

KENTUCKY KERNEL

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Watkins encourages students to fight institutional racism

By Janisha Watts
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When Boyce Watkins asked members of a crowd of about 200 last night to raise their hands if they have had more than one black professor at UK, not a single hand went up.

Watkins, a finance professor at Syracuse University, said in a speech in the Student Center's Wortham Theatre that students should take a stand against institutional racism at UK by forming a unified plan and seeing it through.

The speech was sponsored by the African American Studies and Research Program as part of the annual Carter G. Woodson series.

Students should question administrators in a united approach about why there are not many black professors, Watkins

said. "You have a right for black teachers," he said. "UK was built on a racist institution." Watkins said. "Is Adolph Rupp on Rupp (Arena) still?" he asked the audience. "He thinks you're a pack of n-----."

The UK Chandler Hospital was "named after a racist," Watkins said, referring to the former Kentucky governor who once used racial slurs in a Board of Trustees meeting, according to a 1988 Lexington Herald-Leader article.

"Happy Chandler, rest in his grave, but he didn't like black people," he said. Watkins assured the audience he was not trying to bash the university, and he said he didn't think an "evil dictator" was running UK.

"I believe in the good in people,"

Watkins said. "The institution has some things it needs to work on."

Watkins challenged every person of color to join the Black Student Union and said that without active involvement, the same racial problems would exist at UK.

"You can't change the world, but you can change your world," Watkins said.

He recalled his own memories as an opinions writer for the Kernel when he received numerous death threats because of columns he wrote.

In 1997 when Watkins was a resident adviser at UK, the n-word was inscribed on his door. His younger cousin, Joshua Watkins, a junior and resident adviser, had a similar incident

happen to him this year. Less than a week after the printing of a controversial Kernel editorial cartoon, which likened UK's Greek system to a slave trade, the words "die n-----" were written on his door in New North Hall, Joshua Watkins said.

But despite the racism Boyce Watkins experienced at UK, he said the university was integral in "preparing him for life."

Watkins has appeared in various national media outlets, including CNN, FOX News, BET, Essence Magazine, USA Today, "The Today Show," ESPN and CBS Sports. He joked about the hundreds of e-mails, most of it hate mail, he has received after speaking about controversial top-

ics at national news organizations. "The truth always sets me free," he said.

Bridget Lane, a business marketing major, said she enjoyed Watkins' speech because it made her more aware of the racial problems on UK's campus.

"His speech opened my eyes to UK's racism and aggravated me," Lane said. Janice Kuperstein, an assistant physical therapy professor, said, "the message sounded like it was only for black people."

She said she left the theater wanting to ask a question about racism among other races but was hesitant because Watkins' lecture was focused on racism against black people.

After leaving the theatre, she turned around and came back to campus to ask

See Watkins on page 3



Watkins



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

Gov. Ernie Fletcher (R), left, and Steve Beshear (D), right, chat with the hosts of KET's gubernatorial debate after the show's broadcast last night at KET's Lexington studios.

Fletcher, Beshear square off in final debate

By Blair Thomas
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Gubernatorial candidates Gov. Ernie Fletcher and Steve Beshear faced off last night on issues of nursing homes and student financial aid in the last debate before next week's election.

Republican incumbent Fletcher and Democratic challenger Beshear discussed differing plans for providing financial aid to state college students to help deal with increasing tuition at the debate, which aired live from the Kentucky Educational Television headquarters.

Beshear said his Kentucky First Scholarship Program, a forgivable loan program for college graduates that would erase one year of student loans for every year the student is employed in Kentucky, is the solution "to keep the best and brightest working in the Commonwealth."

"This state has seen an 83 percent increase in tuition since 2001," Beshear said. "There are Kentucky families that can't afford to send their kids to college, and that isn't acceptable."

The financial aid program would receive funding within the first two

years of his term, Beshear said. Fletcher said he plans to implement an endowment program, which offers tax-free bonds for families to apply toward college expenses.

"This is to get sixth, seventh and eighth graders on a career path and get money to help with that early," Fletcher said. "We want to sit down with those students and say, 'let's get a plan; let's get started now.'"

Also during the one-hour debate, Fletcher commended the work of his administration in improving the retention of nursing home staff. Both candidates focused on and revisited the issue of senior citizen care throughout the program.

Beshear emphasized the importance of increasing the number of inspectors in state nursing homes as well as implementing a minimum requirement for the number of employees per resident.

Fletcher said he has provided better care for senior citizens by mandating that nursing homes deficient in care and quality either improve or close. He also offered state assistance to nursing homes, which caused the number of homes cited for serious deficiencies to drop during his administration, he said.

A report published in the Lexington Herald-Leader on Oct. 22 found the number of nursing homes cited dropped from about one in four under former Gov. Paul Patton to about one in 10 under Fletcher. But Beshear didn't think it was necessarily an improvement.

"There are fewer inspectors for nursing homes now, that's why the number of cases has dropped," Beshear said.

Fletcher said he would not require an employee-to-resident ratio because of the cost of reimbursing nursing homes for their additional mandatory hires, but instead would work with the nursing homes to improve their living conditions.

Both candidates listed long-term care for senior citizens in their top legislative priorities for the 2008 General Assembly.

Fletcher said affordable and available healthcare and retirement were also top legislation priorities, and Beshear listed improving early childhood development programs and funding a senior prescription drug plan among his main legislative concerns.

The candidates also went head-to-head about regulations on moun-

taintop removal and damages to the environment that this form of mining causes.

