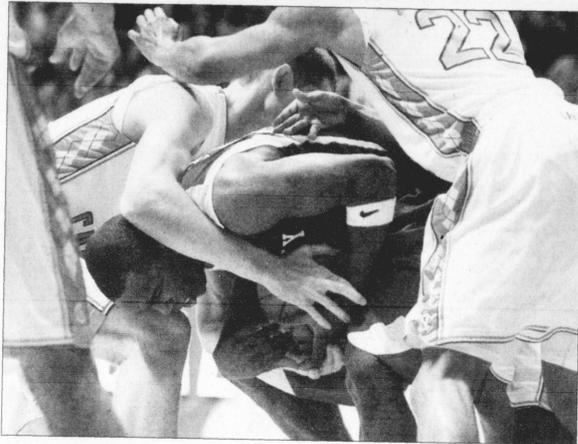


NORTH CAROLINA 77, UK 58



Junior guard Jodie Meeks struggles to keep possession during UK's 77-58 loss to North Carolina in Chapel Hill, N.C., on Tuesday night. The blowout loss keeps UK winless so far this season. PHOTO BY ED MATTHEWS STAFF

Tarred and feathered

Without Hansbrough UNC adds to UK's woes

By Bobby Reagan
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CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Billy Gillispie said he was upset his team would not have the chance to play against Tyler Hansbrough. But with the play of junior forward Deon Thompson, the threat of Hansbrough was overshadowed. Thompson picked up the slack, scoring 20 points and grabbing nine rebounds, including seven offensive rebounds, to lead No. 1 North Carolina to a 77-58 win at the Dean Smith Center on Tuesday night in front of 21,538 fans.

"I think I've just been doing

the things that I've been doing over the summer," Thompson said. "I guess I got a little bit more of an opportunity without Tyler out there and just taking advantage (of the situation) and not really trying to force anything."

Despite having 19 points and 11 rebounds, sophomore forward Patrick Patterson was limited for most of the game. His first touch didn't even come until the 13:20 mark of the first half.

"I've got to work a lot harder," Patterson said. "The first half was sloppy on my part. The guards were trying to get me the

See **Basketball** on page 6

Cats have no reason to panic this early

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — First of all UK fans, chill out.

Yes, your beloved Cats just got embarrassed 77-58 on national television and yes, they just fell to 0-2 for only the third time since 1926. But really, chill out.

It's early on. If you can remember all the way back to last year, UK didn't look all that much better than it does to start this season. The Cats were at one point 7-9 with embarrassing losses to Gardner-Webb and San Diego. It's pretty hard to characterize losing by 19 points to the No. 1 team in the nation and dropping the season-opener to a team that led the NCAA in scoring the past two seasons to be as bad.

See **Lindsey** on page 6



ERIC LINDSEY
Kernel columnist

NCAA in scoring the past two seasons to be as bad.

Economy turns students back to classroom

By Paul Mattingly
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With the unemployment rate at its highest level in 14 years, the job outlook is growing increasingly grim for graduating seniors.

Many students will enter the job market fearlessly, but others are looking for an alternative. At UK, some students have turned to graduate school.

According to a Kaplan survey, the number of people taking the Graduate Management Admission Test has increased by 5.8 percent nationwide in 2008.

Patricia Bond, assistant dean of the Office of Graduate Admission and Academic Administration, said she is predicting an increase in graduate school appli-

cations for 2009 but it is too early to tell.

Students who plan on applying to graduate school, especially an M.B.A. program, may find getting in to be tougher than in the past. According to the survey of 245 business school admissions officers, 75 percent of the surveyed officers feel that being admitted to their M.B.A. program is harder than it was in 2005.

"We do expect (admission) to be highly competitive," said Liza Weale, director of graduate programs for Kaplan. "Students need to make sure their applications are robust and stand out as much as possible."

Over half of the surveyed M.B.A. programs are considering expanding the number of seats available. But Mary Lee Kerr, program director in the Gatton College of Business and Economics, said this

is not possible at UK due to the design of the program and its emphasis on individual attention.

Drusilla Bakert, associate dean of admissions and student affairs in the UK College of Law, said she predicts an increase in applicants based on historical data. She said in the past, law school applications have increased during economic downturns. Students who were considering law school at some point in their career decide to apply immediately after completing undergraduate studies, Bakert said. Also, laid-off workers may turn to law school as a second career.

