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# THE Kentucky Kernel

Tuesday, April 18, 2006

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## Todd proposes changes to faculty and staff raises

As state budget faces final hurdle, Todd reduces controversial "catch-up" boost for faculty while increasing raise for staff

By Megan Boehnie and Adam Sichko  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

In a change from his original and consistently defended proposal, UK President Lee Todd is now recommending larger faculty and staff salary pool raises — but is also shrinking and postponing a faculty "catch-up" raise at the same time.

For most of the semester, Todd advocated a salary pool increase proposal that called for a 5.5 percent pool raise for faculty — including a

2.5 percent "catch-up" boost to compete with salaries at UK's 19 benchmarks — and a 3 percent raise for staff. The plan also included a \$3 million staff benefits pool, which has now been moved to the 2007-08 fiscal year.

The changes follow the near-completion of the state budget — "a tale of two budgets," Todd said in an e-mail to all faculty and staff yesterday. UK is almost fully funded for the 2007-08 school year, but the university is receiving \$12.1 million less in additional general

fund money than what it asked for to cover the 2006-07 school year. That meant shuffling proposed pay raises and moving more costs — such as staff benefits and the "catch-up" to benchmark faculty salaries — to 2007 and 2008 in order to follow the formula of Top-20 Business Plan, Todd said. The plan is a framework for how UK will fulfill its mandate of reaching top-20 status among public



"That's the best we could do, considering the money we have possible."

Lee Todd  
UK President

See Salaries on page 3

### Faculty

- **Original Proposal:** A 3 percent salary pool raise with an additional 2.5 percent "catch-up" boost for a total raise of 5.5 percent in 2006-07
- **New Proposal:** A 3.5 percent salary pool raise for 2006-07 with a 1.5 percent "catch-up" boost that will begin in January 2007; total raise of 5 percent

President Todd: "I would certainly hope no one sees this as we're backing up on differential raises."

### Staff

- **Original Proposal:** A 3 percent salary pool increase for 2006-07 school year and \$5 million for staff benefits
- **New Proposal:** A 3.5 percent salary pool increase for 2006-07; benefits pool delayed until 2007-08 fiscal year

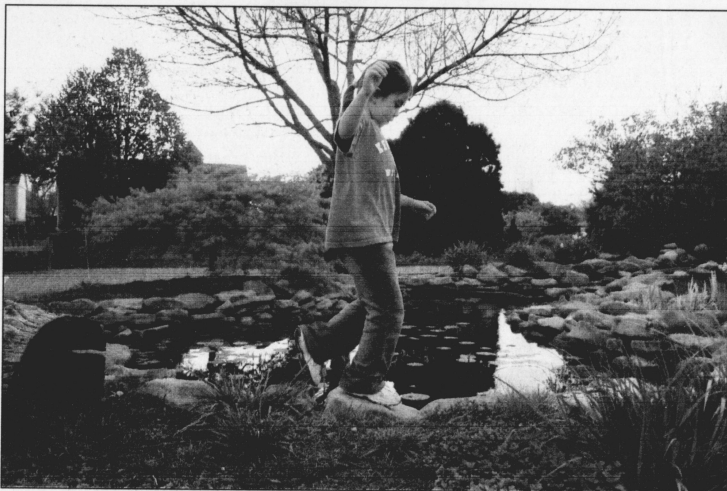
President Todd: "In order to try and keep the staff up to labor markets we went with the 3.5 percent increase."

### Tuition

- **Original Proposal:** A 12 percent tuition increase
- **New Proposal:** No change

President Todd: "Our students and their families have shouldered double-digit increases for five years so we can sustain our progress. We dare not increase their burden by one more dollar than is absolutely necessary."

## WALKING THE LINE



Daniella Hudgins, 7, plays along a goldfish pond in the UK Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Arboretum yesterday. Her mother, Graciella Hudgins said they had just returned from Peru and decided to come out and look at the flowers.

BRAD LUTTRELL | STAFF

## For Iraqi students, history ends when Saddam's story begins

By Jonathan Finer  
THE WASHINGTON POST

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The two-year-old modern history textbook used at Baghdad's Mansour High School for Boys doesn't mention the U.S.-led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq in 2003.

There's not a word about Iraq's annexation of — and subsequent expulsion from — Kuwait in 1990 and 1991, or its grinding eight-year war with Iran in the 1980s that took the lives of a generation of young men.

Perhaps most conspicuously absent from the book, earlier versions of which were packed with florid praise for Saddam, is any reference to the former dictator. For the purposes of instruction at Mansour High, and most schools across Iraq, history ends in 1988, before the bloodless coup that swept the Baath Party to power.

U.S.-sponsored reconstruction efforts have renovated or rebuilt nearly 3,000 Iraqi schools, retrained 55,000 teachers and administrators and — under the supervision of the government's de-Baathification commission — revised or redacted millions of textbooks that glorified 35 years of tyrannical rule. Dozens of schools named for Saddam were reflagged, and once-mandatory courses in nationalism and Baathist ideology were scrapped.

But Iraq's updated history books now contain no information on the pivotal events of the past three decades and more, a fact some teachers and politicians say will handicap students and delay Iraq's society in coming to terms with a long period of

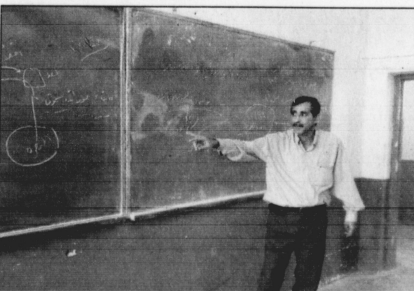
uninterrupted trauma.

Education officials said they decided soon after Saddam fell from power that the wounds of his rule were so fresh — and the potential for retaliatory violence so great — that the subject was best omitted from school texts, at least for now. This year, a committee of experts selected by the Education Ministry will launch an ambitious overhaul of school curricula. The goal is to produce the first broadly accepted history of Iraq's troubled recent past, a formidable challenge in a country split along ethnic and sectarian lines.

"It will be very, very, very hard to repre-

sent all the viewpoints. It cannot be viewed as something imposed by the strongest," said an Education Ministry official who will head the new curricular development committee and is already reviewing nominations for roughly 40 other positions. "The former regime used the curriculum as a mouthpiece for its own political interests," he continued. "We have to be careful. We have to be tactful."

"This is a part of Iraq that we are denying. Saddam Hussein is in the people's minds, even if he is removed from the book," said Yahia Abbas, 53, a history teacher at Mansour High in Baghdad.



Yahia Abbas teaches history at a Baghdad high school. Iraq's updated history books now contain no information on the pivotal events of the past three decades and more.

JONATHAN FINER | WASHINGTON POST

## Candidates address key campus issues

Four running for mayor answer questions during campus forum

By Sean Rose  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

About 80 people sat in the Student Center Theater last night listening to Lexington's mayoral candidates speaking on the future of the city and UK over the next four years.

The forum, hosted by Student Government, had the highest turnout out of any of the 17 that have occurred in the mayoral race.

All four candidates were in attendance last night: current mayor Teresa Isaac, Bill Farmer Jr., Charles Martin Jr. and Jim Newberry.

Campus issues discussed included the Lexington Area Party Plan, Lexington's role in UK's Top-20 Business Plan and safety around campus.

Martin said the police's attitude needs to change in regard to the party plan.

