

KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 36 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

First campus flu case diagnosed

By Shannon Mason
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Doctors at University Health Services yesterday diagnosed a student with UK's first official case of influenza this season and are expecting many more cases on campus in the coming months.

"There are three states with the highest level of flu cases right now, and we know Kentucky is one of them," said UHS Director Dr. Greg Moore. "I expect to continue to see more cases in the next two months."

The other two states with high numbers of flu cases are South Carolina and

Tennessee, Moore said. Moore said the student, a female in the College of Health Sciences, did not receive a flu shot this year.

People often confuse cold symptoms with flu symptoms, Moore said. The most common flu symptoms are high fever, headache, muscle ache and fatigue, he said.

Students experiencing these symptoms are encouraged to see a doctor as soon as possible, Moore said there are medicines that can shorten the duration of the flu, but only if the medicines "start fairly early."

"If they're four or five days into it, the

medicine probably won't help," he said. Moore said college-age students will eventually get over the flu, but could miss a significant amount of school while ill.

"You'll be out of commission for a week or so," he said.

More than 36,000 people die from the flu each year, but those are usually "the really young or the really old," he said. Students still have time to get flu shots and Moore said there are other ways to prevent getting the flu.

"Stay away from people," he said. "The flu is mostly transmitted by hands, cups and cigarettes... so don't share. And wash your hands a lot or keep some hand sanitizer around."

Veteran tells soldier's side of Iraq war

By Katie Saltz
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Students were asked to check their political opinions at the door and educate themselves about the situation in Iraq during a speech in Memorial Hall last night.

Paul Rieckhoff was on campus to talk about his experiences in Afghanistan and Iraq as a first lieutenant and an infantry platoon leader.

"Iraq is the number one issue facing America," Rieckhoff said. "The war is a critical thing facing our country and the entire world."

Rieckhoff is the executive director of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America. IAVA is an advocacy group that focuses on getting aid for veterans and soldiers currently serving. Some of the top issues IAVA faces are inadequate body armor for soldiers and assistance for those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder — a condition that one in three soldiers will face, Rieckhoff said.

"IAVA formed when Iraq veterans returned and realized they didn't have a voice," Rieckhoff said. "IAVA led the first organized meeting of veterans with Congress. We're not just making noise, we're taking action."

Rieckhoff worked as an investment banker on Wall Street when he joined the National Guard in 1998. After 9/11 he volunteered to go to Afghanistan and Iraq. Rieckhoff was part of

the initial invasion in Iraq and has appeared on CNN, NBC, NPR and the Colbert Report.

"When people see a veteran they stop and listen," Rieckhoff said. "A veteran is someone that people can relate to."

Rieckhoff said people often do not understand the complexity of the situation because President Bush over-simplifies it.

"The military is adapting to the type of war we are facing," Rieckhoff said. "We were trained to kill people and blow s--- up. Then the government was asking us to build schools and teach people about democracy. It's very different."

Rieckhoff also talked about the possibility of reinstating the draft, the over-extension of the military and the question of "What now?" for the war in Iraq.

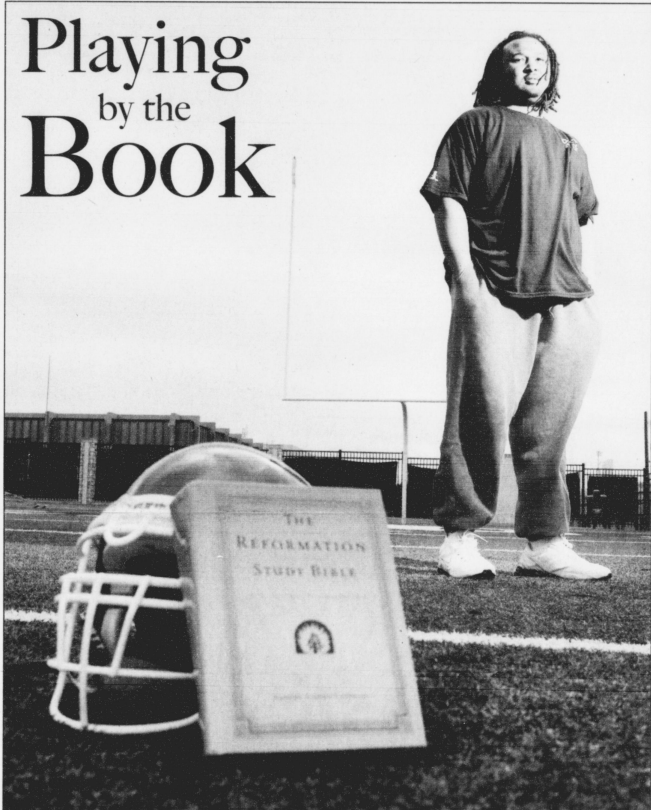
"It's not all or nothing," Rieckhoff said. "There are other ways to tackle the problem. There are finally conversations about alternatives."

Rieckhoff said he feels there is a major divide between military and civilian culture.

"It is not really a country at war right now," he said. "It is a military at war while people are at home shopping and playing Xbox. We are fighting ignorance and apathy along with fighting a war."

Megan Spalding, an integrated strategic communication senior, is the director of engaging issues for the Student Activities Board. Spalding said she heard

See Iraq on page 6



KEITH SMILEY / STAFF

UK outside guard Michael Aitchison, a fifth year senior, is working to pursue a future as a minister now that his college football career has ended. Aitchison has played with UK through some of its hardest seasons, but he says that faith has helped him through it.

