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THE Kentucky Kernel

Friday, January 20, 2006

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Task force debates diversity training

In first meeting, 17-member task force proposes surveying black faculty to gather data

By Darlish Shafa
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

In its first meeting, UK's Task Force on Diversity and Equality decided to survey black faculty about campus diversity and debated instituting diversity training for faculty, administrators and possibly staff last night.

UK President Lee Todd formed

the task force in response to the negative reaction to the situation of diversity at UK, which became a hot-button topic when UK released data showing a 40-percent drop in black freshman enrollment this school year.

Bill Turner, UK's associate provost for multicultural affairs and vice president for university engagement, heads the 17-member task

force, which will continue to meet every two weeks until December of this year. Todd is asking for the group's final recommendations that month.

The committee's charge, according to UK President Lee Todd, is to "focus on increasing the number of African-American faculty, academic administrators, staff and students at UK."

"I see this commission's committee as taking time to figure out how we should be operating," Todd said. Most notably, Todd has asked the

group to recommend whether UK should hire a chief diversity officer.

"You really don't know how bad this is in some areas," said art professor Garry Bibbs.

The survey is the task force's first step in trying to determine how bad the situation is. The committee wants the survey to particularly focus on the comfort levels of black faculty. Sixty-five of UK's 1,600 full-time faculty last school year were black.

"You've got to have some data to back up what your intuition tells

you is the truth," said Russ Williams, senior training specialist with UK Human Resources and the staff representative to the Board of Trustees.

"We're trying to measure whether we're making progress or not," Todd said. "I like to see data, but I'd like it to be data that's transparent, that's easy to read."

Members of the task force also agreed that a survey should be done to gauge the feelings of black faculty, specifically focusing on their level of

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AUBURN 71, UK 57

BLOCKED OUT

Auburn uses 13 blocks to snap Cats' winning streak

By Chris DeLotell
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

All week long, UK head coach Mickie DeMoss guarded her team against the overconfidence that might come with a four-game winning streak.

But last night, her team simply couldn't guard.

Auburn exploited a Cats' defense DeMoss described as "especially disappointing" and left Rupp Arena with its first Southeastern Conference victory of the season, 71-57 over UK (13-3, 2-2 SEC).

"They controlled the paint," a visibly frustrated DeMoss said after the game. "We did not do a good job defending inside."

Towering 6-foot-7 freshman center KeKe Carrier dominated the key on both ends of the floor for the Tigers (10-8, 1-4), notching 12 points and 11 rebounds.

"Some of our post players shied away," DeMoss said. "We've got to get tougher. They fought harder inside."

Carrier was making her first start in SEC play.

"We were 0-4," Auburn coach Nell Fortner said in justifying her decision to start Carrier. "It was time to shake it up a little bit. She works hard and brings another dimension to the game. We knew we needed to get her more minutes."

DeMoss called into question her team's desire.

"They were hungrier for the win than we were," she said. "We must be pretty easily intimidated."

Fortner credited that hunger as a major factor in the victory.

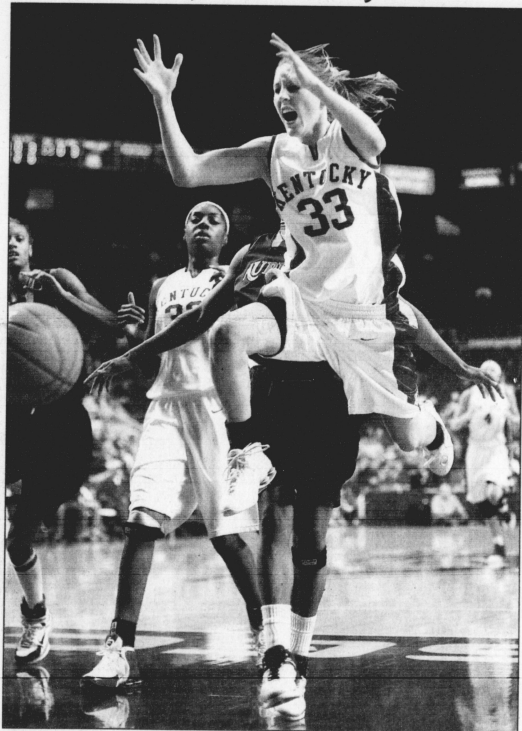
"This is the first game all season where we won the hustle plays," she said. "When you've got a 6-foot-7 girl diving on the floor for loose balls, that can motivate the other players. That may have been the difference in the ball game."

UK players agreed that Auburn wanted to win more than the Cats did.