"College students like to party," Martin said. "I remember I did too... I just think we need, instead of the police trying to fine people and arrest people, they need to be concerned with safety and getting people home."

Isaac said she enjoyed her party days in college as well but that students need to realize they're still part of a community.

"I know they're going to party but you still have to be a good neighbor," Isaac said.

Some candidates proposed adding more Lexington Police officers to improve city safety.

"I don't think Lexington as a whole is safe," Newberry said who, like Farmer, favored hiring more police to bring the numbers equal with the national average.

Farmer added that more police officers are also important for schools to "make sure the learning environment around schools is just that."

Isaac said the city was safe for the most part, commending the relationship between UK and Lexington.

Martin said more officers were not needed but a shift in focus was the right direction.

"I feel like it's a fairly safe city," said Martin. "I feel like the priority of police should be protecting property instead of writing tickets and raising revenue."

As far as Lexington's role in the Top-20 Business Plan, most candidates said Lexington needed to provide an appealing community for future residents.

"Lexington needs to stay a place where people want to live, learn and raise a family," Newberry said. He proposed a scholarship plan that would help Lexington high school graduates who major in math or science.

Isaac said integrating Lexington and UK was key to improving campus and the city. SG President Beck Ellingsworth was pleased with the forum overall.

"I think it went very well," SG President Beck Ellingsworth said. "I think we had a good turnout... I always hope that there's more (students) but I think this was a solid number."

"I think it represented a broad number of issues that was from the faculty, staff and students."

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## Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

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

**Aries (March 21-April 19)** - Today is a 9 - Decide now, to better the best you've done before. Go farther, faster, higher or whatever it takes to renew your faith.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** - Today is a 6 - Discussions about shared money, and how it should be spent, are lively and confusing. But there will be a happy ending.

**Gemini (May 21-June 21)** - Today is an 8 - There's somebody else in your life who has a magnificent idea. Don't be jealous, be supportive. As partners, you'll be even more

powerful.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22)** - Today is a 5 - A difficult project may seem, at first, beyond your expertise. And at first, it is, but you can raise to the challenge. Meanwhile, your boredom will vanish.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** - Today is a 10 - True love is not as rare as some people would have you believe. You're in the middle of it now, for example. Just look around.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** - Today is a 5 - The funding is available for household renovation. Don't worry, you can afford it, as your place increases in value.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** - Today is an 8 - Try to answer the questions coming at you like machine gunfire. This is what all those years of training have been for.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** - Today is a 6 - Offer suggestions. Write them down and send them to people in power. You will be well rewarded for cutting costs and increasing output.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** - Today is an 8 - Don't let the messengers slow you down. Try to be reassuring. Endeavors begun now are favored to succeed, but there are rocky moments.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** - Today is a 5 - Important information at first causes a problem. You may feel unprepared, but don't despair. The truth will set you free.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** - Today is an 8 - Look here, look there, look everywhere. The answer that you're seeking isn't in either place. It's all over the place.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** - Today is a 6 - You're being tested to see if you can really do what you promised. If you've been thrifty with promises, you can, and you'll be well rewarded.

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## Meredith's long road to success

After years of juggling family and work, Vieira goes from hosting 'The View' and 'Millionaire' to making \$40 mill as 'Today' cohost

**By Mara Reinehr**

When Meredith Vieira agreed to host the daytime syndicated version of 'Who Wants to Be a Millionaire' in 2002, she had one stipulation: She needed to leave the building each night by 6:30 p.m. to have dinner with her three children. So imagine executive producer Michael Davies' concern one night when he learned that, after months of taping, Vieira was on the premises past her curfew. "I barged in [the studio], and she was writing thank-you notes to every contestant who came on our show," Davies tells us. "She had nothing to gain by doing that. It just shows you how much she connects with people."

he sensed that Couric would leave to anchor the CBS Evening News. "Everybody recognizes how special and great Meredith is."

**Her Big Break**

So how did a self-described "chubby" kid from Providence, Rhode Island, land arguably the most coveted job in broadcast journalism? A sterling resume doesn't hurt. A 1975 graduate of Tufts University (major: English), Vieira - the youngest of four children born to a home-maker and a doctor - began as a newsreader in Worcester, Massachusetts. She joined WCBS-TV in NYC as a reporter in 1982 before anchoring the CBS Morning News. In 1989, at age 36, she started at 60 Minutes.

On April 6, Vieira, 52, learned that the feeling is mutual. After tearfully announcing on The View - the ABC talk show she has moderated for the past nine years - that she had accepted a job offer to replace Katie Couric as co-host of NBC's venerable Today morning show, the audience stood up and applauded. Shortly thereafter, her four cohosts bemoaned her departure. "I feel like I'm losing a sister," Joy Behar said.

**Love of Her Life**

Her most memorable day at the network had nothing to do with news. In 1982, while working in the Chicago bureau, Cohen, then 35, walked into her office - and into her life. "I had my feet up, watching Looney Tunes on TV," she has recalled. After Cohen made a sarcastic remark, "I thought, He's sort of a jerky guy, but I'm going to be with him," she has said. "There was just something about him." They wed in 1986 in a small ceremony held in the courtyard behind their apartment.

Less than an hour later, at a press conference with her new Today team, Vieira's mood turned from bittersweet to ecstatic. Entering NBC headquarters at Rockefeller Center, she told us, "I am really excited about all of this!" Her husband's reaction? "This is her moment," former TV producer Richard M. Cohen, 58, told us. "She's at the top of her game." As for the rest of the family, Vieira told us, "My son Ben is already looking forward to going with Matt [Lauer]." Fortunately for Ben, 17, the two cohosts forged a bond back in December when Lauer invited Vieira to his NYC apartment for a "first date" dinner. "I had an idea that Katie was leaving, so I wanted to get to know Meredith," he says. "This is her moment." Lauer, 48, tells us. "We sat there for two hours, and there was never that moment when all you hear is the fork clicking to the plate."

Viewers can witness the chemistry first-hand when Vieira, who will reportedly earn \$40 million over the next four years, starts her new gig in September. (She'll stay on The View, which airs live daily until May and likely keep her Millionaire job, which requires her to shoot four shows a day three days a week, over a span of four months.) "We've had terrific feedback," says Jeff Zucker, CEO of the NBC Universal Television Group, who first approached Vieira about the job in October when

Little did either one of them know how supportive their relationship would be. On their second date, Cohen told Vieira that he suffered from multiple sclerosis. (He's now legally blind and walks with a cane.) "She didn't seem to care," Cohen has said. Vieira's take: "I wasn't scared. I was sincerely curious and interested." The couple were dealt another blow in 1999, when Cohen was diagnosed with colon cancer. Currently in remission, Cohen chronicled his illnesses in the 2004 memoir, Blind-sided. "Meredith cannot have bargained for a relationship so defined by diseases," he wrote, "but that is what she got."

Nonetheless, when recently asked by More magazine about her biggest accomplishment, Vieira answered, "Giving birth to these kids." Indeed, she suffered three miscarriages before delivering Ben. And in 1991, while pregnant with son Gabe, now 14, she quit 60 Minutes when producers refused to ease her schedule. In 1997, Barbara Walters asked if she would audition for a job on a daytime show called The View. Before Vieira took the Today job, "we had endless family meetings," Cohen tells us. "Each of the kids talked separately, we met together, and everyone saw this as a great opportunity"

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NYRODAM Clue: Livable lead

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Answers to 10/20/05: Jumble: TRUMP; FINALE: GRABBY; LAYOUT: Answer: This show, which was the No. 2 show on TV two years in a row, was left in Connecticut. Clue: FAMILY TIES

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# Salaries

Continued from page 1

research institutions by 2020.