Football senior's faith guides him from the field to a future in ministry

Travis Waldron
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One of the hardest questions to answer in college is what to do in life. But for UK football player Michael Aitchison, the answer was right under his nose.

On a cold night in December of 2005, Aitchison sat in his apartment deciding whether or not he should pursue a career as a minister. He had always entertained the idea, but on that night he looked for confirmation.

"I knew it wasn't any old job that could be taken lightly,"

Aitchison said. "I knew how serious of a task it would be."

Two Bibles sat in front of Aitchison, the first opened to Romans 12, telling him to offer himself as a living sacrifice to the Lord. Inside it sat the other, open to Psalms 95:7. "Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your heart," the verse read.

That was the answer for Aitchison.

In the middle of the that same night, Aitchison called Rev. Ricky Armstrong, the pastor at his church in Miami, Fla., to tell him that he had decided that he would pursue a career as a minister and commit his life to Christ.

"(Being a minister) is a call from God," Aitchison said. "God has put me in position."

Throughout high school and college, people told Aitchison his strong and firm voice commanded attention and people would listen to him when he spoke about religion, and that being a minister was what he was meant to do.

Lamar Mills, Aitchison's roommate and teammate for the last five years, agreed that Aitchison is a man who knows

See Aitchison on page 3

Physicist examines Einstein's famous theory of relativity

By Jill Laster
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$E=mc^2$ may be one of the most important mathematical equations for the entire universe. The impact of Albert Einstein's famous equation was the subject of a lecture last night in the W.T. Young Library by physicist Hitoshi Murayama.

Murayama, professor of physics at the University of California-Berkeley, used movies, images and audio clips to describe what exactly $E=mc^2$ means and its influence on life on Earth.

"This is something you're actually experiencing every day," Murayama said.

In physics, $E=mc^2$ states that energy (E) equals mass (m) multiplied by the speed of light squared (c^2). Murayama explained that the equation shows how light reaches the earth.

"People had a lot of trouble understanding why the sun shines," Murayama said. "Einstein figured out how."

In his lecture, Murayama described how Einstein used his own research along with work done by earlier scientists such as Isaac Newton to develop his famous 1905 theory.

"There was something radical going on here," Murayama said.

Murayama also talked about his own research in two parts of $E=mc^2$: energy and mass.

"We understand energy quite well," Murayama said. "We know far less about what mass is."

Scientists from around the world, including Murayama, are trying to understand dark matter, a substance that does not reflect or emit light. Murayama said more than 22 percent of the universe may come from dark matter.

Murayama is part of a project in Geneva that will try to create dark matter this year to discover what exactly the substance is. "What we are really trying to sort of do is redo the Big Bang in a little laboratory in a little way," Murayama said.

By understanding dark matter, Murayama said scientists can better understand $E=mc^2$.

"This is actually a very important question," Murayama said. "The importance of this equation has not diminished at all."

Murayama will speak more on $E=mc^2$ and dark matter at a departmental colloquium today at 3:30 p.m. in room 155 of the Chemistry-Physics Building.

"There are still many things we do not understand about this equation," Murayama said.

Student ambassadors test new online registration program

By Ashley B. Trooper
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UK is experiencing some web-based changes designed to simplify and enhance students' access to their information online.

Yesterday, Project Integrated Resources Information Systems administrators created a forum for some students to test the new Systems Applications Products campus management program, known to students as MyUK.

Fourteen student ambassadors from the College of Arts and Sciences met to go through different trial

processes on MyUK.

Administrators felt it would be necessary to receive student input on the new system.

"This is our opportunity to get feedback from students," said Lee Nelson, consulting project manager. "We need to make sure this site is able to operate with little to no instruction."

MyUK will replace WebUK and function as a site for class scheduling and accessing academic history, grades and registration. Students can already use MyUK to access existing features like Blackboard and their financial information.

Campus Management Team Leader Michelle Nordin said the new system will serve as a direct portal for students to access necessary pages for registration. UK students will be able to do everything from adding and dropping classes to choosing if they want to take a class pass/fail, both of which functions are currently handled by WebUK.

Students will sign in to their accounts by using their student ID and password instead of using their social security number and personal access number.

At the forum, students were asked

to complete nine tasks, including scheduling classes, dropping a class and taking a class pass/fail.

After completing the assignments, the IRIS team asked the students for suggestions on how to improve the existing system, what they liked and what they struggled with.

Overall, students were pleased.

"It's much easier to navigate than WebUK," said political science sophomore Amanda Dunn. "It is going to make the registration process easier."

Mathematics senior Ryan Mabry agreed.

"It's pretty intuitive," Mabry said.

"It is new, but similar to WebUK. I think there will be an adjustment period, but everyone will get used to it."

Project IRIS is in its last development phases, but will officially launch on Feb. 26.

Starting in the spring, students will use the new system to register for summer and fall classes.

Both students and administrators seemed pleased with the new module.

"This is a chance to provide better student services," said Don Witt, director of Undergraduate Admissions. "We want student input to make this a better process for everyone."