"It's not nice to hear," freshman guard Carly Ormerod said, "but I think it's the truth. We were on a little high from winning those games."

Ormerod, who finished with 16

See Hoops on page 3



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

Junior guard Jenny Pfeiffer loses the handle on the ball in the second half of the Cats' loss to Auburn last night.

Campus tests TV channel

By Chris Miles
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Students who currently live on campus and have their TVs tuned all the time into local channel 50 are about to be surprised.

The traditional horse races, odds and gambling hotlines that the current channel 50 provides to viewers is set to make way for a new, university sponsored on-campus TV channel which will air movies, campus announcements and have a live feed of the campus radio station WRFL-FM.

"Channel 50 is a trial intended to be entertaining and informational," Chris Thuringer, the associate director of Student Activities, Leadership and Involvement, which is the campus group sponsoring the Channel 50 project, said. "We'll have movies that will run everyday, some times in line with themes like Valentine's Day. When movies aren't running there will be informational slides with calendars for activities around campus."

The Channel 50 project will be a trial university TV channel that will run from Jan. 27 to Feb. 28 and will be renewed after that based on student response to it. Anyone who lives or works on campus will have access to the channel. It will not be available on TVs off campus grounds.

Debuting with the movies "The 40 Year Old Virgin" and "March of the Penguins," the channel will show movies at 8 and 10 p.m. every day of the week and at 1 and 3 p.m. week-ends. There will also be informational videos on issues such as alcohol awareness, identity theft and drug use. In between the movies, slides of upcoming student events will be shown and a live feed of WRFL will play.

"Hopefully, down the road, this will be a way to get mass communication to students," Thuringer said. "Especially freshman and sophomores that would need to know information and wouldn't be able to get it another way."

The project has targeted Student Activities Board, Student Government, Resident Student Association and WRFL as possible student groups to give funding further down the road if Channel 50 lasts through the trial month. It was set up ultimately to be another form of communication for campus events, especially for undergrads.

"We wanted to draw in first-year students to let them know what's happening," said Rhonda Strouse, director of Student Activities, Leadership and Involvement. "We wanted to

See TV on page 2

Don't let refs hide behind whistles

Lots of things went wrong last night. Rebounding and defense, two of the standard characteristics of this UK Hoops edition, deserted them last night at Rupp Arena.



Chris Johnson
SPORTS EDITOR

The front line for Auburn, stacking up at 6-foot-5, 6-foot-4 and 6-foot-7, intimidated and dominated the Cats' front line, which are no midgets themselves.

The trio of Marita Payne, Alexis Ogubie and KeKe Carrier registered the lions' share of Tigers' 13 blocks, while UK — who set an NCAA record for blocks in a game with 19 — got zero.

But it was the way Payne blocked UK point guard Carly Ormerod's layup attempt in the second half that had fans out of their seats and Mickie DeMoss's temper nearly out of its shell.

Payne sent the Ormerod offering back, then with a gloating smirk on her face, stood over the UK freshman as she lay on the ground.

"I'm very upset with that," DeMoss said. The officials explained to DeMoss that they "didn't see it."

"It's amazing to me that three officials

didn't see it, but the 6,000 people at the game saw it," DeMoss said.

There were several questionable calls throughout the game, but none were more ballyhooed than the apparent taunting.

Ormerod, when asked about the situation, literally squirmed in her seat before shaking her head and saying, "I'm not going to touch it."

DeMoss refused to speak on any other of officiating-related subjects, noting, "I'm not permitted to comment on the calls."

What happened to free speech? DeMoss shied away because she didn't want to be disciplined by the Southeastern Conference, which can fine or suspend any player or coach it wants to for criticizing officiating.

Every league has this rule, as does every professional sport. NBA, NFL and Major League Baseball managers and players get fined for it all the time, but they don't care because they're making millions of dollars and a \$25,000 fine isn't going to make them miss a Bentley payment.

DeMoss is making \$180,000 this year in base salary. Not to say that monetary reasons are the only ones she has for not commenting, but a fine of several thousand dollars would be a hit to take.

What's also a reason for not criticizing of officials is that a coach doesn't want to lose

credibility with all the zebras in every game; they won't listen when she has legit complaints like last night's, let alone when she's just trying to call their attention to something.

She also doesn't want to appear to be making excuses for her team's poor play.

But level-headed, conscientious coaches, in every sport at every level, can discern the difference between a play that may cost their team the game and a play that should just deserve to be called, like last night's pathetic display of bravado by an Auburn forward who is listed a full nine inches taller than the point guard who took the shot.