"We just did not have enough funding to give a 5.5 percent increase to the faculty for the full year, so we had to find a way," Todd said. "By reducing that to a half a year, that saves us quite a bit of money that we would have had to spend that we basically don't have in this budget."

Todd said he worked closely with Kyle Dippery, chairman of the Staff Senate, in deciding to boost the staff salary pool raise by 0.5 percent.

"In order to try to keep the staff up to the labor market, we went with the 3.5 percent (for staff)," he said, adding that the increase is competitive with current market trends. "Then, we're going to be using the next year to study doing further enhancements to the staff salaries."

Other parts of the proposal maintain the originally suggested 12 percent tuition increase for next school year, slated to generate \$16.6 million for UK, as well as commit \$900,000 to a "fighting fund" designed to help retain faculty who have job offers from other universities or colleges.

### 'A step in the right direction'

Last year, both faculty and staff received a three percent salary pool raise. Over the three previous years, the groups averaged a 1.3 percent boost — including one year with no additional pool raise.

Dippery sees the current 3.5 percent salary pool raise proposal not as ideal, but at least a stronger start than what Todd had originally suggested.

"It's a slight concession by the administration to acknowledge that they heard our cries," Dippery said. "It's not really going to pacify the people who are really angry, but it's a step in the right direction."

The original proposal called for a 3 percent staff salary pool raise as well as a \$5 million allotment for staff benefits. That benefits allotment has been moved to the 2007-08 fiscal year, and the \$5 million figure isn't guaranteed, said UK spokesman Jay Blanton.

"We're going to have to delay that pool," Todd said. "In order to try to keep the staff up to the labor markets, we went with the 3.5 percent increase."

"We had to find a way to move out that staff pool because we just didn't have the money," he said. "We chose to do the 3.5 percent for the staff in lieu of that pool to work with."

According to figures from UK's Office of Planning, Budget and Policy, the jump from the 3 percent increase to the 3.5 percent level will cost UK an extra \$825,000 for staff and an extra \$750,000 for faculty.

Neither the original plan or the cur-

rently proposed scenario provide a real solution to the issues at hand, said College of Law staffer Samantha Gange, who is one of the most vocal supporters of a staff union at UK.

"It's still unequal and it's still a pool, so it's not a guarantee, the 3.5 percent," said Gange, who helped organize a staff rally last month to protest the originally proposed gap in pay raises. In merit-based systems such as UK's faculty and staff pools, department heads get a lump sum of money to distribute how they see fit, better rewarding those who are working harder than others. The average salary raise is 3.5 percent.

Gange also didn't like the idea of postponing the staff benefits pool.

"If they're going to delay it, I just hope it doesn't completely fall off the radar," she said.

Dippery believes Todd is doing "the best he can" under the circumstances, but knows this solution only works for this year.

"It'll help for this year, but next year, it will come up again," he said. "But next year, hopefully, we will have a better plan to address staff compensation and faculty. I guess I'm saying it will buy us more time."

### Faculty seeking fuller explanation

Several faculty leaders said they were "surprised" at yesterday's policy change and expressed concerns that Todd is backing off his previous proposal of differential raises.

"I feel a bit let down because I put a fair amount of effort into defending his position, but it is certainly his decision to make and I don't feel like the staff are undeserving of the increased raise," said Bob Grossman, a chemistry professor and member of the University Senate Council.

"Next time I see (Todd), I'll probably ask him why he changed his mind after being so firm in his position for such a long time," he said. "I'd hesitate to pass any judgment without hearing his reasons for making the decision that he did."

Calls to the home of Ernie Yanarella, chairman of the University Senate, were not returned last night.

Jeff Dembo, one of two faculty representatives on the Board of Trustees, said the Top-20 Business Plan requires prioritizing that may mean unequal salary pool raises.

"I think few people would disagree that you certainly need to support the staff as well," said Dembo, a dentistry professor. "But part of the Top-20 Business Plan also involves making difficult decisions, prioritizing..."

Currently, UK's average faculty salary is more than \$8,000 below the median for its 19 benchmarks. Todd's original differential proposal pleased many faculty, but Dembo believes some faculty could see this move as Todd compromising his original stance.

"We were delighted to know that the

president had finally taken this issue seriously and he had followed through with something that was acknowledged by all for a long time," he said.

"It's a fair assessment, and it's possible that some of my faculty colleagues may feel that a perfectly understandable decision has been made," he said. "On the other hand, I can easily see how faculty would take this as another sign that the salary issue hasn't been taken as seriously as it should, so the jury is still out."

Todd said this move far from represents a shift in priorities or preferences. "It's not a change in our policy; it's just a kind of operational way to find out how we make the budget dollars fit the picture we have to deal with," Todd said.

"I would certainly hope that nobody sees this as we're backing up on our position of having differentials... That's the best we could do, considering the money we have available."

Faculty trustee and communications professor Roy Moore said he agrees with that viewpoint.

"I don't think he's backed off the differential salaries, because he is allotting an extra catch-up, delaying the catch-up until January," Moore said. "There is a reduction in the delayed pool for faculty catch-up, but it'll still be a substantial increase."

Todd also has budgeted about \$800,000 for a "fighting fund" that he said has been successful in helping to retain faculty. He also said he structured salary raises so that full funding remained to hire 27 new faculty members next year, as planned under the Top-20 Business Plan.

"If you're that much short," Todd said, referring to UK's lower-than-anticipated funding for next year, "I'd hope the faculty would realize you can't do everything you wanted to do. We took a pretty big risk by talking about doing 5.5 percent raises for the next five or six years, knowing we might not be able to do that."

Dembo had a mixed reaction to the fighting fund allotment.

"I was happy that the fighting fund continued, but the fighting fund is still a last-ditch effort to try to keep faculty here at the university... I don't know if there really is enough in a fighting fund to keep top faculty in the leading departments of the university."

Grossman said he doesn't anticipate broad-based faculty reaction the same way that the staff rallies did.

"I doubt it, but one never knows," he said of a potential response from the University Senate. "I think any action is more likely to be expressed by people leaving (to go to other schools) rather than protesting."

The full budget, including all these proposals, will go before the Board of Trustees in June.