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Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

To get the advantage, check the day's rating. 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21 - April 19) Today is an 8 — Temptation is rampant as you receive compensation for past labors. Your friends suggest lots of amusing ways you could spend the money on them.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 5 — You're busy enough holding on to what you've already acquired. Be polite, but firm. Don't budge or blink, and eventually, they'll give up.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is an 8 — It's not a good time to go racing boldly forward. To win this battle, a more circuitous route is recommended.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is a 7 — There are more opportunities for socializing now. Don't talk about your recent successes however, or how much you've gained.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 9 — New rules and regulations inhibit your expression. It won't be long until you find a way to be effective, within the system.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is a 7 — You're starting to wish you could run away from your regular job, but you can't. Don't make yourself sick with worry; start making plans for a nice vacation.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is an 8 — Stash away whatever you've collected and don't talk about it. This goes for money as well as information.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is an 8 — Consult an expert, and save yourself a lot of extra work. You're getting into an area that requires delicate maneuvers.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is an 8 — You've heard that the impossible just takes a little longer. For you, this challenge could take forever. Go ahead and hire an expert. Supervising counts as working.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is a 7 — You can get some rest, if you can stop worrying about money. The bottom line is this: it's not about money; it's about love.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 6 — You've been very busy for the last few weeks. Spend an evening at home. Somebody or something there needs more of your attention. How long since you watered your plants?

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 7 — What you're learning now is at odds with what you already know. This does cause confusion, but it's usually not fatal. You may discover the contradictions help you understand even more.

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THE RECORD

Bun in the Oven

THE DISH

Keri Russell, 30, and her fiancé, Shane Deary, 30, a contractor, are expecting their first child this summer.

Jenna Elfman, 35, and her husband of 11 years, actor Bodhi Elfman, 37, will welcome a child later this year.

It's a Boy!

Six Feet Under alum Lauren Ambrose, 28, and her husband, photographer Sam Handel, 28, had their first child, Orson, January 16 in NYC.

Wedding Bells

Ex-Sister, Sister star Tia Mowry, 28, is engaged to actor Cory Hardrict, 27.

Project Runway Season 2 finalist Kara Jank, 30, wed real estate broker Sharon Sobayeh, 27, January 14 in her native South Africa.

Ka-ching!

The Closer's Kyra Sedgwick, 41, reportedly inked a deal estimated at \$16 million to star in and produce the TNT hit for four more seasons.

CNN's Anderson Cooper, 39, reportedly doubled his salary to at least \$4 million a year.

Busted

Paris Hilton, 25, was fined \$1,450 and given three years' probation from a reckless driving charge stemming from a 2006 DUI.

Ugly Sale

The 7,000-square-foot NYC

loft where parts of Ugly Betty's pilot were shot is for sale for \$8.95 million, per the New York Post.

One dancer had attended classes by acting coach Roy London, Pitt recalled, so he "checked it out, and it really set me on the path to where I am now."

Weight War

Keira Knightley, 21, is suing London's Daily Mail for implying that she sought to mislead the public about whether she had an eating disorder.

Revealed

Recent American Idol contestant Thomas Daniels, 21, of Oregon, pleaded guilty to DUI in 2004 and was arrested in 2005 for a hit and run, per TMZ.com. He attributed his behavior to being "young and dumb."

Divorce Court

Marilyn Manson, 38, counterfiled divorce papers January 12, asking that ex Dita Von Teese, 34, not get spousal support and that she pay her own attorney fees.

CSI: Miami's David Caruso, 51, and wife of 10 years Margaret finalized their split.

Paul & Heather: Still at War!

The bitter battle between Paul McCartney and Heather Mills is far from over. After The News of the World (inset) reported January 21 that Mills, 39, had settled with her ex, 64 — who is worth an estimated \$1.6 billion — for \$63 million, her lawyer issued a denial. "There has been no offer made whatsoever at any time," the firm said.

Seems their split may have taken a scary turn: A source tells US Mills has been receiving death threats (by a Beatles fanatic, no less, adds the source) and wants McCartney to foot the bill for a bodyguard. But McCartney "does not see why he should provide security," snipes the source. McCartney's rep had no comment.

— Kate Frank

Stripper Secret

Brad Pitt, 43, said in January 29's Newsweek one of his first jobs — driving strippers to gigs — helped launch his acting ca-

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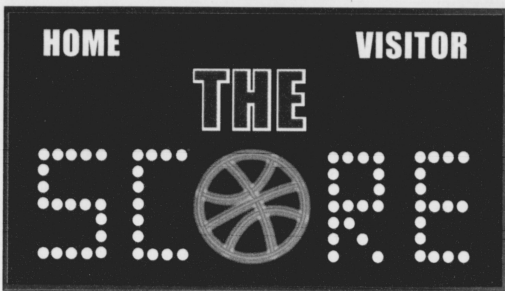
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Chris Miles
Asst. Sports Editor
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Be happy: the Score
has returned.



“They came out and started denying us the ball. We weren't hungry enough to get open. It's my fault.”

— Junior guard Joe Crawford after scoring a career-high 29 points in the 78-69 overtime loss to Georgia on Wednesday.

MISS. ST. 83, UK 75 (2OT)

Cats held scoreless in second overtime

By Matthew George
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After a stretch where the UK Hoops team played four of their last five games on the road, the Cats thought they could find some comfort in their return home.

But the Cats let an 11-point second half lead evaporate and failed to score in the game's second overtime, losing to Mississippi State 83-75 in front of 6,012 fans at Rupp Arena last night.

UK was led by senior center Jennifer Humphrey, who finished the game with 22 points and 16 rebounds for her 13th career double-double.

Despite Humphrey's strong presence in the waning moments of the game, UK failed to get the ball inside the paint and settled instead for shooting from the perimeter.

"We weren't working hard for the ball," said head coach Mickie DeMoss. "We kept trying to run things to go inside, but you've got to want it."

Disappointed in her team's lack of effort in the second overtime, DeMoss cleared her bench with 30 seconds left to play and her team down by six.

"Some of them knew that I was not pleased with the way we closed things out in the second overtime," DeMoss said. "It's not a matter of missing shots and things like that.

