunistic lawyer.

I hope the departments will be more vigilant in the future about erasing personal effects and student records from the hard drives of computers that were previously used by UK faculty before surrendering them to UK surplus for resale.

This is necessary not only to protect our student records, but at least to protect the dignity of a professor who was only able to attain a pitiful high score of 4,000 at Frogger for an entire academic year.

Robert Brammer is a political science junior. His views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.

"I also found that the hard drives contained personal items written by the professors, including speeches, department memos and, of course, video games."



WILDCAT OFFENSE

| NO. | POS. | NAME |
|-----|------|-----------------|
| 22 | QB | Jared Lorenzen |
| 20 | RB | Artose Pinner |
| 45 | FB | Mike Kamphake |
| 12 | WR | Derek Abney |
| 17 | WR | Tommy Cook |
| 11 | TE | Chase Harp |
| 61 | LT | Matt Huff |
| 70 | LG | Jason Rollins |
| 78 | C | Nick Seitze |
| 65 | RG | Keith Chatalein |
| 73 | RT | Antonio Hall |
| 89 | PK | Taylor Begley |

WILDCAT DEFENSE

| NO. | POS. | NAME |
|-----|------|-------------------|
| 18 | DE | Otis Grigsby |
| 63 | DT | Dewayne Robertson |
| 68 | DT | Jeremy Caudill |
| 98 | DE | Vincent Burns |
| 8 | LB | Ronnie Riley |
| 26 | LB | Morris Lane |
| 21 | CB | Derrick Tatum |
| 27 | CB | Leonard Burress |
| 1 | S | Mike Williams |
| 6 | S | David Johnson |
| 2 | S | Quentus Cumby |
| 49 | P | Glenn Pakulak |

UK at a glance

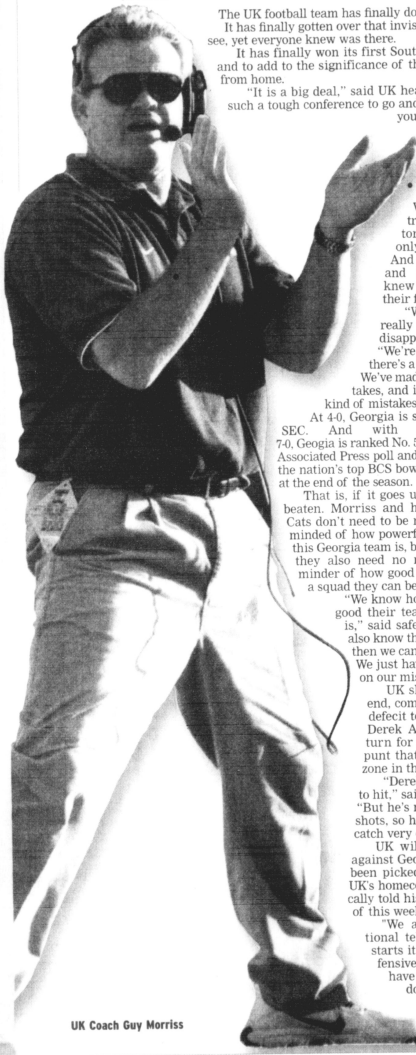
Coach: Guy Morriss (7-11, 2nd year)
Record: 5-2, 12 SEC
Last week: Won 29-17 at Arkansas
Average yards gained: 375.4 (153.7 rushing, 221.7 passing)
Average yards allowed: 401.3 (174.3 rushing, 227.0 passing)
Strengths: With Arkansas playing eight and nine players in the box last week, Artose Pinner was held to 67 yards on 26 carries. But Pinner should play a key role against a talented corps of Bulldog linemen.
Weaknesses: The UK defense surrendered 515 yards last week, but came up with key turnovers and stops to hold the Razorbacks off. With running back Musa Smith and wide receiver Fred Gibson out, UK must rely on All-SEC wide out Terrence Edwards.
Injuries: Linebacker Chad Anderson dislocated his ankle against Arkansas last week and is out for the rest of the season.
Buzz: The Cats are talking about goals, and they have not mentioned field goals. The UK players see this weeks game as its best chance at a home upset in recent memory. Recent history would suggest so, too. In its last two trips to Lexington, Georgia has won all three games by a combined six points.
Keys to win: Pinner must get the UK running attack into the Georgia defensive backfield early in order to keep the Georgia defense from beating down on quarterback Jared Lorenzen. The defense will get a break with the Georgia injuries, but it can't relax. The Bulldog reserves are more than capable of burning the UK defense for yards on the ground and through the air.