"I think it is important to limit the times when mountaintop removal is used," Beshear said. "We have to keep it as an exception, as a rare time when companies aren't required to restore the land they disturb, and not as the general practice."

Fletcher agreed that it is important to enforce the laws that are in place to protect the mined areas.

"I think we do a good job of enforcing those land restoration regulations," Fletcher said. "I believe the land in most of those areas has been well restored. Yes, the mountain sees significant change, but that happens with floods and with glaciers or tornadoes or in any case of a natural disaster."

The candidates only briefly discussed bringing gambling to the state. Beshear said the gaming industry is a high priority to him because of the economic growth it would bring to the state. Fletcher is opposed to expanding gambling and has said throughout his campaign that expanded gaming won't add growth to the economy and will bring social ills with it.

Toy drive targets students in need

By Kelli Long
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Capt. Dennis Sturt, a board member of Lexington's Fraternal Order of Firefighters, was collecting toys in a charity drive last year when a young woman approached wanting to sign up for the toy drive.

She and her husband were full-time students working two jobs while also raising their 3-year-old daughter.

"I was so sorry to tell her that the sign-ups were over," Sturt said.

It was that experience that influenced organizers of the Lexington Firefighters Toy Program to reach out to college students in need this year.

The Firefighter Toy Program is a 75-year-old annual project that provides new and used toys to 2,500 families in Lexington last year, Sturt said.

After meeting the woman last year, Sturt ended up finding the woman again and bringing her daughter toys from the drive.

Sturt realized that helping students was something that would serve more than just the students who received gifts for their children.

"This is an opportunity to help people in need who are going on to a much better future."

Students who have children and would benefit from the Firefighter Toy Program can sign up at 2555 Palumbo Dr., next to Kentucky-Indiana Lumber and across the street from Insight Communications, from Wednesday to Nov. 23, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with the exception of Thanksgiving Day on Nov. 22.

To sign up, parents must present proof of Fayette County residency, such as a utility bill or lease agreement, but they are asked not to bring a P.O. box address. They must have a current drivers license, their child's birth certificate and social security number, and if they are students, their UK student IDs.

The firefighters will send letters to parents with a specific time to come pick up gifts on Dec. 15. This year, distribution will be held in a building that Insight Communications donated for the firefighters' use.

Sturt said parents should get there early for the best selection of toys.

Local radio station Z Rock 103 holds an event each year that encourages community members to donate to the Toy Drive, to God's Pantry and to the Salvation Army. Last year, one man donated 20 bicycles to needy children.

"He heard an advertisement on the radio and brought 10 bicycles on the back of his truck," Sturt said. "When he dropped them off, he said 'I'll be back with 10 more.'"

No matter what the donation may be, Sturt said everyone should remember the true reason for this toy drive.

"It's all about the kids," he said. Anyone wanting to make donations to the Firefighter Toy Program can bring toys for children up to age 12 to any Lexington fire station.

Newsroom: 257-1915; Advertising: 257-2872

Student forum on USP changes to be held today

Student Government is hosting a student forum to discuss proposed changes to the University Studies Program today from 4 to 5 p.m. in room 249 of the Student Center.

The proposed USP requirements would require incoming freshmen in 2009 to complete 30 credit hours of USP classes, half of which would be freshman courses aimed at providing a liberal arts education and helping freshmen transition to college. Other courses would be taken anytime before graduation and would focus on critical thinking, civics and ethics.

The University Senate could vote on the proposed requirements as early as December. UK held faculty forums on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of last week, and tomorrow is the first student forum.

First issue free. Subsequent issues 25 cents.

'Real World' cast member turned activist to speak at UK

By Wesley Robinson
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A former cast member of "The Real World" and current social activist will speak on campus tonight.

Kevin Powell will discuss current racial issues such as the Jena 6 and the Megan Williams rape case at the Wortham Theater at 7 p.m. But he said he also wants to touch on whatever students want to discuss.

"I take what I do very seriously," Powell said. "I'm not here to take a check and leave."

"I won't leave until everyone has asked their question," he said. "We will be here as long as we have to until we get things done."

Broadcast journalism senior and Alpha Kap-

pa Alpha sorority member Chaka Buraimoh said she has followed Powell's work for years because of the wide range of things he writes about and covers as a community activist.

In the field of journalism, Buraimoh said she wants to work with the type of subjects Powell does, including hip-hop and other urban topics.

"When he speaks it's understandable, he naturally is on our level and speaks well to our generation in a way to where we can understand his word," Buraimoh said.

But Powell has gained the respect of the older generation also, she said, so he acts as a link between age groups.

"He is like an old man but like a young

See Powell on page 3

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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 5 — Don't feel bad if you're just plain tired. It happens to everyone. Find yourself a cozy cave and hide away for a while.
Taurus (April 20 May 20) — Today is a 7 — As is usual this time of year, appearances can be deceiving. Don't believe half of what you hear and most of what you see.
Gemini (May 21 June 21) — Today is a 5 — Pay attention while shopping and you can get an absolutely marvelous deal. Others will think you spent much more. You