It is things that you can control, like effort plays, that I was disappointed in and that (the team) should be disappointed in."

Unable to get the ball inside, UK forced jump shots down the stretch. The Cats converted on just 2-for-20 three-point shots for the game.

"We got open looks on the perimeter," DeMoss said. "They knocked theirs down and we didn't."

UK and Mississippi State finished the first half locked in a 36-36 tie.

The Cats opened the second half with an 18-7 run and eventually stretched their lead to 11.

But Mississippi State battled back, taking the lead with a layup made by Inesha Jackson with a minute and a half remaining. It was the Bulldog's first lead since they were up 28-26 midway through the first half.

Samantha Mahoney answered, scoring on consecutive possessions to give the Cats a 68-66 edge with 30 seconds to go.

"I thought we played well enough down the stretch to win the game in regulation," DeMoss said.

UK made a defensive stop on Mississippi State's next trip down the floor, but the Bulldogs managed to tie up the loose ball and regain the possession with 1.9 seconds remaining.

On the ensuing inbounds play,

the Cats nearly forced a five-second call, but the Bulldogs found forward Bethany Washington underneath for a layup that sent the squads to overtime.

"A couple of things here or there give you momentum," said Mississippi State head coach Sharon Fanning. "I think getting us into overtime and scoring the first bucket in those situations was something that helped us focus a little more."

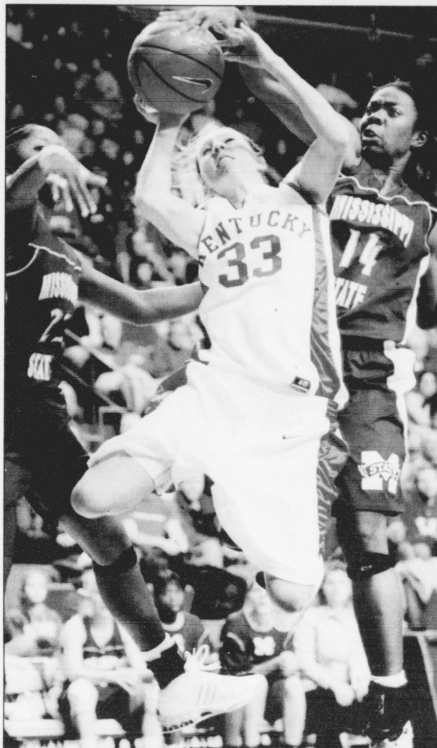
The teams traded baskets through the first extra session. With the game tied 75-75, each team had a chance to take the lead with under 30 seconds to play, but neither could convert, forcing a second overtime.

By clogging the paint, Mississippi State outscored the Cats 8-0 in the second overtime to pick up the win.

"They got the momentum at that time, and we never put a stop to it," Mahoney said. "They were on a run and we pretty much didn't answer it."

Mahoney hit a three with 12:20 left to give her 1000 points for her Wildcat career. This enabled her to become the 25th player in UK Hoops history to reach that plateau. Mahoney finished the game with 12 points.

Sarah Elliot scored nine points, leaving her just nine points shy of joining the 1000-point club.



Above: Senior guard Jerry Pfeiffer is blocked by Mississippi State forward Bethany Washington as she goes for a layup in the first half of the 83-75 double overtime loss last night at Rupp Arena.

Left: Head coach Mickie DeMoss reacts to a call made by one of the referees at the end of the second half.

PHOTOS BY ELLIOTT/MESS STAFF

Cats deserved loss after poor effort

Some nights the team that deserves to win a game doesn't win.

Some nights the team with more talent wins the game, even when it gets outplayed.



CHRIS DELOTTELL
Kernel columnist

Last night was not one of those nights.

After taking a double-digit second half lead against Southeastern Conference also-ran Mississippi State, the UK women's basketball team blew it, and the Cats have no one to blame but themselves.

After building an 11-point lead midway through the second half by throwing the ball into the post, the Cats inexplicably stopped throwing the ball into the post. Instead, they started jacking up perimeter shots. And in the process, they shot the Bulldogs right back into the game.

On a night when forward Jennifer Humphrey only missed one shot en route to a career high 22 points, guards Jenny Pfeiffer and Samantha Mahoney fired bricks at the Rupp rims down the stretch. Mahoney was 4-for-14 and Pfeiffer was an almost unbelievable 1-for-13, yet throughout the final six minutes of regulation and both overtimes, UK continued to settle for outside shots — and kept on missing them.

DeMoss blamed the collapse on a lack of effort by her post players.

"We weren't working for the ball," she said. "You've got to want the ball."

Or you could have blamed it on 5-for-27 shooting by the Cats' two best shooters.

Whatever the reason, UK couldn't score late in the game.

Perhaps more egregiously, the veteran Cats got out-hustled by the baby Bulldogs, who start three freshmen, one sophomore and a junior, who was a college transfer. While UK was missing perimeter shots, MSU was running down every loose ball and turning hustle plays into points.

"I was not pleased with the way we closed the game," DeMoss said. "It's things you can control — effort plays — that I was disappointed in, and that (our players) should be disappointed in."

And even with all that — with getting outworked and missing shot after shot after bad shot, the Cats led by two with less than two seconds to play. To win the game, all they had to do was prevent MSU from scoring on an underneath inbounds play.

The Bulldogs got a wide-open lay-up. This was the kind of game that experienced, veteran teams should win. It was the kind of game that NCAA tournament teams have to win.

And it was a game the Cats didn't deserve to win.