Whatever the reason, Kerr said her program is expecting more applicants at UK.

"We do anticipate an increase and we are tracking to that," she said.

Speaker relates politics to literary fiction

By Sylvia Miga
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A torture prison, a mother's refusal to mourn her son, a natural disaster and a movement speaking of hope — all of these are part of Donald Pease's lecture on the events that he said undermined President Bush's "fantasy" of homeland security.

The UK English Department will present "one of the most famous theorists of American literature in the country," said English professor Virginia Blum. The lecture

will be at 4 p.m. Wednesday on the 18th floor of Patterson Office Tower.

At the lecture, "Antigone's Kin: From Abu Ghraib to Barack Obama," Pease said he will relate modern events to classic works. One example he gave was a comparison of Cindy Sheehan's refusal to mourn the death of her son, a U.S. soldier, to Antigone's confrontation with Creon. He also said he will locate the origins of Obama's movement as starting in New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

"Hurricane Katrina turned

New Orleans into a devastated homeland, and President Bush did little or nothing to secure the victims of this 'homeland tragedy' from the hurricane's terrifying aftermath," Pease said.

Pease said he was inspired

If you go

What: "Antigone's Kin: From Abu Ghraib to Barack Obama"
When: Wednesday at 4 p.m.
Where: POT
Admission: Free

to do this lecture based on a book he just completed titled "Unacknowledged Legislators: State Fantasies from the Persian Gulf War to Barack Obama." Pease said the work focused on how the Cold War was replaced by the global War on Terror.

The lecture may use works of fiction to discuss true events, but Pease said he hopes students can see how the two are related in real life.

"I want students to understand how national governance is structured upon fantasies and dreams," he said.

Sorority calls for housing, security changes

By Laura Clark
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Greek houses at UK currently grant 24-access only to their residents — and not all members — but the Sigma Kappa Theta Rho sorority is seeking to change that.

The Greek organizations that reside in houses on campus use a variety of security systems for entrance, like card-swiping, fingerprint identification or a punch-key pad. However, some non-residents do not have 24-hour access to their organization's house. Non-members are granted access during certain windows of time, such as chapter meetings and meals, said Tony Ralph, supervisor and student services director of Residence Life.

A request for 24-hour access for all Sigma Kappa members was brought to the attention of Auxiliary Services last spring by Sigma Kappa president Lauren Sexhauer. However, the request was denied.

"We felt that giving unlimited access to non-residents of the building would undermine our ability to maintain the kind of secure environment that we are responsible for maintaining," Ralph said.

Sexhauer is working on a new petition that will include signatures from members of the sorority, sorority advisors and leaders of their alum governing body, House Corporation.

"We made the decision to bring it up in a more formal way," Sexhauer said.

The petition, which Sexhauer hopes will be submitted by the end of this semester, will be sent to Jim Wims, the assistant vice president of student affairs and director of Resident Life.

Wims said he would be open to reviewing the petition whenever he received it.

"I wasn't aware (Sigma Kappa) still had concerns about this issue," he said. "If students in general have some questions or concerns about what we're doing or not doing, we'd listen and review, but really there's no formal process."

Andrea Albee, a journalism freshman and member of the Sigma Kappa sorority, addressed a letter-to-the-editor in the Kernel on Oct. 28, on the importance of granting 24-hour access to Sigma Kappa's house for non-resident members.

"I'm concerned for myself and my sisters," Albee said in a later interview with the Kernel. "It could pose a serious safety issue in the long run."

Kristen Fulcher, house manager for the Delta Delta Delta sorority, said getting into the sorority house hasn't been an issue because there is always someone there to open the door.

"I understand if you need a place to go, you should be able to get in," Fulcher said. "Sorority houses are supposed to be a welcoming place for all of our members."

Fulcher said her sorority uses the "punch code" system, which, ideally, allows only those members who have memorized the code into the house.

"Swiping a card is a lot different," Fulcher said. "Access is granted because the identity is verified. Our system doesn't recognize identity, so it could be anyone punching that code in."