don't have to tell.
Cancer (June 22 July 22) — Today is a 7 — Your sense of humor's returning, even if the problem persists. It's OK not to take it to seriously. Maybe it'll just go away.
Leo (July 23 Aug. 22) — Today is a 6 — This is a clean-up day, with some urgency. At least one item in your stack of stuff is perilously overdue.
Virgo (Aug. 23 Sept. 22) — Today is a 8 — You can help out a friend by providing hugs and maybe cookies. Comfort food is recommended. Providing money is not.
Libra (Sept. 23 Oct. 22) — Today is a 5 — Would you like to have more authority? More status? More money? These are only the first few test questions. They'll get harder. Think before you answer.
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 9 — Travel looks relatively good. There will be minor glitches, but you can get where you want to go. Carry your toothbrush with you.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 Dec. 21) — Today is a 5 — Even with half your brain tied behind your back, to make it fair, you'll trounce the opposition. You could also win a nice prize.
Capricorn (Dec. 22 Jan. 19) — Today is an 8 — You and your partner have a way of communicating without words. Rely on that now if the words seem to be getting in the way. Hugs and/or cookies, for example.
Aquarius (Jan. 20 Feb. 18) — Today is a 6 — Put the daydreams and day trips on hold. It's time to get back to work. Something absolutely has to get done, and you know what it is.
Pisces (Feb. 19 March 20) — Today is a 9 — You should be in a marvelous mood, feeling surrounded by love. Overlook a silly remark, even if it's hurtful. Take it as a joke, whether it's meant as one or not.

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THE DISH

in trouble
 Rocker Amy Winehouse, 24, and her husband, Blake Fielder-Civil, were arrested for marijuana possession in Norway October 19. The couple were released 12 hours later after paying \$714 in fines. . . . One Life to Live actor Nathaniel Marston, 32, was charged with two counts each of felony assault, reckless endangerment and criminal possession of a weapon, plus one count of resisting arrest, after allegedly assaulting three men in New York City October 21. . . . Sean "Diddy" Combs, 38, was slapped with a \$5 million lawsuit October 19 from a man claiming he was beaten by the rapper's bodyguards inside New York City club The Box June 1.

MVP
 David Beckham, 32, came in first on lifestyle Web site Askmen.com's list of 49 Men of 2007, beating out Matt Damon, 37, and Justin Timberlake, 26 (No. 5).
Going grey
 Dawson's Creek alum Joshua Jackson, 29, has signed on to play a doctor in several episodes of Grey's Anatomy this season, starting with the 11th airing.
Purple suit
 Prince, 49, was sued for more than \$1 million in L.A. on October 17 by an associate alleging that the pop star failed to pay for 12 computer hard drives

THE RECORD

(valued at \$12,000) and damaged a \$25,000 computer.

Split!
 More than a year after they broke up, Kate Hudson, 28, finalized her divorce from Chris Robinson, 40, in L.A. October 22. They will share custody of son Ryder, 3. . . . Sandra Oh's divorce from Sideways writer-director Alexander Payne, 46, was made official October 18. . . . Prison Break's Dominic Purcell, 37, and his wife of nearly 10 years, Rebecca Williamson, have separated. They have four children.
Name game
 Eva Longoria, 32, is now professionally listing her name as Eva Longoria Parker, reflecting her July marriage to basketball player Tony Parker, 25.

Expecting
 Scrubs star John C. McMillen, 48, and his wife, yoga teacher Nichole Kessler (who wed April 7), will have their first child together, a daughter, due February 2.
New deal
 As Us first reported, Brad Pitt, 43, and Angelina Jolie, 32, will coproduce a new, as-yet-untitled drama series for HBO about workers inside an international aid organization.
It's... Two Boys!
 Garcelle Beauvais-Nilon, 40, welcomed twin boys Jax and Jaid with agent husband Michael Nilon in Los Angeles on October 18.

Out loud
 Harry Potter scribe J.K. Rowling, 42, revealed that the books' headmaster of the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, Albus Dumbledore, is gay during a lecture at New York City's Carnegie Hall October 19.

Black magic
 David Copperfield, 51, canceled several upcoming shows in Southeast Asia following an FBI probe stemming from accusations that the magician raped an unidentified Seattle woman in the Bahamas. Copperfield's lawyer denies the accusation.

Not just fava beans
 Anthony Hopkins, 69, is suing Merchant Ivory Productions for \$750,000 he says he is owed for acting in the unreleased film The City of Your Final Destination.
Moving?
 Kelsey Grammer, 52, and his wife, Camille, have listed their 8,000-square-foot Bridgehampton, N.Y., estate for \$16.1 million after buying it in 2005 for \$8.5 million.
Recovering
 John Goodman, 55, checked out of Promises rehab center (where Entertainment Tonight reported on October 17 that he was treated for undisclosed reasons) in Malibu, California, Jan. Drew.

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WATKINS

Continued from page 1

her question. Kuperstein wanted to know if Watkins thought different races should partner with each other in the fight against racism instead of facing the battle in segregated groups.

"There were people around that I made a connection with in asking that question," she said. Watkins said he agreed with Kuperstein's idea.

Her desire to work together with other races stems from his Jewish beliefs, which she said also alienates her from others at times.

"Tikkun Olam," she said, reciting a Hebrew phrase. "It means to repair the world."

POWELL

Continued from page 1

brother in terms of depth and insight of deeper thought," said Chester Grundy, multicultural student programming director.

"He has the capacity to relate to thinking of the worldviews of young people but has knowledge of deeper thought," Grundy said. "I couldn't think of a better role model than Kevin Powell."

The Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, along with the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., is sponsoring the speech.

In addition to being an activist, Powell is also a candidate for congress in Brooklyn, N.Y., an essayist, editor, hip-hop historian, songwriter, public speaker and businessman.

"He is an African-American renaissance man," Grundy said. "He is a person who is a sterling example of the highest ideals that an educated person should aspire to."

Man in critical condition after being hit by train

A Lexington man was still in critical condition at UK Chandler Hospital yesterday after he was hit by a train Saturday Morning, said Melissa Hounshell, a UK public relations spokeswoman.