HOMECOMING GAME

Cats 'fughedabout' Bulldogs' ranking

Doggone tough: No. 5 Georgia tries to remain unbeaten against confident UK team, despite injuries that will keep three key Bulldog offensive players off the field

By Melanie Curtisinger
STAFF WRITER



UK Coach Guy Morriss

The UK football team has finally done it. It has finally gotten over that invisible hump that no one could see, yet everyone knew was there.

It has finally won its first Southeastern Conference game, and to add to the significance of the win, the Cats did it away from home.

"It is a big deal," said UK head coach Guy Morriss. "It's such a tough conference to go and play on the road. Any time you can go into someone's backyard and get a win, that's really good."

The Cats should feel good heading into this weekend's matchup with the Bulldogs of Georgia. While it took the Cats seven tries to come away with a victory last season in the SEC, it only took them three this year. And after tough losses to Florida and South Carolina, the Cats knew they were long overdue for their fifth win in 2002.

"We're sitting here at 5-2, and really there's a kind of a feeling of disappointment," Morriss said. "We're very happy to be 5-2, but there's a lot of room for improvement. We've made some mistakes, mental mistakes, and we continue to make those kind of mistakes, we can't beat Georgia."

At 4-0, Georgia is sitting atop the always tough SEC. And with an overall record of 7-0, Georgia is ranked No. 5 in the country in this week's Associated Press poll and is poised to appear in one of the nation's top BCS bowls at the end of the season.

That is, if it goes unbeaten. Morriss and his Cats don't need to be reminded of how powerful this Georgia team is, but they also need no reminder of how good of a squad they can be.

"We know how good their team is," said safety Quentus Cumby. "But we also know that if we play up to our ability, then we can beat anyone on our schedule. We just have to play hard and cut down on our mistakes."

UK showed that ability last weekend, coming back from a 10-9 halftime deficit to beat Arkansas 29-17. Junior Derek Abney returned his third return for a touchdown in the game, a punt that he took 86 yards to the end zone in the third quarter.

"Derek is a small guy, so he is hard to hit," said wide receiver Aaron Boone. "But he's really not afraid to take some shots, so he isn't going to call for a fair catch very often."

UK will need momentum like that against Georgia. Although the game has been picked up by CBS and represents UK's homecoming game, Morriss has basically told his Cats to think like the theme of this weekend and "fughedabout."

"We always enjoy playing on national television, but once the game starts it's not really an issue," said defensive guard Jason Rollins. "We just have to execute what we want to do and play as hard as we can. If we do that then I think we'll be in good shape."

UK vs. Georgia

Commonwealth Stadium
When: 3:30 p.m. Saturday
TV: CBS-27
Radio: 98.1 FM
Series: UGA leads 43-10-2



BULLDOG OFFENSE

| NO. | POS. | NAME |
|-----|------|------------------|
| 14 | QB | David Greene |
| 38 | RB | Tony Milton |
| 49 | FB | J.T. Wall |
| 8 | WR | Terrence Edwards |
| 18 | WR | Damien Gary |
| 89 | TE | Benjamin Watson |
| 71 | LT | George Foster |
| 79 | LG | Alex Jackson |
| 56 | C | Ian Knight |
| 70 | RG | Kevin Breedlove |
| 75 | RT | Kareem Marshall |
| 30 | PK | Billy Bennett |

BULLDOG DEFENSE

| NO. | POS. | NAME |
|-----|------|--------------------|
| 58 | DE | Will Thompson |
| 57 | DT | Johnathan Sullivan |
| 98 | DT | Darrius Swain |
| 47 | DE | David Pollack |
| 45 | LB | Boss Bailey |
| 42 | LB | Tony Gilbert |
| 48 | LB | Chris Clemons |
| 22 | CB | Decory Bryant |
| 7 | CB | Bruce Thornton |
| 6 | S | Sean Jones |
| 4 | S | Kentrell Curry |
| 83 | P | Jonathan Kilgo |