According to the Student Affairs Web site there are 11 on-campus Greek houses. Only five of the Greek houses on campus are operated by Residence Life. The other six are operated by independent house corporations.

Campus dining finds chains more popular

By Katie Perkowski
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As the school week begins each Monday, the Student Center Food Court is swarming with students catching a bite to eat during the lunchtime hours. While chain restaurants like Chick-fil-A, Sbarro and Subway are busy with customers, the non-chain restaurants, like Sichuan Express and Champions Grill, have lines that are lacking.

The chain food places always have a lot more people in line than the university-owned places, said Rachel Beyatte, student manager of the Student Center Food Court.

Undecided freshman Jaime Unitus said she eats at the Student Center frequently and has only gone to Sichuan Express, the Chinese restaurant, once.

"I like trying new things but so far this year I have mostly eaten at the chain-named places," she said. "I think I go for these places because I know what to expect."

Beyatte said she thinks most people prefer to eat at the chain places.

"I guess people just like the brands," she said.

Meredith Henson, a nursing freshman, said she didn't even know there was a Chinese restaurant in the Student Center. Henson said she goes to the chain restaurants more often than the university ones.

"These are restaurants I am familiar with and they are popular," she said.

As to whether or not UK will add more chain restaurants on campus, Beyatte said she's not sure, but she does think it is noticeable that they do better business than the other restaurants.

A representative of UK Dining Services could not be reached by press time.

SUDOKU

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Today's Birthday (11/19/08)

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 7 — Don't do it for the money, do it for the exercise. You'll be a stronger person for it.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is an 8 — Is it OK to do something wildly romantic in the middle of the week? Conditions are perfect for play.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is a 7 — Go along with your partner's suggestion and, if you have complaints, keep them to yourself for a while. They may disappear, or heal it by themselves.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is an 8 — You should do well financially, through your own creative efforts. If you

don't already have your own business, now's a good time to start one.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 7 — Be assertive in romance, and you're liable to get what you want. The odds are in your favor. You can even be silly and win.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is a 10 — Go through the storage closets and refresh your memory about what you have. There's plenty of work, go get fully into the job. If you don't know what to do, you'll find out really fast.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 7 — It's hard to keep a lid on your enthusiasm. Maybe you don't have to do that. Looks like there's a happy ending to this group endeavor. Whoop it up!

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 5 — You don't like to be ordered around, and that could be happening now. You can put up with it, though, and

do a good job. Witty remarks to your superior officer are not recommended.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 7 — You could be getting antsy. You need a change of scene. But how will you get past the gatekeeper?

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 7 — You'll have an especially sharp eye for cutting frills now, and increasing your savings.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 5 — It's even worthwhile to go to a special place where they do that sort of thing. Like, a five-star restaurant. You can scrape the money together.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 9 — Figure out what works by doing it, not through untried theories. This is where the rubber meets the road. Don't be sweet-talked into going for something that simply will not work. Do the math.

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your daily dose of entertainment, pop culture and fun.

kernel POP



Madonna and Guy

THE DISH He's on the attack

Ritchie reunites with the kids, but wants serious cash. A shattered marriage can't stop Guy Ritchie from seeing his boys. The director, 40, reunited with sons Rocco, 8, and David, 3, at the London area's Gatwick Airport on Nov. 10.

"Rocco shouted 'Dad!' when he got through the gate," a witness tells Hot Stuff.

"Guy literally threw his coffee on the floor and ran over to them." The gathering wasn't so easy to pull off, according to one source, who says, "Guy pleaded with Madonna to send the boys to the States, but he put his foot down."

A second source says Ritchie's now pushing Midge, 50, for a hefty settlement in their divorce as well. Despite reports saying she paid for everything during their marriage, the insider says the couple split expenses fifty-fifty.

"Guy is going after money now," the insider says. "He wants to be paid back for these ridiculous expenses he had to help pay for."

Overshares

Maybe Seattle isn't a Jessica Simpson kind of town? When the singer, 28, began a private November 6 show for about 300 VIPs at Snoqualmie Casino, it was standing-room-only, says a witness. "But by the last song, there were maybe 75 people left." If the exodus rattled her, it didn't show at her packed casino gig the next

night, says another source. "I just got off the phone with my boyfriend!" an upbeat Simpson told the crowd of Tony-Romo, 28. "He's at home in my bed right now. I hope he's not going through my journals! But everyone knows what kind of girl I am. He should know what went on in the past!" One day later, the couple reunited at the Beverly Hills Hotel's Polo Lounge. Says an onlooker, "They were so lovey-dovey!"