The train hit Logan Murray, 20, at the Rosemont Garden crossing in Lexington at Rosemont Garden and Edison Drive at about 4:30 a.m. Saturday, said Lexington

Police Lt. Dwayne Holman.

Murray might have been trying to climb onto the locomotive toward the front and may have hit a handrail, Holman said.

"We're trying to figure out what he might have hit because the train was gone," he said. Holman said there was no indication that anyone was with Murray at the time of the accident.

Costume prof. to appear on 'Early Show'

By Bailey Johnson
news@kykermel.com

CBS's "The Early Show" will recognize Bob Haven, an associate professor of costume technology in UK's Theatre Department, tomorrow morning for his entry in what he calls "a runway show on steroids."

Haven's costume design entry was featured in the 2007 Montana World of WearableArt Awards Show and was one of only four garments from the U.S. exhibited in the 10-day international costume design competition held in Wellington, New Zealand.

"The best way I could explain it was that athletes have the Olympics, writers have the Pulitzer Prize, scientists have the Nobel Prize, musicians have the Grammy Awards, the actors have the Tony's, the Emmys and the Oscars, and artists and technicians like myself have the WOW Awards," Haven said, quoting a statement he made during an interview with CBS. "It doesn't get any better than that. That's the level this competition is on."

Haven researched the award show and decided to apply after a woman saw examples of his work at a fiber arts master class in California five years ago.

"It took me about a year or so to figure out what I was going to make, and it took me about two years to actually do the work on it," Haven said.

Haven's garment, titled "Flight of Fantasy," featured his Kabuki costume construction and tambour beading, an intricate beading design technique.

The kimono is covered with an array of colorful tambour-beaded butterflies and made of three pieces: a gown, a headpiece and a uchikake, or a full-length outer robe.

"Mine was a little unusual because it was done with about 250,000 beads," Haven said. "There wasn't anything like it in the show."

The WOW Awards Show selects finalists by choosing 300 garments from photos sent in by entrants. From there, about 156 pieces are selected and featured in a final two-hour fashion show.

The most impressive thing about the competition was the judges' ability to evaluate a subjective thing like art so objectively, Haven said.

When judging a garment, the judges only receive the title and the artist's statement about the piece; the artist's name, experience and location are withheld.

"The piece has to do visually what the artists described their concept was," Haven said. "Every piece has to stand on its own merit. That in of itself brings a whole new dimension to this event."

The WOW runway show does not only feature the garments made by the designers but also combines elements of dance, theater and music.

"It's hard to describe if you haven't seen bits of it," he said. "I sat there for two hours with my mouth open just astounded at what was going on in front of me."

Haven also acknowledged that the trip wouldn't have been possible without funding from the College of Fine Arts, the Kentucky Arts Council and the UK Theatre Department. Nancy Jones, the chair of the Theatre Department, said Haven's accomplishments would bring recognition to his own talents and to the Theatre Department at UK.

"Participation in this event has brought international esteem to professor Haven, and the theatre department is thrilled to be able to have him represent us as he brings his world-class artistry to international venues," Jones said.

The report on the WOW Awards will air tomorrow at 7 a.m. on CBS's "The Early Show."

Fire that killed students may have started on deck, mayor says

By Jessica Rocha, Jerry Allegood and Sam LaGrone
McClatchy Newspapers

OCEAN ISLE BEACH, N.C. — Investigators combed through the gutted wreckage of a beach house Monday where seven South Carolina college students died the morning before in a wind-whipped blaze, searching for the charred evidence of the fire's cause.

Led by federal and state agents, fire sleuths believe the deadly flames first flared near a deck in back of the two-story house on Scotland Street, on a side facing a canal, but don't yet know what set it off, Mayor Debbie Smith said. Investigators believe the fire was accidental, she said, its consequences grimly different from those of the storms that batter the North Carolina coast.

"We've had our share of hurricanes," she said. "We've never had anything like this."

The Sunday morning fire swept through the cream-colored wooden house perched on heavy pilings and left no escape for more than half the 13 students sleeping inside — a tragic end to what had been a fun weekend of watching football at the beach.

The dead, whose names are not being officially released until their identifications are confirmed by the state medical examiner in Chapel Hill, perished in the bedrooms on the top floor of the smoke and fire-infested house. The six who escaped the blaze were all on the first floor — at least one male student jumped to safety.

Now, memorials have been set up at the University of South Carolina, where six of the deceased studied, and at Clemson University, which lost one student. Flags have been dropped to half-mast, grief counselors dispatched, and a nationwide network of sorority sisters and fraternity brothers have offered prayers, e-mails, flowers, food.

"It really means a lot to us that so many people are here for us through these hard times," said Lauren Hodge, president of the



Onlookers check out the home, Oct. 29, in Ocean Isle Beach, N.C. A fire at the vacation house where college students went to take advantage of the last good beach weather may have started on a deck, an official said Monday, as two campuses waited to find out the names of the seven dead.

sorority's USC chapter. "We have to keep in mind that it has affected the entire campus and all of the families of the members."

Its roof and windows missing and most of the sides blackened, the destroyed home offered a sharp contrast to the other white and pastel houses throughout the small beach town. Smith said the town police were investigating the fire with the State Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. She said she hoped to have a report in a few days.

Early indications don't point to any structural problems with the house itself.

Built in 2000, the six-bedroom, 2,533 square-foot house had been built mostly out of wood and sat on stilts, according to Brunswick County property records. The exterior was

sheathed with vinyl siding and the home had seven fireplaces.