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Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soc. of Telecom. Scholars Meeting, 5:00 PM, Maggie Room, Grehan Building</li> <li>• Helping Hands Meeting, 6:00 PM, Student Volunteer Center, 106 Student Center</li> <li>• Reformed University Fellowship (RUF), 7:30 PM, student center rm. 357</li> <li>• BINGO!, 7:00 PM, STUDENT CENTER CATS DEN</li> <li>• Fencing Club Practice, 8:00 PM, Buell Armory</li> <li>• College Democrats Weekly Meeting, 7:30 PM, Rm. 211 Student Center</li> <li>• Alpha Phi Omega Active Meeting, 7:30 PM, Student Center, Room 359</li> <li>• Pre-Physical Therapy Student Association Meeting, 7:30 PM, Gallery, W.T. Young Library</li> <li>• Horticulture Club Meeting, 5:30 PM, Greenhouse classroom</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comedy Caravan, 8:00 PM, Student Center Cats Den</li> <li>• MUD WRESTLING, 5:00 PM, Goodbarn Field</li> <li>• James W. Stuckert Career Center Drop-In Hours, 3:00 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center 408 Rose Street</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reformed University Fellowship (RUF), 7:30 PM, Student center rm. 357</li> <li>• Half Baked, 10:00 PM, Center Theater in the Student Center</li> <li>• Euchre Tournament, 7:00 PM, Student Center Cats Den</li> <li>• DanceBlue All Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM, 119 Student Center</li> <li>• P.L.A.Y. Meeting, 5:30 PM, SVC</li> <li>• Internship Information Sessions, 1:00 PM, 408 Rose St</li> <li>• Fencing Club Practice, 8:00 PM, Buell Armory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICF Free Dinner and Fellowship, 7:00 PM, CSF Building (across from Cooperstown Apt.)</li> <li>• Super Troopers, 10:00 PM, Worsham Theater in the Student Center</li> <li>• Staff Senate Nominations Due, 5:00 PM</li> <li>• James W. Stuckert Career Center Drop-In Hours, 3:00 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center 408 Rose Street</li> <li>• RELAY FOR LIFE, 7:00 PM, Goodbarn Field</li> <li>• Monthly FUSION Committee Chair Meeting, 3:30 PM, Stud. Org Center</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wet Hot American Summer, 10:00 PM, Worsham Theater in the Student Center</li> <li>• UK Dance Ensemble Spring Concert, 8:00 PM, Singletary Center for the Arts, 257-4929</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UKUFO, 10:00 PM, Seaton Field</li> <li>• UK Dance Ensemble Spring Concert, 2:00 PM, Singletary Center for the Arts, 257-4929</li> </ul>

**GO CATS!**

## WHAT'S THE DEAL? | Demystifying campus trends

# Handle criticism with class, not retaliatory crass

I've always adhered to the old mantra, "Any publicity is good publicity." One of the coolest moments while writing for the school newspaper is getting recognized by your fellow students. Now, of course, not every time does this recognition come under the form of an agreeing applause; sometimes writers have to deal with critical comments and public humiliation based on the expressed opinions and grief of a dissenting few, or maybe even a majority.

Regardless, it's always a good sign when people respond, because it means they're intrigued—or reading, at the very least. Reacting to criticism is one of the most crucial tests of character and personal growth. You may not realize it, but all of us are exposed to criticism each and every day. For clarification, a critique does not necessarily just come in the form of a "letter to the editor" as I mentioned above. It can also include feedback and rejection. For instance, more than likely, you've been turned down by a potential employer. The day you received a letter expressing a sincere "thank you for applying, but we've decided to consider other candidates for the position," you were, in fact, receiving some not-so-blatant criticism. The feeling isn't encouraging, but, without hesitation, you move on.

Similarly, feedback is a form of criticism. But for the most part, it's tagged with advice or a solution to

what or whomever is being critiqued. A good example for here may go back to the time you were denied by that cute girl/boy at the bar (or school picnic, if you prefer) the other night. Although you thought you seemed charming and dead sexy when asking for his/her number, you realized s/he just didn't find you appealing once s/he suggested you to "take a hike."

Duly noted, right? But whatever the case may be, above all, a true test of character is the ability to rise above these critiques, rejections and unwanted advice—and actually learn from them.

My theory stands as what doesn't kill you only makes you stronger. A typical initial reaction to any criticism is one of anger. Whenever someone tells you orange just isn't your color or that you're not invited to their keg party, you want to retaliate immediately. Take a personal stab at the supposed enemy.

Most the time, though, criticism comes in the form of non-malicious intent. Receiving feedback is the ultimate way for anyone to improve his/her image and actually grow from the experience. War isn't always the answer (unless, of course, someone talks about your mama, but I won't get into that here).

So, what is the right way to react to criticism and rejections without coming off as defensive or torn?

In my opinion, which isn't always right, there are two possible routes. There's the initial anger/total retaliation method (as described above), which includes physical attack and/or attempts to one-up the perpetrator. Although this technique may seem ap-

propriate at times, it tends to enhance your vulnerability and ultimate defeat, thus proving Newton's third law of motion: for every action, there's an equal and opposite reaction (I know, I had to look it up, too).

The second method involves a more respectful approach. In "Handling Criticism with Candor and Comfort," author Kare Anderson, suggests just what to do. The very first step is to acknowledge the critic and respect the disagreement.

In fact, to show your acceptance and make people think you care to hear what they have to say, it's mindful to ask for more, and also propose your own solution on how to make things better for everyone. If you didn't make it past the first round of a job interview, figure out where you went wrong and work on it for next time.

Ultimately you have to presume innocence and understand that you're not always right. By demonstrating good will, you'll win respect while continuously improving yourself and your relationships with others.

There is criticism, rejection, arguments, feedback, and whatever else are all around us. The person who's able to agree to disagree will essentially be the one who is able to build strength and character.

Whether you are in a relationship, organization, or group project, and find yourself being critiqued, follow the appropriate measures to follow your way to the top.

E-mail  
kmoyer@kykernel.com

## When TV talks money, listeners tune in

By David Zurawik  
THE BALTIMORE SUN

Television is talking money, money, money this spring, and tens of millions of viewers are clearly listening. From network dramas featuring get-rich-quick capers to game shows that are about nothing but a \$1 million prize, Hollywood is finding that programming with essentially the same premise—go for the greed—is a big ratings winner.

NBC's "Deal or No Deal," where contestants choose among briefcases with hidden money ranging from a penny to \$1 million, is the most successful series on the network, drawing upward of 18 million viewers a night.

"Thief," a new drama on cable channel FX, opens with a daring bank robbery and is all about the swag and the criminals trying to get rich on guile and guts.

Fox also has a meditation on money that is racking up impressive ratings in "Unanimous." The reality TV show's premise is stunning in its simplicity: Take nine people, lock them in an underground bunker, and don't let them out until they can unanimously agree on which one of them should receive a grand prize of \$1.5 million.

"Greed is as American as piety," said Larry Mintz, associate professor of popular culture at the University of Maryland, College Park. "That's one of the elements that appears to be at work in these shows that are all about the money—and have nothing to do with smarts or skill. This is the very-American, get-rich-quick, winning-lottery-ticket fantasy speaking to viewers to day."

Few shows have ever been as upfront as "Deal" in telling the audience what they are really about: "Tonight, 26 briefcases full of money," a booming, off-screen voice intones at the start of the program. "Twenty-six beautiful women holding the cases,

and 26 chances for someone to win big and change their life forever."

"I promise you," host Howie Mandel earnestly tells viewers, "no crazy stunts, no trivia, no skill." But some media observers say these shows succeed, in part, by exploiting the economic anxiety in society today. Shaky pensions, mounting medical co-payments, rising gas prices and seemingly endless downsizing in the American workplace can leave consumers and TV viewers—longing for a show-me-the-suitcase-of-cash solution.

Comparing the popularity of "Deal" and "Unanimous" to the dominance of TV quiz shows like "The \$64,000 Question" in the 1950s, Abe Novick, a vice president at Eisner Communications who specializes in cultural trends, said: "I think there was a similar kind of anxiety to what we're feeling today that existed in the culture in the 1950s. And I think the kind of escape and get-rich-quick promise that such shows offered then and promise now speaks directly to that kind of worry."