Kate's junkfood

It's junk food, not baby food, for Kate Walsh. The Private Practice star, 41, joined to Hot Stuff at Las Vegas nightclub Tao's third-anniversary party that incensed pregnancy rumors circulate about her because "I eat fried food. I'm going to give birth to a bag of potato chips soon." That night, she and husband Alex Young, 37, opted for Kobe rib-eye steak and sushi!

Won't Sleep at John's

No need for a spare toothbrush for Jennifer Aniston at John Mayer's house. A source tells Hot Stuff that "John sleeps over at Jen's place all the time — but not the other way around." Why? "She loves her privacy, and she is a huge homebody." After all, explains the insider, the Marley & Me actress, 39, has all the creature comforts she needs at her Hollywood Hills house (rocker Mayer, 31, has a pad in L.A.'s Pacific Palisades area). "She has a minisym, her trainer comes to her, her backyard is completely shielded from paparazzi and

she has an excellent security system. She feels safe."

Katie can't escape

Seems Katie Holmes can't step out of -Nicole-Kidman's shadow! Though Holmes, 29, is playing to packed houses in Broadway's All My Sons, attendees need only flip to the back cover of their programs to see Tom Cruise's ex-wife striking a pose in a Chanel ad. But Holmes isn't bothered, says a source: "She thinks the ads are beautiful."

Two star spots!

Bad news for Beyonce Knowles: two stars are steamed at her. First, a source says Justin Timberlake, 27, is fuming because he wrote a song called "Magic" for her — only to see it hit the Web. "Someone in her camp apparently leaked it," says the insider. (Beyonce's manager dad, Mathew Knowles, tells Us the track "was never presented to me personally. We have a good relationship with Justin.")

Timberlake's rep said, "We don't know where the leak came from." Meanwhile, a pal of Jennifer Hudson, 27, known as "Superstar James" wrote on his MySpace page that Knowles, 27 — Hudson's Dreamgirls costar — "did not come to the funeral, nor did she call, text, send a card or send a damn e-mail" "was never presented to me personally. We have a good relationship with Justin." Hudson's Dreamgirls costar — "did not come to the funeral, nor did she call, text, send a card or send a damn e-mail" "was never presented to me personally. We have a good relationship with Justin." Hudson's Dreamgirls costar — "did not come to the funeral, nor did she call, text, send a card or send a damn e-mail" "was never presented to me personally. We have a good relationship with Justin."

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Q&A with Robert Pattinson

Moving up the chain, Pattinson takes lead role in best-selling vampire novel



Rob Pattinson stars in "Twilight" in theaters Nov. 21 with a sneak peak in some Lexington theaters Nov. 20. PHOTO COURTESY OF SUMMIT ENTERTAINMENT

By Kelly Wiley
kwiley@kykernel.com

Following the supernatural theme of "Harry Potter," Robert Pattinson steps into the role of vampire Edward Cullen, a character in Stephenie Meyer's best-selling novel "Twilight." The Kernel had the opportunity to talk with Pattinson about his new role.

Q. Since you played Cedric in "Harry Potter" and now the vampire Edward Cullen in "Twilight," is there anything that interests you in these supernatural films or are you looking for a different area of subject matter in other films you will be making?

A. It has been totally random. I don't always do supernatural jobs. Yeah, I mean, I definitely want to eventually play a normal person. Every single job I have done, I've been some kind of supernatural thing. And everything I kind of have coming up next year seems like it's all going to be very random as well. But I hope eventually I will be able to play like a normal person in modern day.

Q. I understand you are a musician and you wrote a song for the "Twilight" soundtrack. Do you think you will be going in the direction of a musical career instead of acting or trying a little bit of both?

A. I have absolutely zero plans to do any form of big, like actually pursuing music. I would like to record an album at some point. But I don't really care if anybody buys it or not. I would like to have enough money for a good recording studio and good musicians and stuff ... But I don't want to be like a successful musician.