Ormerod said literally zero words about the altercation, but she was visibly unhappy. DeMoss said very few words, even when pressed, but she has had practice and has handlers who tell her the rules of engagement before she is interviewed.

And like DeMoss said, the Cats' effort last night was about their temper of the season. The call didn't change the game. Lots of things didn't go right.

But everyone else on the floor last night will be held accountable by the media and the public for their actions. Referees, at least in a public forum, won't be.

That's censorship.

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Student investigates Nazis, film

By Sean Rose
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL



Film and propaganda and Nazis, oh my!

These were just some of the subjects discussed by English senior Andrew Bozoi in the auditorium of the W. T. Young Library last night during the 12th annual Edward T. Breathitt Undergraduate Lectureship.

The lecture is a competition presented by the Gaines Center for the Humanities in which any undergraduate can apply to present a lecture on a subject of their choosing in humanities and win a \$500 prize. Bozoi's lecture, titled "This Machine Kills Fascists: The German Film Industry from 1919 to 1934," drew a line from German films to German society in the time between the two

See Gaines on page 2

Diversity

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comfort in their jobs.

The task force differs from the President's Commission on Diversity in that the task force is centering only on issues relating to blacks, where the commission is addressing broader issues of diversity. Still, Todd said he wants the two groups to work together.

The task force also proposed diversity training for faculty and administrators.

"There's been a sort of presumption, however fallacious, that they (administrators) are well-versed in this," said UK sociology professor Doris Wilkinson, special con-

sultant to the task force and UK's first full-time black faculty.

Committee members also weighed in with other concerns and requests.

"It's this context of being a top-20 university that worries me," said task force member Ron Eller, a history professor. "I'd like to see us examine this (diversity) in the context of becoming a top-20 university."

"I think this is a real opportunity for the university to step back and assess itself," he said.

But task force members said while the situation is bad, there is definitely light at the end of the tunnel.

"I believe we would miss an opportunity if we did not take a real good look ... at why there is an absence of

African-Americans," said Terry Allen, associate vice president for employment equity.

"I think that this task force clearly took the president's words to heart and is going where institutional policy needs to go to address this issue seriously and without excuses," said Ernest Yanarella, chairman of the University Senate Council.

Turner said he's looking forward to what comes next, which includes determining the content for and preparing the surveys.

"The past is our perspective, but the issue is what's in front of us," Turner said. "This was a good meeting. I think this is going somewhere."

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TV

Continued from page 1

let students know what's happening become more connected and let them know where to go."

Resident advisers in campus dorms believe that it will

help new students know what's going on.

"I think it would be a good resource," said Melissa Cowan, the assistant hall director of Kirwan Tower said. "If organizations are made aware of this resource it would be very beneficial to students."

Altaeysa Powell, another RA in Kirwan Tower, agrees.

"Last year I was really confused about things on

campus, like SG; I definitely think it will help," Powell said.

A website for the channel, ChannelUKyvedu, will be available for students to submit their opinions on the project.

"This is not going to be successful if students don't buy into it," Strouse said.

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Gaines

Continued from page 1

world wars.

"The way cinema changes reflects the change in German society as the Nazis came to power," Bozio said.

He added that he chose the subject from a previous interest in the time period and was interested in how "art could be political resistance to fight the Nazis."

His lecture went on to explain while one style of film, expressionism, combated the Nazi takeover, the Third Reich embraced another style, realism, and used it as propaganda.

Dan Rowland, director of the Gaines Center said that usually seven or eight people apply for the lectureship each year and are judged by an outside committee of faculty

members.

"It's a pretty big achievement," Rowland said. He added that it was a very unique competition and he hadn't heard of another like it.

"We think this is the only sponsored undergrad lectureship in the country," Rowland said.

Gaines Center assistant director and faculty Lisa Broome-Price agreed the award was "very prestigious" and that Bozio well deserved.

"He's certainly one of the smartest and most well spoken students I've met," Broome-Price said.

Bozio said he was hopeful that he would be chosen as the winner but was not counting on anything.

"When I got it, I was very excited," Bozio said. "I really wasn't expecting it."

The Gaines Center, which sponsored the event, was designed to give the best education to a small, selective group of the best undergradu-

ates. Students can apply to be accepted as Gaines Fellows with an application and an essay. Rowland said usually 12 or 13 are accepted out of about 40 a year. Bozio is a member for his class.

The deadline for applications this year is Monday.

Second year medical student Eileen Broomall attended the lecture last night as well as the past four. She is a former Gaines Fellow and said she enjoyed the quality of the presentations.