Fire Chief Robert Yoho said the house — a private dwelling, not a rental cottage — had the required smoke alarms in bedrooms and a nearby hallway. It lacked a sprinkler system, which was not required.

"I'm sure it was all up to code," he said. "That house slept 13 and that's how many were there."

Town officials said their inspections department had no specific information on the house because records on building permits are only kept for a few years.

The home, called "Changing Channels," belonged to the family of Katherine Auman, a USC student, according to the family's pastor, the Rev. Tony Medlin of St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Hartsville,

S.C. She is a 2007 pledge of the Delta Delta Delta sorority, according to a sorority Web site hosted by the university. She was in the house when the fire began, but escaped, Medlin said.

Auman was one of the 12 students in the house who were either members of chapters of that sorority or the fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon at the University of South Carolina. One student who died in the fire attended Clemson University.

Like most homes and motels in Ocean Isle, the house had an open parking area underneath, and two floors above.

The weekend had been spent watching football and grilling out using a charcoal grill in the home's carport, said Rebecca Wood, a University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill student who got to know some of the South Carolina crowd over the

weekend.

The group was not being careless with fire, she said.

"There wasn't a party. Nothing was out of hand. Nothing was out of line," Wood said.

Wood was one of about 35 UNC-CH students who had spent Saturday night in two houses neighboring the South Carolina students. They were part of a pledge weekend for the co-ed service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega.

After the fire Sunday, the group was sent to town hall to be interviewed by investigators.

"I tried looking back on my camera to see if they were in the background of any of the pictures, to give the police some faces," said UNC-CH junior Stephanie Wilkins. Unfortunately, there weren't any shots of the fire victims.

Now, the students are left

wondering how a fire could spread so quickly and be so deadly.

Strong winds and the home's wooden construction were a factor, said Yoho.

Shortly after 7 a.m., a fire crew crossing Odell Williamson Bridge from the mainland saw the flames from about two miles away.

About 50 firefighters responded to the blaze, where flames rolled through windows and onto the roof.

Even though help arrived within minutes, the home was completely engulfed. Firefighters took about 45 minutes to contain it.

Asked why the house burned so rapidly, Yoho replied, "oxygen." He said the wood construction and strong winds contributed to the spread. Since the house was elevated, that allowed wind to whip underneath.

However, the department received some major breaks. Winds blew out of the north, pushing flames over the canal and open space, he said. Had it been out of the south, the fire could have easily reached nearby homes.

On Monday, sight of the charred remains of the home drew sightseers' eyes away from Ocean Isle's scenic oceanfront.

Smith, the town mayor, said the two-story wood construction is typical of most structures in the town of about 500 residents. The town's two-lane streets, many named for North Carolina towns and counties, are lined with sidewalks and grassy parking areas.

Smith said Ocean Isle is primarily a family oriented town and only about half of the 3,200 houses and condominiums are rentals. She contrasted Ocean Isle's laid back lifestyle with beach resorts such as Myrtle Beach to the south, which often draws rowdy revelers, motorcycle gatherings or hordes of college students.

"We're not like Daytona Beach on spring break," she said. "There's not much going on after sunset. It's not a big party place."

Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement

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The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement. Registered Student Orgs. and UK Depts. can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information is to appear. Call 252-6867 for more information.

Tuesday 30 th	Wednesday 31 st	Thursday 1 st	Friday 2 nd	Saturday 3 rd	Sunday 4 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mock Social Networking Reception, 4:30 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center • Honors Program Student Council Meeting, 7:00 PM, Student Center • Martin School Open House, 4:30 PM, Patterson Office Tower • Psycho/Saw- Cheap Seat Tuesdays, 7:00 PM, Worsham Theater • Volunteering at the Hope Lodge, 6:00 PM, The Hope Lodge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn to Knit, 7:00 PM, student Center • Young at Heart Meeting, 5:00 PM, Student Center • Project Health Meeting, 4:00 PM, Student Center • Comedy Caravan, 8:00 PM, Cats Den 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STAG Meeting, Student Center • The Naked Truth, 7:00 PM, Student Center • The Firm Word- Dr. DeSantis, 8:00 PM, W.T. Young Library • Spades Tournament, 7:00 PM, Cats Den • Career Center Workshop: Education Abroad and your Future, 3:30 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center • CCO Board of Directors Meeting, 5:00 PM, Student Center • Etiquette 101, 3:00 PM, Oliver H. Raymond Bldg • PostSecret Exhibit, 11:30 AM, Student Center • DanceBlue Subcommittee Meeting, 6:00 PM, Student Center • National Student Exchange Info Session, 12:30 PM, Miller Hall • Mad Max: The Road Warrior, 10:00 PM, Worsham Theater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Italian Conversation Practice, 5:00 PM, Coffee Island • Sunshine, 10:00 PM, Center Theater 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a GREAT Weekend

OPINIONS

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The opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas. Unlike news stories, the Kernel's unsigned editorials represent the views of a majority of the editorial board. Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the opinions page reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of the Kernel.

■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

New alert system requires student participation

When the university launches its UK Alert system in the next few weeks, it will greatly increase the ability of officials to communicate with the campus during an emergency. But to be effective from the beginning, the system needs to be backed up with policies that ensure the alerts are both accurate and timely.

UK currently sends safety alerts to the campus through e-mail, but the new system will expand that reach by allowing students, faculty, staff and community members to sign up for alerts sent through e-mail, text messages and potentially other mediums, according to a Friday Kernel article.