Chris DeLottell is an education junior. E-mail: cdelottell@kykernel.com



UK outside guard Michael Aitcheson, right, blocks as teammate Rafael Little runs the ball against South Carolina. Football is not in Aitcheson's plans now that his eligibility has ended.

AITCHESON

Continued from page 1

about religion and knows how to teach it.

"I've learned so much from him," Mills said. "Mike has a personality out of this world. He's outspoken, and he can get along with so many people, so many cultures and backgrounds. It makes him enjoyable."

Mills was not the only UK football player Aitcheson has affected.

Junior linebacker Wesley Woodyard was a regular churchgoer at home in Georgia, but when he came to UK, he struggled to find a church that fit him. Aitcheson came to him one day after practice and told Woodyard he would take him to church the next Sunday.

"Mike's always been there for me," Woodyard said. "If I had any questions, I could count on him."

Woodyard said that Aitcheson always had something posi-

tive to say, especially when people were troubled, and he would help them sort out their problems with religion.

Aitcheson's first few years at Kentucky were hard. After a red-shirt year in 2002 — when UK won seven games but were kept from a bowl because of NCAA violations — head coach Guy Morriss, who recruited Aitcheson, left for Baylor.

Over the next three seasons UK had a combined record of 9-25. Fans and the media criticized the team. Even some of Aitcheson's family members were critical of his decision to go to UK.

Junior quarterback Andre Woodson said Aitcheson leaned on his faith throughout his trying years at UK.

"He's always a guy who stays positive," Woodson said. "He's been fighting through all the criticism and always supported every guy on the squad. He falls back on God and a lot of

players look up to that."

Despite the early struggles, Aitcheson's UK career finished on a high note. He started all 13 games as a senior and was named All-SEC by the conference's coaches. The UK coaching staff named him the team's Most Inspirational Player.

But now that his UK career is over, football isn't in his plans.

Instead, he will head back home to Florida to attend seminary school, receive his master's degree in divinity and begin his life as a minister.

"Football is not the only element of my life," Aitcheson said. "My reality is to go back home, get my job and get ready for my next phase of schooling."

Mills said he can't wait to see Aitcheson find success and preach at a church.

"When he gets things up and running," Mills said, "I'm going to be the first man over there."

MICHAEL AITCHESON
senior outside guard

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SG constitution should be cut down to basics

Student Government is again making rumblings about altering its constitution.

It's about time. Currently, the SG constitution doesn't function as a constitution, a structural basis for how SG performs. Right now, the constitution serves as the go-to rulebook for everything SG does and considers, from election rules to scholarship appropriations.

For instance, the current constitution (available online at www.uky.edu/SGA/pdf/constitution.pdf) contains a description of almost the entire procedure for dealing with election violations (Article VI, Section 9). Although this is undoubtedly an improvement over past constitutions, which dictated rules down to the number of signs each candidate could put up, it still reaches a level of specificity that a constitution should avoid.

This is incredibly inconvenient on multiple levels, including when it comes to making a change to some facet of SG's regulations, such as election procedures. Instead of amending normal legislation, the senate instead has to obtain the approval of the senate twice. Because of this fact, it's not unusual for SG to have to amend its constitution on a yearly basis.

The foundation of a democratically run student organization should not rest on such a shaky foundation. Instead of constantly amending the constitution, SG should trim it down to the bare necessities.

Rules, regulations, election procedures and the like should be placed in legislation and treated as such. Such legislation should be amendable by a majority vote of the SG Senate, without the conundrum of a yearly revision of the SG constitution to fix only a few details out of the whole arrangement.

The constitution of the United States is a concrete document.

KERNEL EDITORIAL

amended only a handful of times in the more than 200 years since it was enacted. Likewise, SG's constitution should not contain the day-to-day rules and business that SG deals with. The constitution itself should be the basis for SG's mission to represent student interests. Nothing more, nothing less.

Since SG is a purportedly democratic student organization, its constitution should not be something that is so easy to change. Once the constitution has been established as a stable governing guideline, the ability to change it should be restricted.

Unnecessary and frivolous modifications are different from genuinely necessary amendments. To that end, because SG is an organization with its roots in the student body, it should be up to the student body whether or not any modification to the SG constitution is in their best interests. Once the constitution has been sufficiently slimmed down, further amendments should not be allowed to take effect without the approval of a majority of voters in the spring SG elections.

That may sound like overkill, it is currently far too simple to modify the SG constitution. We understand why that is necessary with the constitution in its current form, but once it becomes a more abstract governing document, two rounds of approval by the SG Senate will be too simple. Placing the power in the hands of the students will ensure that whatever action is taken is a democratically reached conclusion placed not in the hands of the few, but of the campus at large.

SG's move toward removing the organization's day-to-day duties from its constitution is a positive and heartening sign. We encourage them to continue on this course for the benefit of the student body as a whole.

Documentary should improve Ky. image

It's nice to know that there are those out there who are looking to better the image of the state of Kentucky.

The long-time subject of red-neck jokes, Kentucky has been over and over again portrayed as a backward state, where politics have run amok and society is a shoesless, toothless group that marries with one another's cousins. This portrayal, of course, is totally wrong.

History professor Ron Eller has taken it upon himself to help change that image. He doesn't like the way this state has been represented nationally and has, with the help of faculty from UK, begun work on a documentary entitled

"Kentucky: An American Story" that looks to portray the state as the heart of America and a mirror of American history.

"Kentucky is known for misconceptions like ignorance, hillbilities and inbreeding," UK history chair Dan Smith, who is working with Eller on the documentary, said in the Kernel on Monday. "But you can't understand America if you can't understand Kentucky."