Q. How much influence did Stephenie Meyer (author of "Twilight") have in the overall making of the movie?

A. I think she had a lot of influence in

"Twilight" premier in Lexington
Thursday, Nov. 20 at midnight
Cinemark Fayette Mall
Lexington Movie Tavern
Regal Hamburg Pavilion
Cinemark Movies 10 Woodhill

the beginning and in pre-production. I only met her three or four times when she was up in Portland. I talked to her about something, but by that time I had already been working on the character for two months before I met her. So I pretty much knew what I was going to do. I asked a couple of really specific questions but there wasn't too much of an influence.

Q. Is there any added pressure in playing a character from a book versus playing a character straight from a script?

A. I guess there are different aspects. In some ways there's pressure when there is no book because your performance has to make the movie. You have to make the character memorable for the film to be successful. Where as when there is already a popular character, the pressure is living up to other peoples' expectations. But in some ways it takes the pressure off. In a lot of ways you can do whatever you want and people will still like the character because of the pressure of the book. So it's kind of a balance.

Q. How much research did you do in vampire mythology or did you feel like Stephenie Meyer's text was self-contained and complete enough?

A. I initially looked at a few vampire things. But it's strange ... the opinions people have about vampires have become so ridiculous because there are so many vampire movies and people treat it like that. People were saying, "that's not what a vampire does" and it's like guys, it's a fiction thing; they are not real. I just abandoned the ideal of looking at all the vampire things.

Q. As a 22-year-old, you are playing a guy who looks like he's 17 but is actually over 110 years old. How does the aspect of age play into the portrayal of Edward?

A. In the book, he sometimes talks like a 108-year-old, and he sometimes talks like he's young. There are so many kinds of confusing elements there. I kind of tried to think of it as he's 108 and he's in a 17-year-old's body, but every part of his body has been frozen so his mind hasn't developed or anything.

Q. What qualities in Edward's character do you most admire or do you least admire?

A. I like his singularity. I like how he takes his emotions very, very seriously. Like when he decides he is in love or that, that's something that he needs. That's it, it's only going to be one thing. He's not frivolous in his wants and his desires, which I think is a good thing. If you are like that in reality people can always take you seriously and trust you. He's also humble as well.

Q. In your opinion, the relationship between Edward and Bella, does their relationship have any roots in reality?

A. It's a guy (Edward) who has nothing going for him. He is denying his basic instinct. He is living in this kind of purgatory where all he wants to do is be human again or die. Then he meets this girl who makes him feel alive again and gives him a reason to live. And he can't use his powers, which up until now he thought were his curse ... It's also like 100 years or 80 years of absolute loneliness and isolation. And it's obvious where his desperate love and need for her comes from. But Bella is much more confusing.

Q. Who are your influences as an actor?

A. A lot of different people really. I guess when I was growing up I really liked Jack Nicholson stuff, not in terms of acting, but in terms of being a person. I think the most important thing, especially with film acting, is if you're an interesting person in reality, you will come across just as interesting on film. So that is the kind of angle I have been trying to go for ... I don't just want to watch their movie ... I like movies where you can go in and watch the movies and come out feeling like the character you just saw.

Q. You are ranked number 23 on MovieFone's Top 25 Hottest Actors Under 25. What do you think about this or do you really pay attention to stuff like this?

A. Yeah. I really don't pay attention to it. Yeah, someone was saying something about the People Magazine's "sexiest guys and stuff." It is sort of quite funny. My mum likes all that stuff, but I don't know. It either makes you way too embarrassed if you look at it too carefully or it makes you bigheaded. So, I just don't look at it altogether.

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UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY CRIME REPORT