While the 1950s are often superficially portrayed as post-World-War-II boom years of unrestrained economic growth, the reality was far more complicated. The country suffered a stiff recession in 1957, and many young adults who grew up in the Great Depression felt anxiety in adapting to new lifestyles based on credit and debt. In fact, academic revisionists, in general, now refer to the 1950s as The Age of Anxiety.

Similar economic jitters are felt by consumers today: "And it can lead to a strange feeling—almost an anesthetized anxiety," Novick said, further comparing current nervousness about Iraq with Cold War worries of the 1950s.

The underground bunker setting of "Unanimous" certainly summons up

memories of A-bomb fallout shelters in the duck-and-cover days on the 1950s—as well as the clock-ticking, under-siege mentality triggered by such post-Sept. 11 dramas as Fox TV's 24.

Survival, luck and willingness to take a risk are part and parcel of other currently hot genre of money programs—televized games of poker. The formula for success is much the same: The promise of seeing someone get rich quick and a large pile of money (in the form of chips) prominently on display.

When "Deal" debuted as a five-night midseason trout series in December, all five nights finished among Nielsen's Top 10 shows for the week.

The series is now being offered three nights a week by NBC, and single-handedly lifted the struggling network from fourth to third place in overall viewership.

"What these shows do—'Deal or No Deal,' 'Unanimous' and the syndicated 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire'—is take the old American Dream that used to take a generation or two to achieve, and they compress it to an episode or two," said Robert J. Thompson, director of Syracuse's Center for the Study of Popular Television.

"That is what's so satisfying about 'Deal' or 'Millionaire,' the contestants go up there with virtually nothing and they metaphorically go through the whole Horatio Alger climb in an episode or two. And we experience it vicariously. It's television giving you the American Dream without all the boring stuff about hard work."

J.D. Roth, co-executive producer of "Unanimous," says series like his with a prominently displayed pot of gold offer a fantasy of escape in the face of worrisome economic realities: "What makes people part of it (the show) is thinking, 'That could be me. I could be in that bunker with \$1.5 million on the table,'" he said.

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It's on the internet.

Classifieds Continued from Page 7

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### Positions Open

The Student Center Director's Office is looking for ambitious, hard-working students for the summer and fall semester. The positions will involve working in various stations of the Student Center, and can lead to student management positions and internships.

If you are interested, please pick up an application in room 209 Student Center Director's Office or call (859) 257-6618.

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# WHAT WOMEN WANT

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Date: APRIL 18, 2006 STUDENT CENTER: ROOM 206  
Time: 7:00-9:00PM

# Opinions

Editorial Board  
Adam Sichko, Editor in chief  
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Wes Blewins, Asst. Opinions editor  
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Josh Sullivan, Staff columnist

## IN OUR OPINION

### Cut state funds for discriminatory school

A small Kentucky university made national headlines last week when one of its students was expelled for being gay. Jason Johnson, a 20-year-old sophomore and a Lexington native, was forced to leave the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg after posting details about his dating life on his MySpace.com Web site.

The school's 2005-06 student handbook states, "Any student who engages in or promotes sexual behavior not consistent with Christian principles (including sex outside marriage and homosexuality) may be suspended or asked to withdraw."

However, the university's handbook from 2003-04, when Johnson decided to attend, did not explicitly mention homosexuality as being an offense punishable by expulsion.

In a legal sense, the school undoubtedly had the right to expel Johnson. The University of the Cumberlands, being a private institution affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, has every legal right to admit and enroll students of its choosing. Johnson is not the first — nor will he be the last — student to be expelled from a Christian school for being gay.

That being said, certain problems may arise for the university when it comes to funding and accreditation for its new pharmacy school.

The budget recently passed by the Kentucky General Assembly includes \$11 million for the University of the Cumberlands — \$10 million for a new pharmacy complex and an additional \$1 million for pharmacy scholarships.

These funds are contingent upon the university's new pharmacy school becoming accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, which will take effect July 1, 2007.

These guidelines prohibit discrimination based upon race, religion, gender, lifestyle, national origin and disability. Revised guidelines, which will take effect July 1, 2007, also prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

State Sen. Julian Carroll, D-Frankfort, called on Gov. Ernie Fletcher to veto the \$10 million appropriation. Carroll said in an interview with the Lexington Herald-Leader that accreditation will be a "major obstacle" for the university.

Rep. Kathy Stein and Sen. Ernesto Scorsone, both Lexington Democrats, have said the university should not receive the state money "if the University of the Cumberlands does not change its policies and practices, we will have a state benefit that is only available to heterosexuals," Scorsone said to the Herald-Leader.

He is right. State funds should never be made available when a particular class of citizens is excluded from their benefits.

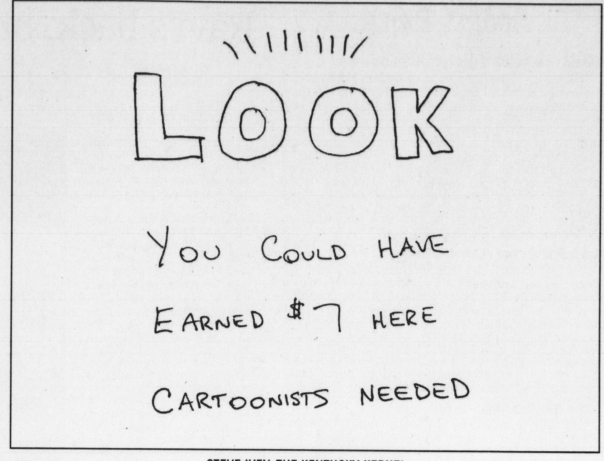
Aside from that, if the university's policy on gays prevents it from being accredited, the state may end up funding a program that is nearly worthless for its graduates. Interim Executive Director of the Kentucky Pharmacists Association John Hawks said job opportunities for graduates of a non-accredited pharmacy school would have a hard time finding jobs.

"It would be possible but unlikely that they could get hired to practice pharmacy in Kentucky, and almost certainly they would have no chance of getting a job in another state," Hawks told the Herald-Leader.

Hershel York, a professor at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and former president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, said, "I always hate to see Baptist schools take anything from the government. The minute you allow government money in, government control comes in."

In this case, we hope York gets his wish, and the state reneges on its appropriation for the university. If the University of the Cumberlands takes the exclusion of gay students as a matter of principle, it has the right to do so. But it is unreasonable to take such a stand and still expect unconditional state funding.

Private schools can choose to discriminate against gays, but they can then expect to lose state support



STEVE IVEY, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

### For once, uncertainty is all right

I hate writer's block. There's nothing worse, especially in the wee hours when I should be crafting something incredibly articulate but instead can only pontificate on the not-so-finer points of the bleak, blank canvas that is my current state of mind.

I usually have a better-laid plan. Really, I piously promise.

So, seeing as how I'm neither poignant nor profound, you have the misfortune of settling for what follows — the antithesis, if you will, of the quarter-life crisis column.

It's a little (well, a lot, actually) ironic that I said I usually have a better-laid plan — both for these particular pieces and on a more general scale. Because right now, I don't have one.