"I'm always impressed with the level of knowledge they have and the professionalism they show," Broomall said.

Bozio said he was also excited about presenting the lecture because he hopes to be a teacher in his future.

"This is fantastic practice for what I hope to do with the rest of my life," Bozio said at the start of his presentation last night.

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KENTUCKY SWIMMING AND DIVING



TONIGHT - 5:00 PM
LANCASTER AQUATIC CENTER



Provost's Outstanding Teaching Awards

The Office of the Provost seeks nominations for the 2005-2006 Outstanding Teaching Awards. The Awards are designed to recognize individuals whose performance in the classroom or laboratory has been consistently outstanding. All full-time tenured and non-tenured faculty (Regular and Special Title) and teaching assistants are eligible.

Awards will be given in three categories.

Tenured Faculty - Non-tenured Faculty - Teaching Assistants

NOMINATION

1. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to initiate the nomination process by sending a one-page nomination letter to the candidate's department chair.
2. The department chair or a senior faculty member who is familiar with the candidate's teaching and advising performance will prepare a two-page formal recommendation. The formal recommendation must include specific examples of the accomplishments and qualities that make the nominee a model of teaching excellence.
3. Submit three (3) copies of the complete nomination (initial letter of nomination and formal recommendation) to the Office the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, Room 100 Funkhouser Building, by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 10, 2006.

For additional information, contact Sharon Gill at sgill@uky.edu or go to the web site at <http://www.uky.edu/UGS/provostaward.htm>

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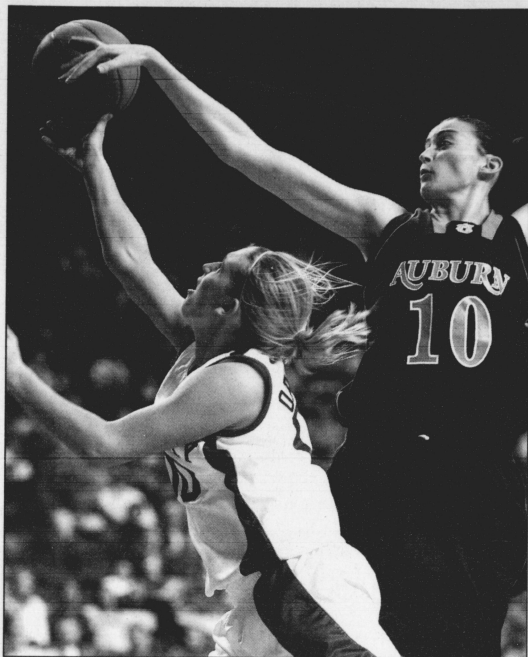
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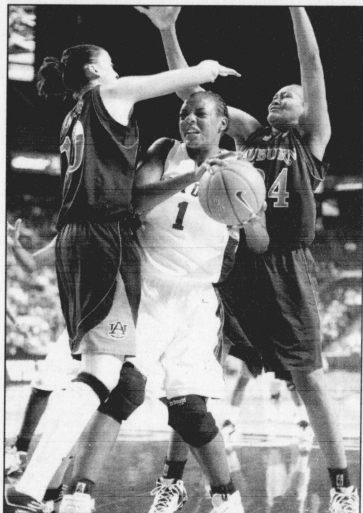
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Left: Auburn senior Marita Payne blocks a layup by UK freshman Carly Ormerod during the first half of last night's game in Rupp Arena. The Tigers tallied 13 blocks in a 71-57 win over the Cats.

Below: Sophomore forward Eleia Roddy is trapped by Auburn defenders after grabbing a rebound during the second half of the Tigers' win last night in Rupp Arena.

KEITH SMILEY | STAFF



Auburn (71)

NAME	mi	fg-a	3-ptft-a	a	pf	rb	tp
Payne c	35	3-4	0-0-0	2	1	8	6
Carrier c	25	6-11	0-0-1	1	5	11	12
Brown g	40	4-12	0-1-2	2	1	3	4
Bonner g	31	7-11	1-3-4	0	2	5	18
Boddie g	35	4-7	0-0-7	5	2	5	14
Blakey	2	0-0	0-0-0	0	1	0	0
Hobbs	13	2-3	0-1-3	0	0	3	6
Ogubie	19	2-6	0-1-2	6	4	6	6
TEAM	200	28-54	1-514	199	18	44	71

Kentucky (57)