The documentary's objective is to show parallels between the land, people and politics of the state to

KERNEL EDITORIAL

the wider nation, explaining that the battles and accomplishments that have shaped Kentucky are the same that have happened in American society.

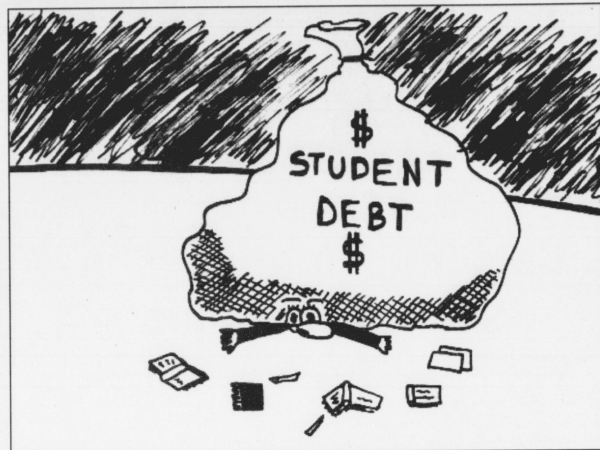
The documentary's director, Paul Wagner, won an Academy Award in 1984 for a documentary short called "The Stone Carvers."

Ashley Judd has already lent her voice to the documentary's preview and will also help narrate the film when it is finally released in fall 2007.

This film and those involved have taken it on themselves to help change the reputation of the state. It is a great endeavor and, if successful, could have great benefits for Kentucky and the way it is portrayed throughout the nation.

"Kentucky's history is symbolic of the nation's history," Smith said. "It's like what Jesse Stewart said, 'If these United States could be called a body, Kentucky can be called its heart.' Kentucky represents the nation's beauty."

It's a good thing that that beauty is now being shared with the nation.



CLARY ESTES, Kernel cartoonist

State of the Union shows that politicians are people, too

I react to the State of the Union as a football fan would react to the Super Bowl. It's one night a year with no commercial interruptions — unless



MEGAN VAZMINA
Kernel columnist

you count the clapping — and I get to sit down and watch who claps and who doesn't. I root for certain policies just like football fans root for their favorite teams.

I'll cheer when something monumental is said and "boo" and scream when

I hear something that irks me. One of the major differences, though, is that I will never be seen in body paint in sub-freezing temperatures.

This year, the speech was important to me, but it was not a night where I could sit and relax. So while listening to the president, I wrote several papers while trying to pay attention.

All in all, it wasn't the most influential or brilliant State of the Union I've heard. It was very general, and I found myself watching to see when

Nancy Pelosi clapped instead of listening to all the proposals.

One thing I won't forget was the end. Not the final "God bless America" or the reference to the creator of Baby Einstein, but when Bush walked down the aisle. He signed autographs! Legislators lined up to speak to Bush, maybe trying to push a policy, but most were trying to get their programs signed by the president. It was the craziest thing I'd seen in a long time.

I know if I was invited to the State of the Union (and I'm now accepting invitations), I would want my program signed because it would be a once in a lifetime memory.

But legislators work on Capitol Hill, and I guarantee it's not the first time they have seen the president in person.

It's not like they are desperate for money either, so I'm sure that they aren't signing on to their eBay accounts and opening an auction. I can only imagine what their login names would be, but I digress.

These people seemed to be as much in awe with the office of the president as many Americans would be.

They may see Bush everyday, or maybe just once every month, but they have been in the presence of the most

powerful man in the country. Yet they still line up to say hello, to shake hands and to get an autograph.

The high and mighty politicians for once acted like humans! The media and the public seem to view these people as a race apart from others; I know that I still get giddy at the prospect of meeting someone from Washington.

It's similar to the Hollywood craze and how people will search for movie stars at their haunts or sneak backstage to meet a rock star. Politicians were trying to get an autograph of one of their own.

I don't remember many of the details of the speech: I can tell that Iraq was mentioned, as was oil and all of the standard elements of the State of the Union.

But I do remember watching Dennis Kucinich circle around to greet the president twice, someone holding out two programs to be signed instead of just one and Bush saying a few words to those who congratulated him.

The best part of the night, by far, was seeing that every so often, politicians can be people, too.

Megan Vazmina is a political science and journalism junior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UK living in the past by depending on coal for energy production

In response to both Cody Belcher's letter to the editor entitled "Save energy on campus, but not by cutting coal" and also to the larger situation at hand concerning renewable energy and sustainability on UK's campus, I ask all students, faculty and administrators to take a different look at the issue.

If the goal of the modern institution, whether it is a public university or a multinational corporation, is to support progress, whether it is economic, industrial, social or scientific, the process of using coal as our primary source of energy is counteractive to our goal.

The process of extracting and burning coal for energy is nearly 200 years old, easily outliving other technologies developed during the Industrial Revolution. In addition to being far out of date, coal burning for energy purposes is environmentally damaging, and is the source of much of the carbon dioxide emissions that are causing global warming.

And although reducing our dependence on coal would cause a number of jobs to be lost, the potential for a net employment gain through other industries is promising. In Kentucky, we have the luxury of living in a beautiful state with the potential for a blossoming tourism industry, as well as the investment of corporations like Toyota and UPS.

Instead of continuing to live in the past with a fear of the future, we should embrace a forward-thinking policy — as a university and a state — that encourages the development of industries and technology that increase energy efficiency as well as promote economic growth.

So rather than UK continuing to invest in an outdated and harmful technology, I suggest that we work towards a more sustainable campus, much like the one proposed by the student-approved, administration-denied referendum on renewable energy. A campus built on the ideas of innovation, not convenience; stewardship, not exploitation; and community, not rugged individualism.