That's right; the girl who's always been perceived as one of the "together" kids has no idea what she's going to do with her degree. Her life. Anything, really.

Well, I do have the next three months sketched out. Kind of. I have an internship lined up that I'm absolutely ecstatic about, and I'll be your resident summer Kernel editor for the eight-week session, which should be a study in gonzo journalism at its finest.

But after that? I don't know. For what feels like the first time in 22 years, I don't have a clear plan. No mental flow charts, no cosmic Point-A-to-Point-B-to-Point-C road map for success.

And the truly frightening aspect of the whole situation is that I'm not bothered by it. My intrinsically Type-A self isn't worried about my complete lack of a carefully laid post-grad plan. It's almost eerie.

And, oddly enough, I'm really, really enjoying the feeling. That is, of course, helped by one thing: I'm confident that in the end, my crushing fear of failure is my ultimate savior.

After all, my drive to succeed is

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And, oddly enough, I'm really, really enjoying the feeling. That is, of course, helped by one thing: I'm confident that in the end, my crushing fear of failure is my ultimate savior.

After all, my drive to succeed is

only superseded by said fear of utter inadequacy — and fear is a much more powerful motivator.

I've been dealing with that fear of failure my entire life, since a third-grade teacher told me she'd be disappointed if she didn't see my name on a book jacket some day.

That's a heavy mantle of responsibility for an eight-year-old to bear, but it set my personal bar for achievement. And while my college career took an unexpected deviation into journalism as opposed to the psychology route and I have no idea if I'll ever write that book my teacher is still hoping to find at Barnes & Noble, I definitely wouldn't change any of my choices.

And those choices bring me to the subject of my yawning chasm of job prospects. I don't have an idea if I'll ever write that book my teacher is still hoping to find at Barnes & Noble, I definitely wouldn't change any of my choices.

Of course, in six months, when I'm jobless and barely subsisting on Ramen three times per day, I'm sure I'll wish I'd written out those flow charts.

But until then, just this once, I'm happy to not know.

Crystal Little is a journalism senior. E-mail: [clittle@kykernel.com](mailto:clittle@kykernel.com).

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### War cannot be taught 'neutrally'

The eminent historian Howard Zinn has written, "In a world where justice is maldistributed there is no such thing as a neutral or representative recapitulation of the facts." We agree. Even if educators are not conscious of it, every curriculum begins from certain beliefs and assumptions about the world. Neutrality is neither possible nor desirable. Regardless of the grade level or discipline, teaching always occurs within certain political and economic contexts. In a world where civilian and military lives are unjustly and unnecessarily lost and destroyed, for educators to feign neutrality is irresponsible.

Therefore, we encourage Kentucky teachers, instructors, teaching assistants and professors, to make and sign the following pledge at [www.petitionspot.com/petitions/kyeducatorspledge](http://www.petitionspot.com/petitions/kyeducatorspledge):

"We, as educators in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, refuse to give the pretense of moral neutrality with regard to the war in Iraq. As educators, we feel that it is our responsibility not only to teach our students to be critical global citizens, but also to demonstrate resolution and conviction in the face of injustice. The war in Iraq is, above all, an act of injustice.

It is a war of aggression against a people barely able to defend itself.

It is a war that has been justified through lies and misrep-

resentations.

It is a war fought to sustain and perpetuate longstanding global inequalities in wealth and power.

It is a war waged with white phosphorous, secret "renditions" and torture.

It is a war in which corporations profit from the misery of others.

In our classrooms and in our lives, we pledge to treat this war with the condemnation it deserves. Just as we refuse to teach about racism or sexism in a morally neutral manner, so too do we refuse to teach about the war as anything other than a gross injustice and a criminal act.

As educators and as concerned citizens, we will no longer feign neutrality. We no longer accept the position that we are merely posting our "opinion" with regard to this war. We now take it as a truism that we have been, and continue to be, lied to about this war — a war that has already resulted in thousands of dead and maimed U.S. soldiers, hundreds of thousands of Iraqi deaths and the destruction of Iraqi civil society.

This war is wrong — as genocide is wrong, as sexism is wrong, as racism is wrong.

OLIVER BELCHER  
TOMMY WILSON  
MICHAEL MARCHMAN  
teaching assistants,  
Department of Geography



Crystal Little  
KERNEL COLUMNIST

### Today's journalism is all sound and fury

"Blessed be the man who never reads a newspaper."  
— Henry David Thoreau



Jonathan Meador  
KERNEL COLUMNIST

I am half full of plum wine (in early celebration of semester's end), and I find that it is getting dark outside. The intensity of this day's heat is leaving a cool wind creeps through the windows of my office. It is Sunday — Easter Sabbath for some — which, for me, can mean only one thing: Column time.

In other words, it's time to pick the most egregious offense to the American public that the wire services have to offer, write 800 words about it and call it a day.

To wit: *Pentagon releases memo defending go-for-broke performance of Donald Rumsfeld ... Scary Movie 4 tops box office* (thereby proving my theory that the Wayans clan holds a pact with the devil) ... *Oklahoma man kills girlfriend, says he planned to eat her remains before he was arrested*. It goes on and on, a laundry list of assorted donors, bummers and outright crimes against human dignity, each fulfilling the basic "man-bites-dog" requirement in its own special way. Headlines like this can run into each other if you look hard enough: *Rumsfeld cannibal-snuff film No. 1 movie in America*. I have to rub my eyes sometimes or else I actually start to believe these things.

Believe me when I say that I would give anything to be the type of person who gets emotionally charged by a cat-rescue story or the latest construction of an Iraqi hospital, but, sadly, that is not in my character.

Aside from the obvious reasons — I am neither a government-sponsored propagandist nor a deaf-mute — those kind of feel-good stories aren't news; they're journalis-

tic soma.

Presidential approval rating lowest ever ... School bus driver admits to drunkenness ... Alien larvae burst from man's chest ...

It sounds as if it's been composed by those Ministry of Truth writing-machines from "Nineteen-Eighty-Four," and it's enough to make you crazy.

There is a storm outside now. Quick flashes of lightning blink through my windows, and my thoughts drift to the quiet pounding of the rain. It is steady, a blanket of orderly white noise, drowning my thoughts.

It reminds me of watching Fox News. Or checking the day's headlines on Google. It is a relentless drone of static that drowns out all higher brain activity, dashed with an occasional explosion of light and sound.

Listening to the rain, it reminds me of column-writing. One must wade waist-deep through the bevy of chaff in order to find something useful, and in the process your mind goes wandering. Information lies buried beneath a veil of half-truths and misplaced bias, whereby the processing of without finding it becomes tiring, indeed.

When confronted with such terrible news, your mind recoils in terror: You think, *Can it be true? Is the human race this repugnant?* Don't get me wrong. It would be easy to attribute my reaction to a supposed "liberal bias" in the media or to pin the blame on evils of Bill O'Reilly or Michael Moore.

Such a weak rationalization would fail to perceive the real issue: Journalism is dead. Its primary function is to attract advertisers, and so it treats its reading public as nothing more than a pool of group-thinking cattle. Real news becomes a commercial, and commercials become the real news.

three minutes of inert blackness. Because of the station's lax response-time, they were forced to run the remaining batch of adver-

The nightly news is indeed a tale told by an idiot, signifying nothing

tisements in lieu of the remaining scenes of the episode.