NAME	mi	fg-a	3-ptft-a	a	pf	rb	tp
Bowman f	17	0-3	0-0-0	2	2	3	0
Humphrey f	33	3-7	0-2-3	2	5	9	8
Elliott c	19	4-8	0-0-0	2	0	6	8
Ormerod g	37	6-18	3-7-14	2	2	11	6
Mahoney g	25	1-9	0-5-2	2	1	4	4
Roddy	22	3-8	0-3-3	1	3	4	9
Alcius	12	2-3	1-2-1	0	0	2	5
Jackson	6	0-1	0-0-0	1	0	2	0
Gamble	2	0-0	0-0-0	0	1	0	0
Pfeiffer	27	1-10	1-5-4	0	1	1	7
TEAM	200	20-67	5-19	12	17	12	57

Auburn 36 39-71
Kentucky 26 31-57

Field-goal shooting: AU 51.9, UK 29.9.
Free-throw shooting: AU 73.7, UK 70.6.
Technical: none. Turnovers: AU 16.
(Carrier 4, Boddie 4), UK (Roddy 3, Elliott 2, Ormerod 2). Blocked shots: AU 13 (Payne 7, Ogubie 3), UK 0. Officials: John Morningstar, Eric Brewton, Mark Zentz.
Attendance: 6,629
Records: AU 10-6 (1-4), UK 13-4 (2-2)

Hoops

Continued from page 1

points, scored 15 of them in one stretch as she single-handedly kept her team in the game early in the second half. She scored UK's final five points of the first half and first 10 of the second frame to keep the Cats within striking distance.

Even during Ormerod's run UK could get no closer than 10 points, as Auburn's DeWanna Bonner kept

the Cats at bay.

The lanky 6-foot-4 freshman guard had an answer each time UK tried to cut into the Tigers' lead, scoring three consecutive times after UK baskets in the first minutes of the second half, allowing her team to maintain a double-digit advantage.

"I thought she was outstanding in the second half," Fortner said. "She came out and really gave us all she had. At 6-foot-4 and able to handle the ball, she's hard to defend against."

Auburn used a 10-point run to stave off a final rally by UK. The

Cats went on a 10-0 spurt to cut Auburn's lead to 57-53 with three minutes remaining before a short jumper by Marita Payne spurred the final Tiger push in which Auburn edged its lead to 67-53.

DeMoss was unsure if the loss could be chalked up to overconfidence. "I don't know," she said. "I would be amazed if we were overconfident. That would be ridiculous. But you're dealing with 18-, 19-, 20-year-olds ... We've got to regroup."

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Gymnasts host Auburn

The No. 15 Cats (3-0) will take on No. 9 Auburn (2-4) at 7:30 tonight at Memorial Coliseum. Auburn brings a talent-laden squad for their first Southeastern Conference road match. They are ranked in the nation's top 10 on balance beam (fifth) and the uneven bars (seventh), and Julie Dwyer is fifth in the nation overall in the all-around, with a 39.225 average. Dwyer is also 12th in the nation individually on beam. For UK, junior Krystle Cook is 15th nationally in the all-around, and freshman Heather Hite became one of only six gymnasts to register a 9.9 on the beam this season. She is also the seventh in UK history to register such a mark. The Auburn-UK series is tied 24-24.

Softball last in pre-season poll

UK, coming off a 20-41 (4-25 SEC) record in 2005, was picked to finish last in the SEC Eastern Division in the SEC Softball Preseason Coaches' Poll. Tennessee, coming off a trip to the Women's College World Series, received nine of 11 first-place votes for the overall and Eastern Division championships. Florida and Georgia also received one first-place vote apiece for the division and conference titles. Alabama received seven first-place votes in the West, followed by Auburn and Louisiana State, who received two votes apiece. "We are in an extremely tough conference and we are still trying to play catch-up," said second-year UK head coach Eileen Schmidt. "Every coach will tell you that preseason polls do not matter. It's not where

we're picked before the season starts, it's where we are at the end that's important."

Witten wins pro tourney

Former UK All-American Jesse Witten won the Grand Slam Men's Futures of Tampa Jan. 15, earning him \$10,000 and likely raising his ATP ranking to the top-400 for the first time in his career. Witten, who was named an All-American five times while playing for UK, didn't drop a set for five straight matches in his championship run. He was also named to the 2006 USTA Rookie Pro team, and in September, Witten won the Ecuador Futures tournament.

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IN OUR OPINION

Van restrictions right move for road safety

UK has proven it cares about the safety of its drivers and passengers.

Growing safety concerns regarding UK's fleet of 15-passenger vans have prompted the University Accident Review Board and Vehicle Safety Committee to issue new, much-needed policies to improve safety.