The addition of text-message warnings means safety officials will have the ability to communicate nearly instantly with people on campus during an emergency. The communication will also be two-way, allowing students to respond to some notifications with a message indicating whether or not they need help.

UK Alert's effectiveness after it is launched will be determined by the students: If no one signs up for the notifications, they will fall on deaf ears during an emergency.

While it is true that word will most likely spread quickly in an emergency because anyone who receives an alert will tell others nearby, students should not rely solely on their classmates for safety. When registration opens for the alerts sometime in the next few weeks, every student should take the time to add his or her contact information.

Officials must also work to make sure students can trust UK Alert. The system should only be used for emergency messages, and text messages

should only be sent when immediate action is required. If students feel they are receiving frivolous messages, then they will be quick to unsubscribe.

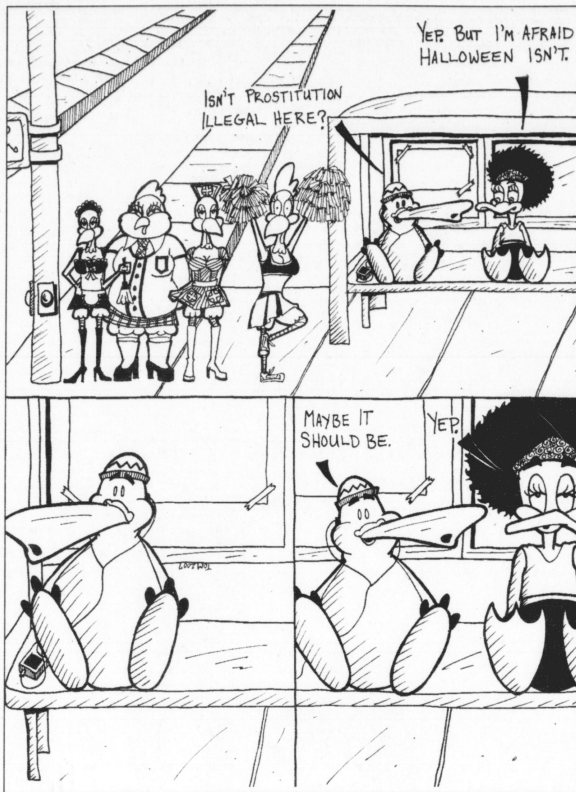
One problem officials will face is balancing the accuracy of the messages with the urgency of a situation. Messages shouldn't be sent as soon as an emergency is reported because it could turn out to be a false alarm, but waiting for a full investigation could mean the alert is sent out far too late to be effective.

"You have to get to the scene, confirm facts, what you want (recipients to know)," said Paul Dillon, spokesman for the department of public safety at University of Maryland at College Park, in the Kernel article. The University of Maryland implemented a system similar to UK Alert in April.

"You don't want to tell people, 'You need to evacuate your building,' and 10 minutes later find out it was a false alarm," Dillon said.

As officials prepare to launch UK Alert, they should consider each possible emergency situation and decide how much investigating is necessary before sending an alert. When in doubt, they should err on the side of safety: While the system's credibility could be damaged by a rash of false alarms, students could be physically harmed by not sending out an alert quickly enough.

It's taken longer than expected to implement UK Alert, but the delays are understandable given the complexity of the technology and the need to carefully test the system. When it does launch, students should register for the alerts, and officials should work to ensure that messages are sent quickly during true emergencies.



TOM WILKINS, Kernel cartoonist

Colbert's presidential campaign stirs up nation's political interest

It's hard to take Stephen Colbert's 2008 presidential bid seriously.

To say that Colbert does not have a solemn image in the public is an understatement. Colbert, host of Comedy Central's "The Colbert Report," is a satirical Bush-supporting, anti-gay-marriage, war-hungry, bear-hating, hard-core-rightist Republican TV personality. It is no wonder that when he announced his decision to become a presidential candidate on his own show, the story only drew a few laughs from people.



LINSEN LI
Opinions
Editor

While "Stewart-Colbert '08" (Stewart being the host of "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart") bumper stickers have been a popular fad among the college-aged generation, certainly no one took the idea of them running seriously. Well, at least one person did and still does — Colbert himself.

Colbert's campaign may not be getting much attention from the country's political pundits, but he is generating a great amount of interest in the '08 presidential race for his fans.

Among the college-age population, generally perceived as being politically apathetic, students are actively supporting Colbert's campaign with a Facebook.com group that reached over 1 million members in eight days, according to an MSNBC.com article, and by collecting signatures for the South Carolina Presidential Primary Petition.

And since Colbert showed that his candidacy is more than a one-day joke, support for his campaign is snowballing. Now, just a couple of weeks into his campaign, Colbert is showing that he is a force to be reckoned with, at least in popularity.

According to a Rasmussen Reports national telephone survey, Colbert is preferred by 13 percent of voters as an independent candidate running against Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Rudy Giuliani. And the poll was taken before Colbert's appearance on "Meet the

Press with Tim Russert."

Another poll by Public Opinion Strategies, a national Republican political research firm, suggested that Colbert would get 2.3 percent of the vote in Democratic primaries, beating candidates Bill Richardson, Chris Dodd, Dennis Kucinich and Mike Gravel. How's that for a practical joke?

How do these "beaten" candidates respond? "This is a serious election with serious consequences and we are not going to comment on this ridiculous exercise," said Tom Reynolds, Richardson's spokesman, in an article from The (London) Times. "The country has seen eight years of a joker in the White House, and look where it got us."