Thus, the untimely death of "Tree House of Horror VI" became a perfect metaphor for the schizoid nature of modern journalism: Context takes a backseat, we watch an ad for a car dealership, and we're all left wondering what in the hell just happened.

In this kind of media environment it's no wonder why I rely upon the O'Reillys and the Moores to make the difficult decisions for us. They are our tour-guides on this journey of incoherency, our ferrymen on the River Styx.

Yet like all necessary evils, they wouldn't exist if we didn't have to invent them.

Like the rain, news hits us randomly, chaotically — a slight annoyance as you travel from Point A to Point B. Instead, journalism should think of itself as a river, flowing from one end into the ocean in a long, unbroken stream. Each house fire or political offense should be a chapter in a sprawling, Tolstoy-esque novel of humanity.

Only then could we ever hope to make sense out of stories like *Man eludes police, claims 'Grand Theft Auto' as inspiration* or understand a headline like *Iraqi IED kills 17 troops*. I can barely comprehend it myself.

Until journalism transcends its sorry state, I'm more likely to be struck by lightning than to write a cat-rescue piece, which, if the thunderclaps outside grow any louder, might just happen.

Jonathan Meador is a journalism junior. E-mail: [jmeador@kykernel.com](mailto:jmeador@kykernel.com).

## Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Brenton Kenkel or Assistant 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.

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## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Women's basketball recruit wins Miss Basketball

UK Hoops signee Arnika Brown, from Hopkinsville, Ky., has been named the 2006 recipient of the Miss Basketball award, given annually to the best female high school basketball player in the state. Brown, who plays for Christian County High School, averaged 25.5 points and 12.3 rebounds per game last season, leading the Lady Colonels to their third consecutive state tournament appearance. She was also named the 2006 Associated Press Kentucky Player of the Year. She's been ranked as the No. 10 power forward in the nation and one of the top 50 high school players in the nation this season. She will join Carly Ormerod, the 2005 Miss Basketball, on the Wildcat roster next season.

### Baseball drops two of three to Arkansas

No. 19 UK (26-10, 8-7 Southeastern Conference) won yesterday, but dropped a three-game weekend series to Arkansas (27-10, 8-7) in Fayetteville, Ark. The pitchers issued just one walk yesterday, after allowing a combined total of 19 on Friday and Saturday. The offense carried the Cats to a 7-5 win. Michael Bertram was the offensive star for UK, hitting his fourth home run, a solo shot in the eighth to give UK a 5-4 lead, and drove in three runs. The Cats have already won more games in the conference this season than in each of the last two years.

### Tennis falls to Vandy

No. 23 UK dropped a Nashville roundup against No. 8 Vanderbilt 5-2 this weekend. Vandy took two of three doubles matches to win that point and four of the six singles matches to put UK away. Juniors Lara Maurer and Joelle Schwank won their doubles match for the Cats, but were unsuccessful in singles play. Senior Danielle Petrisko and freshman Jessica Giuglioli won their singles matches to get UK's points. UK (15-8, 5-3 SEC) finishes the regular season third in the SEC.

### Golfer named to SEC Good Works team

UK golfer Katie Johnson was named to the SEC Good Works team for her commitment to community service, the league office announced Friday. Johnson, a junior honors student from Lexington, is part of many service events, including volunteering for the Kentucky Special Olympics golf event, participating in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, serving as a bell ringer for the Salvation Army and raising money for Hurricane Katrina victims at home football games. Johnson is also a member of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, where she is the women's golf representative, the service fraternity Alpha Pi Omega, and Omicron Delta Kappa, an honorary leadership fraternity.

COMPILED FROM UK ATHLETICS REPORTS

These briefs were originally published on [www.kykernel.com](http://www.kykernel.com). Due to space constraints, they were not included in yesterday's Sports section. The Kernel regrets the omission. E-mail: [sports@kykernel.com](mailto:sports@kykernel.com)



THOMAS SANDS | STAFF

UK senior third baseman Michael Bertram, a Lafayette High graduate, swings against Louisville on April 6. Bertram hit a home run and had three RBI Sunday as UK defeated Arkansas 7-5 in Fayetteville, Ark.

## Ravi's back, but defense still runs show

By Jonathan Smith  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

He's back. And this time, he's here to stay.

Former UK basketball guard Ravi Moss secretly returned to football practice Saturday, exactly two weeks after he abruptly hung up his cleats.

"I felt like if I didn't play I'd look back and I'd say, 'Man, I should've played,'" Moss said. "You're not supposed to have any regrets in life in anything you do. And I didn't want to regret not playing football."

Moss caught only one pass Saturday — his first in an organized scrimmage — the only way he knows how: with a giant gleaming grin on his face.

"My first one, baby," he shouted to the closest person, which appeared to be a referee. "High five!"

On the game's final play, the UK offense was in business, threatening on the 10-yard line. Phillips called for a jump ball, a play Moss was used to seeing decided by either a possession arrow or post-play.

Redshirt freshman cornerback Trevard Lindley had the inside position on the play, and came down with the pick over the taller Moss. Afterward, he conceded that he has been dreaming too big recently.

"I told Joker to throw it up to me and I thought I was going to be Randy Moss," he quipped. "But I forgot I was just Ravi Moss."

### Defense still in control

If the final score of UK's first scrimmage at Commonwealth Stadium on Saturday is any indication, perhaps nothing will be impossible for the Wildcats this season.

The Jumbotron in the west end zone was not an aberration. It read, 1-0.

This was not a pitchers duel or a battle of stubborn goalies. This was a football game, based on a different scoring system. One point per touchdown, nothing for field goals. With one point on the scoreboard, the defense again stole the show.

"The defense continues to fly around and be physical and make tackles," head coach Rich Brooks said.

Sophomore Curtis Pulley led the first-team offense, completing five-of-eight passes for 30 yards and scoring the game's only touchdown via a five-yard scramble on the game's opening possession. Junior Andre Woodson never got on track, connecting on one-of-five passes for eight yards.

Although Pulley fared far better statistically, Brooks maintains that the quarterback spot is still up in the air. "The quarterback competition is a competition," he said. "It might not be decided by the first game."



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

Freshman quarterback Curtis Pulley tries to avoid a sack during a game against Florida on Sept. 24 at Commonwealth Stadium. Pulley has been practicing with the first team in spring practice sessions this season.

### Running backs pick up slack

With the dislocation of starting running back Rafael Little's wrist, the ball has been handed off to the other available backs.

Sophomore Tony Dixon has emerged to try and win back the spot that was his before he suffered a broken leg prior to last season.

And although that bone is healed, he continues to be hamstrung by a bevy of nagging injuries.

"I've got shin splints. My ankle's still bothering me. I strained my calf. I've got tendonitis," he said. "There's several."

Offensive coordinator Joker Phillips must not think he's too banged up. On Saturday Dixon carried the ball 16 times and gained 53 yards.

Redshirt freshman Alfonso Smith is also making noise this spring. Smith carried the ball eight times for 33 yards on Saturday.

"I expect him (Smith) to push for the one spot," Phillips said. "But I expect that of all of the backs."

### Turnovers plague offense

Even though freshman Will Fidler led all three quarterbacks in receptions and yards (7-for-14, 62 yards), he also accounted for the only interceptions.

His first giveaway was intended to be a screen pass. Junior defensive end Dominic Lewis made a spectacular play, leaping in the air to deflect the ball, and controlling it on its way back down.