Safety concerns became a nationwide issue when a 2004 National Highway Transportation Safety Administration study showed 15-passenger vans with 10 or more passengers have a rollover risk three times greater than vans with fewer than five passengers.

UK now mandates that all 15-passenger vans have the rear seat and its seatbelts removed. The vans are allowed to carry no more than 11 people, including the driver, and the amount of luggage being transported can lower that number as well.

In addition, a one-hour Web-training program is now required for all 12- and 15-passenger van drivers beginning March 1. An NHTSA tag that hangs from the rearview mirror or a dashboard placard must be placed in each van to reiterate the vehicle's potential hazards.

Previously, UK only required training for drivers from the College of Agriculture. That training is an integral part of ensuring safety for all drivers and passengers in these vans, and is recommended by the NHTSA. Now,

all drivers, not just those from the College of Agriculture, will benefit — thanks to mandatory training, the likelihood of rollovers will substantially decrease.

These stricter safety regulations come on the heels of a November Kernel report that found nine of UK's benchmark schools have discontinued the use of 15-passenger vans. Of the 10 that still use them, eight require driver training.

"We're going to use them in the safest way possible and over time, eliminate them," Frank Butler, UK vice president for finance and administration, told The Kernel last week. "We won't be buying any new ones."

Alternatives to 15-passenger vans include shuttle buses and heavier, dual-rear-wheel vans. Though these vehicles are more expensive than the 15-passenger vans in UK's current fleet, their safety ratings are higher — and more conducive to driver safety as well.

"Our goal is to have a no-accident history here and make all travel as safe as possible," Butler said in the same interview last week.

We stand behind that mission — safety should be on UK's short list of top priorities. The university's stricter regulations for its 15-passenger vans are an excellent illustration of that commitment.

Don't let funds earmarked for education go elsewhere

In his budget address Tuesday night, Gov. Ernie Fletcher advocated repealing Kentucky's prevailing wage law in order to increase funding for construction projects for education.

The wage law requires contractors of state construction projects to pay workers the regional "prevailing wage," as determined by a formula.

Critics of the wage law say it artificially inflates the price of construction projects, while unions and workers believe that repealing it would lead to workers being underpaid.

This editorial board takes no stance on whether the law should be repealed, but one thing is abundantly clear: If Fletcher is going to use education as the selling point for repealing the law, he must live up to his promises.

Although it would be foolish to

expect construction-business owners or unions to base their stances on repealing the wage law because the savings are promised to go to education, other Kentuckians may be more sympathetic to a repeal for that very reason.

The repeal is expected to save the state \$40 million over the next two years, and it is reasonable to assume that people would rather see that go to schools than, say, continuing the \$13.7 million per year "Unbridled Spirit" advertising campaign.

Considering Fletcher's record of falling short on promises to fund education, it's imperative that he be honest with Kentuckians about this proposal. Kentuckians have the right to decide what to do about the prevailing-wage law, but a crucial part of making that decision is knowing where the money's going to go.

Governor Fletcher should keep his word on education funding for once

'Intelligent design' not intelligent enough for the classroom

This week, the official Vatican newspaper published an article that supported the recent court ruling in Pennsylvania saying that intelligent design should not be taught in classrooms as a scientific alternative to evolution. Although the article is not an official church opinion, the fact that it made it out of the Vatican is a glimmer of hope that common sense still exists in the religious community.



Doug Scott
KERNEL COLUMNIST

The model proposed by Darwin is not considered sufficient, one should search for another," wrote Florenzo Facchini, a professor of evolutionary biology at the University of Bologna, in the Jan. 16-17 edition of L'Osservatore Romano.

Whoever coined the term "intelligent design" to describe the theory that life on earth is so complex that a higher being must have been directly involved in its conception and development was highly mistaken.

When I think of "intelligent design," it usually brings to mind what was not written on any of my assignments in my publication design class, not God drawing up the blueprints for life on Earth.

Plus, intelligent design isn't that intelligent, considering that we can't breathe underwater, move things with our minds, or fly

still think that the Vatican, and the Catholic Church, is a festering, corruption-ridden institution that has twisted and molded the Bible in order to attain power.

But however evil the Catholic Church may have been in the past, they are nowadays eclipsed by an even more devious evil, which now plagues the American social and moral consciousness.

I am speaking, of course, about Neo-Conservative Fundamentalist Protestantism. Duh.