We get it: Colbert is making a ridiculous face out of the presidential race, but just in case people don't understand, spokesman Reynolds is warning the public against voting for Colbert by suggesting he would trump even the incumbent, President George Bush. By dismissing Colbert's campaign, Reynolds is actually achieving the opposite effect.

The truth is, whether Reynolds agrees or not, Colbert has no less chance than Richardson of getting elected, which is to say that neither has any chance. While both are seemingly seeking a goal in futility, at least Colbert will be getting the most fun out of his campaign.

In fact, it's not even Colbert's intention to win the election.

"I don't want to be president," he said on NBC News' "Meet the Press." "I want to run for president. There's a difference."

So what does Colbert hope to achieve through his campaign? The answer, spoken by Colbert himself on "Meet the Press," shows the heart of a true American. "...I was able to get on the ballot on South Carolina and if I can do it, so can you."

Mr. Colbert, I applaud you for proving that the American Dream is still alive. If the self-proclaimed son of a poor Appalachian turd-miner, the grandson of a goat ball-licker can pursue the office of the U.S. president, then what is impossible in this great, vast country?

Linsen Li is a history and journalism junior.
E-mail li@kykernel.com.

Homecoming was a great success, but events should be more unified

Good day, friends! I hope your midterms have gone well and hope many of you appreciated the provost's efforts to have all midterm grades posted. If you didn't know, it is now mandatory for faculty to post midterm grades on your myUK account just like finals week.

There were a lot of fun events surrounding homecoming, but needless to say, many hearts were broken across the bluegrass after this past weekend. However, I am confident our football team will recover, and we still have a chance for a Southeastern Conference championship.

After passing the homecoming crown on to my fraternity brother Grant Mills at halftime, I went to the National Pan-Hellenic Council step show downtown. Nearly 1,000 people came out to show their support for the performers.

I was blown away with not only the talent but also the obvious amount of time and effort that had gone into planning the event. UK NPHC President Aria Higgins and NPHC officer Matthew Dennis should be proud of the event they put on. But a bigger issue came to mind while I was there.

I find it very sad, and honestly just flat out disheartening, that our homecoming events are so segregated. I understand the history behind all events, but I truly feel that it's time we have one UK homecoming.

To me there is no reason that events from all communities cannot be put on the same calendar and all be part of the same official homecoming. Student Activities Board had great events last week and received great coverage, unlike events such as the Mr. and Ms. Black UK Pageant and the Alumni-Student Basketball game. It is my hope that leaders from all organizations can come together this year so next year's homecoming will be celebrated by everyone together.

On a lighter note, come get some hot chocolate in front of the White Hall Classroom Building. Student Government will be handing out free hot chocolate as well as other giveaways starting tomorrow and continuing through every Wednesday in November.



NICK PHELPS
Contributing
columnist

Calling all freshmen! Tomorrow and Thursday we will be having freshman Senate elections with poll locations all across campus. If you don't get out to vote, then please vote from home on your computer at our Web site (www.uksga.org).

Speaking of elections, this is going to be the last time I will be able to tell you to get out and vote for the next governor in the fall elections. There are many elections, including the heated governor's race between Republican Gov. Ernie Fletcher and Democratic candidate Steve Beshear, and it is my hope that you will go out and cast a vote next Tuesday.

This past weekend, we had four members of SGA participate in the Southeastern Conference Exchange at the University of Mississippi. They shared a lot of our successes and struggles and have come home with a lot of useful information.

Our goal this year is to be as visible and active as possible whether it be traveling to other states or setting up forums. Today we will be hosting an Undergraduate Studies Program forum in room 249 of the Student Center in regard to the proposed changes to the USP requirements that will affect all incoming students.

Also, mark your calendars for an opportunity to talk with UK police officers on Nov. 16 in the Center for Student Involvement at 1 p.m.

Soon we will announce the winner to our campus memorial application; we had a lot of applicants and thoughtful designs. We are incredibly excited about this process and honoring those who were lost.

I hope all of you will take a second and say a prayer for the students at South Carolina University and Clemson University as they suffer through a horrific tragedy. A fire swept through a beach house in North Carolina and killed seven students from these two colleges. Also take a second to realize how lucky we really are to be here each day.

We will be notifying the 50 lucky students who will be going to the Cats Convoy game at Vanderbilt University on Nov. 10, so be on the lookout in your e-mail to see if you are one of the lucky students. Have a great week and a happy Halloween!

Nick Phelps is the president of UK Student Government. E-mail nicholasphelps@uk.com.

Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Linsen Li. Be sure to include your full name, class, major and phone number (for confirmation).

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

Columnists Needed

The Kernel is looking for columnists, especially those with an interest in campus and local issues, to write for the opinions page on a regular basis.

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

Weekly Poll Question

Do you think UK should allow residents with concealed-carry permits to carry weapons on campus?

Vote online at www.kykernel.com

SPORTS

Eric Lindsey
Sports Editor
Phone: 257-1915
elindsay@kykernel.com

Cats welcome bye week after losses, injuries

By Eric Lindsey
elindsay@kykernel.com

Coming off two straight losses and facing adversity for the first time all year, the UK football team could not have asked for a better time to have the bye week.

After dropping three of their last four games, the No. 23 Cats have fallen from the top 10 in the national polls to a tie at the bottom of the Southeastern Conference East Division.

Add that to the countless injuries to key players and it is easy to see why the Cats were so frustrated with their letdown against Mississippi State.