His second pick was the play by Lindley on Moss in the end zone.

"Offensively we didn't do as well in the end when I gave them the short field," Brooks said. "With the offense going in with an opportunity to score, we only got one field goal."

The defense also recovered two fumbles. Woodson and Smith each coughed the ball up once.

### Speed improving

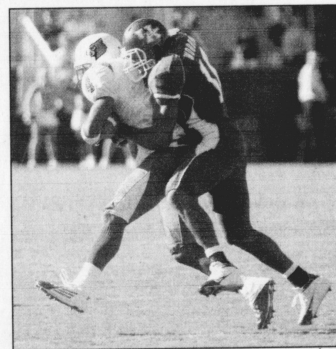
Last year, the Cats struggled to stay healthy on the field, and to stay up to speed in the Southeastern Conference. This year, with another season under the veter-

an's belts, the players are much quicker to the ball.

"I think we are to the level of an SEC defensive team in the speed aspects of the game, because the SEC in such a speed game," junior linebacker Joe Schuler said.

"You watch our (first-string) and our (second-string) play, and the tempo of the game is so much faster than it has been in the past."

Jonathan Smith covers UK football for *The Kernel*. This article contains his opinions and observations. Contact him at [sports@kykernel.com](mailto:sports@kykernel.com).



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

Sophomore linebacker Wesley Woodyard tries to tackle junior wide receiver Patrick Carter during the UK-Louisville game on Sept. 4.

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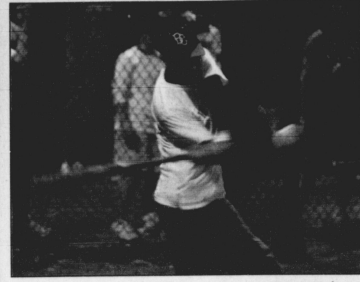
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## Extra inning, dramatic ending



Jenna Settles, a communications disorder junior, tags out animal science freshman Jordan Tischler in a double play to end the inning during intramural softball last night at Pieratt Fields outside the Johnson Center. Tischler's team won, 16-15, after one extra inning of play.



Chris Hampton, a civil engineering freshman, knocks in the winning run for his team after one extra inning. Hampton's team won, 16-15.

## Minister's speed adds sizzle to Derby

By Andrew Beyer  
THE WASHINGTON POST

The prep races for 3-year-olds this spring have produced numerous solid contenders for the Kentucky Derby. Most handicappers agree on the merits of Brother Derek, who has won four straight stakes in California; Lawyer Ron, winner of six in a row; the undefeated Barbaro; and the Maryland-based Sweetnorthernstain, runaway winner of the Illinois Derby.

Yet none of these colts has ever given a performance like Sinister Minister, whose front-running 12 3/4-length victory in the Blue Grass Stakes at Keeneland was simply astonishing. On this surface at least, it was the best single effort by any member of the current 3-year-old generation. But many students of the game will refuse to accept it at face value. Was Sinister Minister just the latest in a long series of fluky front-runners carried to victory by Keeneland's notoriously speed-favoring track? Or was this a legitimate, monstrous exhibition of raw speed reminiscent of Spend a Buck and War Emblem, who ran brilliantly in their final prep races and then led all the way in the Kentucky Derby?

These are difficult handicapping questions. Only this much is certain: The presence of Sinister Minister and his brilliant speed will alter the complexion of the 132nd Derby, affecting the chances of all the leading contenders.

Before the Blue Grass, Sinister Minister had won only a maiden race in four career starts. Trainer Bob Baffert said that not a single reporter had called him before the race to ask about the colt. Sinister Minister's sole distinction was his sheer speed, but that quality prompted Baffert to take a gamble and enter him in a Grade I stakes at a track where speed is so often dominant.

Jockey Garrett Gomez sent Sinister Minister to the lead, tried in vain to control his speed and then let him roll, speeding the first half mile in 45.88 seconds — a super-fast pace.

The favorites, First Samurai, Bluegrass Cat and Strong Contender, all sat behind him, their jockeys waiting for the leader to collapse. But none could get within shouting distance of the leader.

Sinister Minister's victory was even more of a rout than the margin over longshot Storm Treasure would suggest. Third-place Strong Contender was 17 lengths behind. Fourth-place Bluegrass Cat, trainer Todd Pletcher's leading Derby candidate, was 21 lengths behind. Fifth-place First Samurai, once considered the leading member of this thoroughbred generation, was 30 lengths behind.

But any handicapper who knows Keeneland's tendencies would view this performance with a jaundiced eye. No major track in America has such a biased racing surface, one that often gives an insuperable advantage to speed horses on the rail. As a result, the Blue Grass regularly produces fluky results. High Yield led all the way in 2000 and then finished 15th in the Derby. Millennium Wind led all the way in 2001, earning a blockbuster speed figure, and finished 11th in the Derby. Last year's one-two Blue Grass finishers, Bandini and High Limit, were 19th and 20th at Churchill Downs.

Was Sinister Minister's race a similar fluke? Maybe. ABC analyst Randy Moss picked the speedster to win, and after the race offered this explanation: "Of the 11 two-turn races that had been run at Keeneland this spring, seven had been won by horses leading all the way. Included were 15-1, 14-1 and 12-1 longshots, and the winning margins were mostly runaways."

But the rest of Saturday's results at Keeneland don't suggest that the race track was biased. In two dirt sprints before the Blue Grass, the winners rallied from far behind, in the middle of the track. Sinister Minister was the only horse on the card who led all the way. Maybe the track was somehow different for the 1 1/8-mile Blue Grass — the only race on the card around two

turns — but the overall evidence suggests that this remarkable performance was legitimate.

Sinister Minister's speed figure was ambiguous, too. The Keeneland track seemed to be getting slower later in the card. I assigned Sinister Minister a Beyer Speed Figure of 116 — by far the best single effort by any member of his generation. But some of my colleagues looked at the evidence and thought it could be even higher — maybe even one of the fastest Kentucky Derby preps in history.

Even if he never duplicates this performance, Sinister Minister is going to be an important force in the Kentucky Derby.

Unlike many of his brethren in the training profession, who are obsessed by teaching speed horses to relax and sit off the pace, Baffert isn't afraid of speed. He learned his profession in the quarter-horse sport, where speed is everything; he trains in California, where speed is dominant. Wayne Lukas shares a similar background and philosophy, and the two men are the most successful Kentucky Derby trainers in the last half-century. Baffert's colt War Emblem scored a front-running victory in the 2002, and the trainer will not hesitate to send Sinister Minister aggressively to the lead on May 6.

Sinister Minister's presence and running style are especially significant because so many of the leading Derby contenders are speed horses, too. Brother Derek, the probable Derby favorite, has been on or near the lead in all of his stakes victories. Sweetnorthernstain is a front-runner, too. Lawyer Ron, who scored his sixth straight win in Saturday's Arkansas Derby, is a speedster who has learned to sit off the pace. The trainers of all these horses envision sitting just off the pace in the Derby. But nobody's going to be sitting comfortably if Sinister Minister rockets out of the gate, flaunts his speed and dares everybody to catch him. An interesting Kentucky Derby has become even more intriguing.

“ Even if he never duplicates this performance, Sinister Minister is going to be an important force in the Kentucky Derby.”

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