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BRAD STURGEON, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Chipotle column left bad taste Blevins' SG complaints stale

A good piece of advice for Andrew Martin to remember (in response to his "Queso" article) is, don't be lazy with language. While putting together a sensible article about his experience from visiting Chipotle, Martin managed to lump together all nutritional activists into a group of tax-loving "moralists" he lovingly called "nutrition Nazis."

While I agree with the premise of his article, what Martin doesn't seem to understand is positive nutrition activism and why it is important. What's worse is that he chose to use verbiage that is askew of reality so that he might satisfy his taste for alliteration. Nutrition Nazi has a nice ring to it, doesn't it?

Here's the reality: Take yourself and two friends. Draw straws, and one of you gets to be the one to die of cancer, another gets to be obese and probably inherit complications such as diabetes or heart disease, and the third gets "lucky," and might make it to old age to die a peaceful, painless death. However you'll likely take three or more prescription meds and try to survive off pension plus a meager retirement. Why the grim future? Americans lack a strong nutritional and preventative health education.

Since some want that freedom so bad, they won't pay attention to the fact that children are systematically denied good nutrition when they start school at a young and impressionable age. They don't learn good nutrition, and neither did their parents (or your doctor, for that matter). When they grow up, out of habit they'll likely eat junk food. They will freely choose what they know best, which is OK, once they are adults in possession of the facts.

What's not OK is for us to allow junk food conglomerates to lobby against nutrition measures designed to benefit children's health. What's not OK is for journalists to be lazy with their choice of language and inadvertently present a view that anyone wanting to do some good out there is a Nazi. Yes, there are some liberals that want to tax fatty foods. Not all people that believe in good nutrition are trying to steal your rights. Some are trying to help our children live healthier. Try to give a little more respect — not even those nasty liberals that want to tax your Big Mac deserve to be equated with Nazis.

ANGEL CAREAGA
Electrical Engineering Senior

Kernel columnists are sure to mention three things in articles about SG. First, they must remind students how disenfranchised they feel and how mad they are at student Government. Second, the obit line about Gator Roast costing too much money will inevitably be found. Finally, my personal favorite, we will read a statement about the Greek monopoly in Student Government. Although talented writers can put a fresh spin on these over-reported opinions, these articles are as useful as last week's Kernel.

Enough is enough. Most students have moved past the election debacle from last semester. The students of UK have picked up the pieces and decided to care about classes, friendships and basketball games. Not only is it odd news to read about the "prolonged recounts," it is irresponsible as a columnist to fan the flames in an effort to keep students irritated. I know the opinion articles only represent the view of the writer but with the host of fresh, current issues on campus, the space on the Opinions page could serve a greater purpose.

Second, SG has not sponsored a Gator Roast since the fall of 2003. 50 percent of campus has never had the opportunity to attend a Gator Roast. The constant mention of the three-year-old event gets its, pardon the pun, beating a dead gator.

Finally, the Greek monopoly in SG is exaggerated. While Becky Ellingsworth, Kyle Burns, Nick Phelps, and most of the Senate are members of Greek organizations, the fact remains that non-Greek interests dominate Senate meetings and SG events. Assuming a "Greek monopoly" exists in Student Government is just bad writing.

I suggest the columnists for the Kernel present their readers with both sides of the story and still allow enough leeway for students to make up their own minds. That is an example of responsible opinion writing, rather than hair-brained ideas for the Board of Trustees to dissolve SG.

I would like to encourage columnists who write for the Kernel to dig a little deeper and write about fresh SG topics. Maybe the SG sponsorship of the Lexington Youth Speak-Out, or perhaps SG Senators passing out hot chocolate to cold students every Wednesday.

JASON ROBINSON
SG Communications Director

Save the "intelligent design" debate for Sunday School; leave it out of science class.

"Flawed design" or "divine science project in-progress" would probably be more accurate.

"Intelligent design," using the aforementioned definition, is exactly the opposite.

It's an absurd idea developed and subscribed to by individuals who refuse to accept scientific fact and instead decide to make up their own facts, according a refined doctrine of thought

that replaces years of scientific research and millions of dollars in research grants with vague Bible verses and warped interpretations of Scripture.

Take, for instance, the dinosaurs. Overcome with the concept that life may have existed and flourished on Earth before the existence of Adam and Eve, Christian "researchers" have theorized that humans and dinosaurs co-existed, going as far as the say that the "behemths" mentioned in the book of Job are references to dinosaurs.

For all their lack in critical thinking skills, conservative Christians sure do have lively imaginations. Now, if they'd only keep

their imaginative thinking on the fiction shelves ("Left Behind") and keep it out of public policy.

In situations like these, a little common sense and out-of-the-box thinking can go a long way.