If it is truly Dr. Todd's goal to make UK a top-20 public institution, he and the administration will realize that we are living in the past, an ideal embodied by none of the nation's top academic institutions.

Taylor Shelton
geography junior

Ky.'s flagship university should show pride in the Commonwealth

As the flagship university of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, it would seem to be a matter of logic for the campus to boast tokens of pride in our commonwealth. As it is today, there are only a handful of such displays of pride in our identi-

ty; the name "Commonwealth" Stadium and a Kentucky state history class exist, to name two.

I propose, in one small measure to display state pride, that Student Government or another organization finance the raising of the official Kentucky state flag and the United States flag over Kirwan and Blanding Towers, with additional state flags and national flags flying over Patterson Office Tower.

This simple, small investment would indeed remind students of how special it is to be a Kentuckian. It would show that our campus is proud of its Commonwealth's heritage and identity in an American society that, it can be argued, suffers from a misperception of Kentucky.

In my experience at UK, it has been an extreme pleasure to meet people from the state outside of my hometown. Many of my interactions and friendships have led me to believe that our lives before UK are as different and far apart as the distance between where we grew up. With this in mind, I believe a visible state flag would be one excellent reminder that they share an identity as fellow Kentuckians.

Taylor Mayor
undecided freshman

Many college students unprepared for yearly tuition increases

On Jan. 23, the UK Board of Trustees approved a nine percent tuition increase for the 2007-08 school year. Other miscellaneous fees and the cost of room and board have also increased.

As a student, I have seen this happen every year for the past three years. The tuition increases have cost me, in particular, almost \$2,000 more each year from what I expected to pay when I first entered the university.

Although President Lee Todd announced his new "2020 Scholars" program to help alleviate the rising price of higher education, it is not enough. Todd's programs guarantee scholarships to only 2,800 students, which is roughly 10 percent of the student body. If he wants to continue raising tuition and fees, then he should continuously raise the number of scholarships.

Hindsight would have better prepared me for the financial burden of rising tuition, and high school seniors, as well as all those preparing to enter college, should be forewarned.

Maybe a mandatory caution label should be placed on college applications, warning applicants of the inevitable increased prices, so they can better know what they are getting themselves into in the future.

Jaclyn Hayes
secondary English education junior

Note to Readers

Unsigned editorials reflect the views of the Kernel Editorial Board. They are written independently of the Kernel's news coverage. Columns, letters and cartoons reflect the views of their authors.

Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Wes Blewins. 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

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FRAME FRAME

This week's box office hits and misses

By Ricky Simpson
rsimpson@kykernel.com

"Letters From Iwo Jima" with Ken Watanabe and Kazunari Ninomiya

This is the parallel film to "Flags of Our Fathers," which was released in 2006. Both films revolve around the World War II battle of Iwo Jima and were actually filmed together.

"Flags" follows the story of the American troops who raised the flag at Iwo Jima; "Letters" shows World War II through Japanese soldiers' eyes.

Both movies are based on the separate books, which also show the opposing viewpoints of the war.

While this movie is meant to depict WWII in a Japanese light, it is a good idea to also see "Flags of Our Fathers" in order to see both sides. Together, they're meant to show that there are humans on both sides of a battle.

One of the few "American" moments in "Letters" comes when a Japanese soldier surrenders, hoping to spare his life, but a U.S. troop shoots him. Later, there is a scene where Japanese soldiers sneak through the night to attack an American camp. The scene plays out in such a way that viewers want to pull for the Japanese.

"Letters From Iwo Jima" has been nominated for a best picture Oscar, making it one of the five "best" films of the year.

This film is disappointing, not as good as "Flags of Our Fathers," and I am sorry that I paid to see it. I honestly feel that Eastwood should give me my \$6.50 back.

Now showing at Lexington Green.



"Epic Movie" is a spoof of recent Hollywood blockbusters including "The Chronicles of Narnia," "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and "Nacho Libre." "Epic Movie" opens this weekend nationwide.

"Smokin' Aces" with Ben Affleck, Jason Bateman, Andy Garcia, Ray Liotta, Jeremy Piven and Ryan Reynolds

In "Ocean's 11"-like form, a team of criminals comes together for what they hope will be the perfect sting. As the mob hangs down an ex-magician (Piven) who is threatening to testify against them, offering a \$1 million reward for his life, FBI agents, ex-cons and bounty hunters all join the chase.

With the million-dollar bounty, the race is on to see who will get the hit first. This film should be fresh and has a hip cast.

Opens tonight at Cinemark-Movies 10, Hamburg Pavilion and Cinemark-Fayette Mall.

"Blood and Chocolate" with Agnes Bruckner and

Opens tonight at Cinemark-Movies 10, Hamburg Pavilion and Cinemark-Fayette Mall.

High Dancy

With a title like this, who'd have thought this movie would be about a teenage werewolf? The werewolf must pick between the love of a mortal and her family of werewolves. Seriously — that is what this movie is about.

Opens tonight at Hamburg Pavilion and Cinemark-Fayette Mall.

"Epic Movie" with Kal Penn

"Epic" is a spoof film that pokes fun at the big-budget blockbusters of the past couple of years. The film was written by Jason Friedberg and Aaron Seltzer, who also wrote "Scary Movie 2," "Scary Movie 3," "Scary Movie 4" and the instant classic, "Date Movie." I smell a lifetime achievement award!

Opens tonight at Cinemark-Movies 10, Hamburg Pavilion and Cinemark-Fayette Mall.