"We're a team that depends on our playmakers to be out there," said sophomore defensive end Jeremy Jarmon. "When one of our playmakers isn't out there, it hurts our offense in some way. It may not be extremely noticeable at first, but when you have two or three guys out with injuries, it starts to take its toll."

The absence of some of UK's top offensive players on Saturday was evident. While the Cats totaled more than 300 yards of offense, they turned the ball over a season-high six times — an ugly trend on Saturday that was tough to watch for injured players like senior wide receiver Keenan Burton.

"It's real hard for me to just sit back and watch," Burton said. "I've done it for so long. The past couple of seasons I was hurt and had to watch the team struggle and that's something I don't want to be a part of."

Burton, who is battling a knee strain and a sprained ankle, joined a logjam of injuries that is starting to plague the Cats. Starting senior tailback Rafael Little missed his third straight game with a thigh bruise and his backup, junior Tony Dixon, was out with an ankle injury.

With sophomore tailback Alfonso Smith not at 100 percent, true freshman Derrick Locke got the starting nod at tailback Saturday. But it took only the first half for the injury bug to bite Locke when he went down with an ankle injury early in the third quarter.

If there is a bright spot on the injury front, it is that few of the injuries are season ending.

"That happens in this league," Jarmon said. "The teams that we're playing are very physical. If the worst we can say is our star players only miss a game or two, that's good."

After practice yesterday, head coach Rich Brooks said more than 30 players were listed as having injuries following Saturday's game. Brooks said many of those injuries were "psychological," but that the off week should help heal some of the bumps and bruises the Cats have endured over the past few games.

One of the key injuries Brooks noted was a shoulder injury to Marcus McClinton. The junior free safety is doubtful for practice for the rest of the week and is scheduled to have X-rays and an MRI later in the week, Brooks said.

The players will practice through tomorrow and have a weight lifting session on Thursday. They will be off Friday and Saturday before coming back Sunday to prepare for Vanderbilt.



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF
Sophomore defensive end Jeremy Jarmon tries to tackle Mississippi State running back Anthony Dixon during the Cats 31-14 loss to the Bulldogs on Saturday at Commonwealth Stadium.

row and have a weight lifting session on Thursday. They will be off Friday and Saturday before coming back Sunday to prepare for Vanderbilt.

"It feels good to be back out here," Jarmon said. "There is a lot of energy, a lot more emotion in practice this week than there was last week because we lost, and because we know we have to get this game in a couple of weeks."

Even though the Cats are at the bottom of the SEC East, they are still just a game and a half back from first place, and the matchup against Vanderbilt on Nov. 10 will go a long way in determining if the Cats can stay in the race.

"It's clear that whatever it looks like today, by the time we go back on the field against Vanderbilt, it's going to look different," Brooks said. "We're not out of it. We certainly hurt ourselves a great deal with two straight losses, but we still are in the

thick of things, and we can still be a factor in this thing."

Brooks to be inducted into the Oregon Hall of Fame

Brooks, who rebuilt the Oregon football program from 1977 to 1994, will be inducted into the Oregon Athletics Hall of Fame during ceremonies on Friday and Saturday in Eugene, Ore.

In just a few years, Brooks turned Oregon from a struggling program to a Pacific 10 Conference contender year-in and year-out. He guided the Ducks to four bowl games in his tenure, including a 1995 Rose Bowl appearance, the program's first in 37 years. The feat resulted in Brooks being named National Coach of the Year for the 1994 season.

Brooks will be formally inducted to the Hall of Fame at a banquet Friday night and will be honored at halftime of Saturday's Oregon-Arizona State game.

Cool Cats' goalie saving team after rough start

By Brad Bowling
sports@kykernel.com

After dropping seven of the first 12 games to open its season, the UK hockey team started to turn its performance around Saturday night at the Lexington Ice Center.

The Cool Cats defeated Miami (Ohio) 5-1 thanks in large part to some inspired play from senior goalie Drew Matchak. Despite the Cool Cats' early-season struggles, the senior has been a force between the goalposts, and his teammates are starting to feed off his consistent performances.

"He is an amazing goalie," said senior forward and captain Mike Barnes. "He just stops

everything out there."

Matchak recorded an astonishing 55 saves on Saturday night to help the Cool Cats to their first victory over the Redhawks in 15 years.

"If he sees the shot, he's going to stop it," said head coach Rob Docherty. "We always knew he had it in him, and now we're starting to see it."

Matchak, who has a .881 save percentage, gave his teammates much of the credit for the win.

"They are doing a good job of limiting the rebounds," he said. "Everyone is communicating better, and we are picking each other up."

The Cool Cats have struggled so far this season with a 5-

7-1 start and dropped a close game Friday night to the Redhawks. But they played one of their best games of the season Saturday, Barnes said.

"I think this was the first time all season we played up to our full potential," Barnes said. The team was in high spirits Saturday night, bursting out to an early 2-1 lead before finishing Miami off with three third-period goals and huge saves from Matchak.

The team's hard work is starting to pay off, Docherty said.

"Good things happen when you play 60 minutes," he said. "It's even better when you play 60 minutes and you get some breaks. Early on we weren't get-

ting many breaks, but now things are starting to bounce our way."

The Cool Cats hope the breaks continue to bounce their way with tough weekends ahead.

After taking on Bowling Green at home this weekend, UK hits the road on Nov. 9 and 10 to play at Wright State.

It seems as though Matchak's play will be a key factor in how UK fares the rest of the season.

"The better you play, the more confidence you get," Matchak said.

UK hosts Bowling Green this Friday and Saturday. Both games start at midnight at the Lexington Ice Center.

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