Georgia at a glance

Coach: Mark Richt (5-4, 2nd year)
Record: 7-0, 4-0 SEC
Last week: Won 48-17 vs. Vanderbilt
Average yards gained: 374.3 (121.6 rushing, 252.7 passing)
Average yards allowed: 312.4 (123.9 rushing, 188.6 passing)
Strengths: The Georgia offense has been potent all season, and despite injuries to key position players, Mark Richt should be able to plug holes well enough to help quarterback David Greene put points on the board.
Weaknesses: The Bulldog defense has not been very tough against the run this season. It could be susceptible to UK running back Artose Pinner's running style.
Injuries: The Bulldogs will play without three of their best players. Running back Musa Smith (broken left thumb) and wide receiver Fred Gibson (left thumb ligaments) will not play and All-American tackle Jon Stinchcomb's status (knee) is questionable. All three were hurt last week.
Buzz: Georgia has not won a Southeastern Conference Championship since 1982. The Bulldogs seemed on their way to the SEC title game, but key injuries make their trip to Commonwealth a little more scarier than usual.
Keys to win: Georgia will not overlook the Cats, especially with their top back (Smith), No. 2 receiver (Gibson) and best offensive lineman (Stinchcomb) hurt. The Dawgs must shut down the UK offense because of the uncertainty of the Georgia offense. That starts with All-SEC linebacker Boss Bailey stopping the UK running attack and the Bulldog defensive line pressuring UK quarterback Jared Lorenzen into mistakes.

'Sweet Pea' smashes opponents of the UK defense

Weekly balance of tackles: Transfer defensive end embraces nickname, rejects opposing ball carriers attempting to run on UK's defensive line

By Melanie Curtisinger
STAFF WRITER

"Sweet Pea" has a personality people are attracted to. He's fun to be around."

- John Goodner, UK defensive coordinator

So what exactly is "Sweet Pea?"
A) A dish your mom makes for Thanksgiving dinner.
B) The latest smell from Bath & Body Works.
C) A 6-foot-2, 258-pound defensive end for the UK football team.

If you said A or B, then — well, you were wrong.
Vincent Burns, otherwise known as "Sweet Pea" to his friends and family, was also given the nickname at birth by his mother, Lavern Gardner. It's been with him ever since.

"It is a nickname given to me by my mother," Burns said. "I was just a baby and she just called me her little sweet pea, and it just stuck with me through all my life."

Burns, who has never had another nickname growing up, is so well known as "Sweet Pea" that one would be hard-pressed to find someone other than a TV announcer or the occasional teacher using his real name.

"Everybody pretty much knows me as that," Burns said. "A few of my teachers even know me as 'Sweet Pea,' but everybody on the team and every body that knows me around UK calls me that."

While Burns may be known around UK for a nickname, he is known around the team and the Southeastern Conference as a great defensive player. He leads the UK defensive linemen in tackles with 39. In the SEC, he is among the leaders in three different statistical categories. Burns is tied for eighth in the conference with seven tackles for a loss, tied for third with

two fumbles caused and tied for second with fellow teammate David Johnson with two fumble recoveries.

"He's really doing well," said defensive coordinator John Goodner. "He brings a lot to the team. His play has probably been a surprise to other people, but I know I would have the opportunity to come up there. He knew that I could play so here I am."

Burns, a sophomore, transferred from Northern Arizona after just one season with the Lumberjacks. After sitting out a year, he has fit into the team in his first year playing as a Wildcat, starting all seven games this season. But Burns would not have found success at UK if it weren't for his lone season with NAU.

"The coach I got recruited by out there, Coach UK Offensive Coordinator Brent Pease, got a job at UK," Burns said. "So I gave him a call and let him know I would have the opportunity to come up there. He knew that I could play so here I am."

Although Burns likes his new home in Kentucky, there are a few things that are taking him a while to get used to. A native of southern Georgia, Burns has spent his entire life basking in warm weather, a sharp contrast from the chilly fall days he is experiencing at UK.

"Kentucky has been real good to me," Burns said. "The only thing I have trouble with is the weather. I am used to growing up in a warm weather environment."

One thing he is definitely not having trouble with is his teammates. If "Sweet Pea" seems like a funny name, according to Goodner, it couldn't be labeled on a funnier guy.

"Sweet Pea" has a personality that people are attracted to," Goodner said. "He's fun to be around."

"He's the one that if you go in the locker room, there's going to be eight or ten guys sitting around (Burns) shooting the breeze. He's funny — he's just one of those kind of guys."