UK Police reports from Nov. 11 to Nov. 17

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| Nov. 11 Alcohol intoxication reported at W. T. Young Library at 12:21 a.m. | Nov. 13 Theft reported from UK Hospital at 10:08 a.m. | Nov. 15 Alcohol-intoxication arrest made at Commonwealth Stadium at 11:16 p.m. |
| Nov. 11 Alcohol intoxication arrest made at Good Samaritan Hospital at 12:59 a.m. | Nov. 13 Drug/marijuana use reported from Good Samaritan Hospital at 8:27 p.m. | Nov. 15 Intoxicated driving arrest made on Alumni Drive at 11:51 p.m. |
| Nov. 11 Theft reported from Kastle Hall at 2:49 p.m. | Nov. 14 Purse theft reported from UK Hospital at 6:12 a.m. | Nov. 15 Disorderly conduct arrest made at Commonwealth Stadium at 11:58 p.m. |
| Nov. 11 Moped theft reported from Farmhouse Fraternity at 3:56 p.m. | Nov. 14 Drug/marijuana use reported from Blanding Tower at 8:09 p.m. | Nov. 16 Criminal mischief reported at E Lot near Blazer Hall at 9:32 a.m. |
| Nov. 12 Theft reported from Kentucky Clinic North at 8:46 a.m. | Nov. 15 Alcohol intoxication reported at Good Samaritan Hospital at 1:16 p.m. | Nov. 16 Criminal mischief reported at Commonwealth Stadium at 11:27 a.m. |
| Nov. 12 Theft reported from Good Samaritan Hospital at 10:22 a.m. | Nov. 15 Alcohol intoxication arrest made at Commonwealth Stadium at 7:33 p.m. | Nov. 16 Drug/marijuana use reported from Greg Page Apartments at 6:50 p.m. |
| Nov. 13 Alcohol intoxication arrest made at UK Hospital at 12:22 a.m. | Nov. 15 Alcohol intoxication arrest made at Commonwealth Stadium at 9:30 p.m. | Nov. 17 Bike theft reported from Greg Page Apartments at 9:03 a.m. |
| Nov. 13 Theft reported from Good Samaritan Hospital at 8:53 a.m. | Nov. 15 Alcohol intoxication arrest made at Commonwealth Stadium at 11:12 p.m. | Nov. 17 Drug/marijuana use reported from Good Samaritan Hospital at 10:12 p.m. |

Compiled from reports at UK Police Department.
Compiled by staff writer Jennifer Graham.
E-mail news@kykernel.com.

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UK should focus on beneficial safety updates

■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

UK finally has its heart in the right place with an effort in the direction of improving campus safety. But the administration might be a step ahead of itself in safety priorities.

A campus-wide card swiping system is being discussed by UK, but at this time it would be a misused use of university funds. As of now, there are many other areas that UK could invest funding into safety that would have a greater direct impact on campus.

One of the most effective plans being discussed is installing screens in every room that

would inform students, faculty and staff in the event of an emergency. This would have a direct influence on the safety of everyone on campus.

UK should keep emphasizing what will have the greatest impact on students, especially before considering something like swipe cards on all buildings, which would have a greater expense than positive change. At a time when 90 percent of the buildings on campus do not have an emergency plan, there certainly are bigger problems than the accessibility of a public building.

The swipe card system does offer one immediate benefit: the ability to lockdown an entire building at the push of a button. A security center would be able to lock or unlock any or all campus doors from a remote location. If a shooter were on campus, this feature would allow security guards to isolate the intruder and protect students in a timely manner. This ability is far more significant than the ability to swipe into a classroom building.

Having a card swiping system for all of the dorms is necessary, because no one should be given unlimited access to buildings where students live (and particularly where they sleep and shower). Dorms act as private residences where strangers are considered intruders and nobody would give their house keys to a stranger.

The reality is that, though it is incredibly important to protect the university community, there is no way to safeguard ourselves from every possible threat. It certainly is true that there is no quick fix to the lack of safety at UK. It would be a futile waste of resources to implement an expensive safety plan that makes very few safety guarantees.

The most effective manner should be chosen as the first plan of action, and that doesn't include swipe cards for doors. As UK checks off a prioritized list for safety and approaches a time of better funding and a more established emergency plan, the time may come where the only move left to make is swipe cards. At that time, if the budget is right, UK should make that move.

Citizens who cannot vote need their voices heard

This year, we saw a triumph of democracy, as not only did the number of new voters surge, but we also saw many people voting for the first time. We saw people all across the country celebrate democracy, join together and make their voices heard. A majority of Americans came together and handed to our public figures a mandate of change saying that it is time we, again, honored the hardworking men and women of this country, and not forget their interests. It is time that we followed through on that promise, the promise that this is a country by, for and of the people.