You've got two seemingly opposing but not necessarily mutually exclusive camps, one claiming that evolution exists, the other claiming that God exists and had a role in creating life.

What if God simply provided the universe with the particles and molecules for stars, galaxies, planets and life, but allowed all these things to form on their own? A cosmic Rube Goldberg machine, if you will.

Regardless of what you think of my theory or where you fall in this dialogue, this is a debate for Sunday school, not public school.

There are no dramatic implications for the public sphere concerning the origins of life, but religious implications do exist, which may be good or bad. But in the current debate, religion has only been hurt by the attempts of some to require religious theories to be taught as scientific fact, discredit science in the name of God, and pit God against science.

Doug Scott is a Journalism Senior.
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Submissions

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

E-MAIL

opinions@kykernel.com

Note to Readers

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

Unlike news stories, The Kernel's unsigned editorials represent the views of a majority of the editorial board.

Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the Opinions page reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of The Kernel.

Columnists Needed

The Kernel is looking for new columnists to write for the Opinions page on a regular basis.

Columnists of all interests will be considered, but The Kernel especially seeks those who have an interest in campus and local issues.

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Q&A with Hair Police

Lexington legends return to bring the noise



PHOTO COURTESY DOUG COOPER
Trevor Tremaine (drums, vocals, tapes), Robert Beatty (electronics) and UK alumnus Mike Connelly (vocals, guitar, tapes, noise) combine their musical talents to create Hair Police. The band plays tonight at Underlying Themes on South Upper Street.

Mike Connelly, Trevor Tremaine and Robert Beatty create explosive, distorted, broken walls of noise intended to reduce audience members to awe-struck piles of burnt clothing. They are Lexington's own Hair Police, and they'll be delivering a destructive spectacle of spasmodic energy for all to enjoy tonight at Underlying Themes.

Q: How do you go about making your music?

A: Robert Beatty: All of our songs that we play more than once are improvisation within a framework. Some come from an idea one of us has and some are born out of jamming. If we find something in a jam that we like we will try to do it again, enough so that we can repeat it and it remains recognizable even though it might sound completely different. Sometimes, though, we just jam.

Mike Connelly: It depends. Recently it's been like 50/50 or even less organized than that. It really just depends how we feel before we play. This show will be pretty song heavy I think, though our last few shows have not.

Trevor Tremaine: There is usually a predetermined framework for a piece of music, be it based around a repetition, a feeling or any other kind of musical idea, then we just sort of run with it. After repeated playings, we hone a song into a sort of idealized form, but it never really sounds the same twice. Lately our shows have a been a split between the all-out free-form blast that is the raw material for most of our songs, and more structured material.

Q: What's going through your head when you're on stage?

A: RB: I feel that when I am playing this music is one of the few times I am truly focused, completely free of any thoughts and completely unaware of my surroundings.

MC: I have no idea.

TT: During a really good show, nothing. Everything gets obliterated. The last couple gigs we've done have been like that. No chemical influence or anything like that, nothing holding me back. I know the dudes can relate. You reach a plateau where consciousness just goes.

Q: How has the sound of Hair Police changed since emerging from "the basement" in 2007?

A: RB: We are way more focused now than when we started in 2001. We actually talk about the music, although not much. We used to just see who could make the biggest, stupidest mess, musically and literally. We didn't really ever talk about anything and didn't really know what we were doing.

MC: It's changed immensely. We were very young and had no outside contact whatsoever. We toured a lot early on, more so than now actually, and that just helped us develop where we've been going for the past few years. I'd hate to say we "matured," just more focused maybe. Things smell a little better now, too... even Robert.

Q: Does playing in Lexington have any special significance for you?

A: RB: Well, Trevor and I have been here the whole time, but this is the first show we have played here since Mike joined Wolf Eyes.

so it will feel really good to play here again. We used to play here all the time and nobody really cared except for our friends, so we'll see if that's changed any.

TT: The show will be nuts. That's all I'm saying. We did an unannounced gig at the lighthouse in '94 to a mostly confused and unappreciative audience. The approach was way more toned down - tiny speakers and just a few drums, lots of heavy zoned in sorts of jams. Then we played at Mecca earlier last year and the cops showed up. They were really concerned about the sounds they had heard and were relieved to find it was only music.

Q: Why do you make the kind of music that you do?

A: RB: This is just what happened. I never thought about it, it just came out. It's a lot of fun to do this.

TT: Because we are best friends and this is what we are good at.

MC: I don't have any other options. My brain can't comprehend anything else.

— Interview by staff music writer Nathan Thacher

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