Upcoming DVDs

"Facing the Giants" with Alex Kendrick and Shannen Fields

In this film, Grant Taylor (Kendrick) coaches a struggling football team and integrates his faith with his coaching in an attempt to turn his life and team around. This film was not widely promoted, but it still should be a rental blockbuster.

"Catch a Fire" with Tim Robbins and Derek Luke

A husband (Luke) takes action after his wife is arrested and jailed in South Africa by the country's oppressive Apartheid regime. This film was forgotten after "Blood Diamond" stole its South-African political thunder.

IRAQ

Continued from page 1

Rieckhoff speak in Boston and thought he could inform and educate UK students.

"I think that the university as a whole needs to become more educated about the ever-changing policies of the war," Spalding said.

Rickey Pack, a graduate student in the College of Public Health, said that Rieckhoff spurred him to reconsider leadership in the US.

UK pharmacists 'on call' this weekend

By Ashleigh Wolf
news@kykernel.com

There's no need to stand in line to talk to a pharmacist this weekend.

Plenty of them will be available Saturday via phone during "Ask a Pharmacist," a television program organized by the UK College of Pharmacy and sponsored by UK HealthCare.

The show, in its 17th year, is a venue for callers to request information about medications. Calls will be answered by first-year students in the UK College of Pharmacy then transferred to volunteer pharmacists who will read the best questions on-air.

Jody Jaggars, a 2005 UK pharmacy graduate and one of four panelists, already answers questions on a day to day basis at Walgreens pharmacy in Frankfort. Jaggars said he's excited about the chance to reach an even bigger audience.

"It is a neat opportunity to share knowledge on a much larger scale," Jaggars said.

More than 400 questions are asked on the show each season, giving direction to viewers about how to handle their medication.

Questions have included how to lower prescription costs, information about specific medications, mixing drugs, side effects and over-the-counter alternatives to prescription drugs.

Panelists include Jaggars; John Armistead, assistant dean for medical center pharmacy services at the UK College of Pharmacy and director of pharmacy services at UK Chandler Hospital; Amy Nicholas, associate clinical pharmacist at the UK College of Pharmacy and co-director of the UK PharmacistCARE program; and Julie Dawson, a clinical pharmacist at Meadsview Regional Hospital in Maysville and a 1995 graduate of the college.

The program will air for the first time this season from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. this Saturday on WKYT and WYMT.

Kid director, 10, sues over rights dispute

By Josh Friedman
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES — Most 10-year-olds are happy with an allowance and some video games.

Budding filmmaker Dominic Scott Kay wants creative control, along with a shot at the Sundance Film Festival. And, as often happens in the entertainment business, to get what he wants he's headed to court with one of Hollywood's top litigators in tow.

The child actor, whose credits include Steven Spielberg's "Minority Report" and voicing Wilbur the pig in Paramount Pictures' recent "Charlotte's Web," is in a creative battle with Conroy Kanter, the financier of a short film Kay directed. The two met when Kay played on a soccer team with Kanter's son.

"She wanted to make all the decisions and stuff," Kay said. "She wanted final cut and everything."

Kay alleges in a lawsuit filed Thursday in Los Angeles County Superior Court that Kanter is trying to wrest away control of the short, "Saving Angelo," which stars Kevin Bacon and which Kanter helped bankroll with \$11,000.

Kanter's attorney, Michael Stoller, declined to comment. Kanter received a producer credit and had a small acting part in the short.

Kanter "literally begged" Kay to let her back his project, said Dylan Ruga, who is representing Kay along with prominent Hollywood lawyer Stanton L. "Larry" Stein.

Kay based his film on an incident in his own life. It tells the story of a boy who rescues a dog left for dead and finds a home for it in a local firehouse. The lawsuit describes Bacon as a friend of Kay's. Kay starred in the Bacon-directed film "Loverboy."

Kay alleges that Kanter, through her lawyers, has threatened since September 2005 to sue him if he finishes editing the film or screens it without her consent. The lawsuit said profits would go toward animal-rescue charities.

The movie was invited to the Los Angeles International Short Film Festival and other showcases, and it could have been eligible for the Sundance Film Festival this year and last if not for the dispute, Kay alleges.

"One of the most frustrating things was that Ms. Kanter stopped me from showing the film at Sundance for two years in a row," Kay said. "I don't think that's fair."

Peace protests planned in Washington, other cities

By Adam Schreck and Valerie Reitman
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON — Emboldened by the Democratic takeover of Congress and shrinking public support for the Iraq war, antiwar groups are planning what they hope will be a massive protest Saturday on the National Mall.

Similar events are planned in dozens of cities around the United States, with some of the largest expected in Los Angeles and

San Francisco. Organizers said they aim to put pressure on both the White House and Congress to end the war.

"The message will be 'Mr. President, bring our troops home,'" said Rep. Lynn Woolsey, D-Calif., one of several politicians, activists and actors scheduled to speak in Washington.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, director of PUSH/Rainbow Coalition, one of the rally sponsors, is also scheduled to appear on the Mall, organizers said, as are Rep. Dennis J. Kucinich, D-Ohio, a longshot candidate for

the Democratic presidential nomination, and actors Jane Fonda, Danny Glover, Susan Sarandon and Tim Robbins.

"We're predicting this will be one of the largest demonstrations since the war began," said Leslie Cagan, national coordinator for United for Peace and Justice, the umbrella group organizing the Washington protest.

About 300 busloads of protesters are traveling from more than 30 states to attend the rally, said United for Peace and Justice spokesman Hany Khalil.

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