JOE GALLENSTEIN
Contributing columnist

Yet during this election there were over 186,000 people in Kentucky alone who are U.S. citizens and could not make their voices heard. More than 100,000 people in this state who pay taxes, send their children to school, go to work or attend classes right next to the rest of us, are continually being told that this process is not for them. That their voice is not needed, and that their opinions are not valued.

An interesting fact to note is who this law affects the most—the least privileged of our state. One in every four African Americans who are of voting age are denied the right to vote in this state, according to the League of Women Voters. This is especially the case in the poorer communities, a fact that transcends race. I am not saying this part of our constitution was racially or economically designed, but what I am saying is it has demonstrated that it disproportionately denies the voices of those who already feel their voices strained. When looking at others who have lost their voting rights, we see again and again that they are the poorer among us.

Of course talking about an impoverished minority does not necessarily bring the point home. Sometimes it takes going up to the door of a family in a place like Carlisle, Ky., a very white, small Kentucky town in the central part of the state, and you knock on the door of a middle-class couple, only to find the lady of the house is not allowed to vote in the state of Kentucky. Or, perhaps, visiting in Maysville, Ky., where a lady invites you into her home to talk about how her son or grandson has lost his right to vote. Or, you are doing a week-long voter registration drive on campus, and every day another student informs you, ashamed, that they do not have the right to vote because of a mistake they have made in their past.

Those who oppose the practice of denying voting rights to former felons would not do so if they met the people I have met in these communities. If they had the chance to speak with a woman like Tayna Fogle, a former UK student, who, herself, lost her right to vote. However, with the strength of her faith, her friends and her own tenacity, she eventually was able to receive her voting rights back.

What is most striking about her struggle is the emphasis she puts on her son and grandchildren. After watching her rights being taken away, and watching how she had to go through the system again and again, her son lost faith in the democratic process. Over four years after the first time she got her right to vote back (a paper mix-up forced her to re-apply in 2005, and another mix-up forced her to re-submit her work), she finally convinced her son to vote in his first election this year. For her and her family, this election was an especially important one.

This election was a defining point in our history, and in January legislatures in both Frankfort and Washington, D.C., will begin to act on the mandate sent on Nov. 4. With any luck, our legislature in Frankfort will realize that the right to vote is too important to be infringed. They will realize that it is the basic foundation on which our society is built, and that any affront to it is an affront to this democracy we cherish. This was a great year for our nation because of the great turnout we saw all across the nation. We have the opportunity to make 2009 a great one for our Commonwealth by restoring the voices to 186,000 individuals who desperately desire to make their voices heard.

Joe Gallenstein is a political science and history senior and president of UK College Democrats. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Submissions

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

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com



Don Wright, Tribune Media Services

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Government must protect minority rights, not limit them

I am one of what appears to be a dying breed in the United States—those citizens who consider themselves both Christians and political liberals. As such, the opinions expressed by Joseph Green in his article regarding Barack Obama's moral values trouble me for several reasons. I strongly support the rights of the people to hold whatever beliefs they feel are most in line with their personal religious views, however, as a free people, we must separate our religious beliefs and ideals from the secular protections of liberty provided by the law.

The passing of Proposition 8 has created a situation almost unprecedented in American politics. The Supreme Court in California recently recognized same-sex unions as fundamentally protected by the constitution of that state. With the proposition's passing, the people have in effect, by only a simple majority, repealed a fundamental right of a minority group. Regardless of people's personal religious or political beliefs, everyone should see this as a frightening precedent to be set in this country. Green talks about his fear that the free speech of Christians will be limited under the Obama administration. Yet with this passage of this proposition, the door has been opened to limit the freedoms of any

group based on the opinion of a simple majority. And who is to say that Christians will not be the target of such limitations in the future?

I could go into the argument he had regarding Obama's views on abortion, which left out the fact that Obama has publicly stated on several occasions that he wholly supports a ban on late-term abortion except in extreme cases when a mother's life is at risk, but I will leave that alone. Its significance pales in comparison to the idea that constitutionally recognized freedoms may now be repealed or limited in some jurisdictions by a simple majority of voters.

I believe that God has given people the right to choose freely how they will live their lives. The job of the government is not to intervene and place limits on the freedom of the people. Instead, the government is meant to protect the freedoms of individuals, and especially of minority groups. Otherwise any group in the future, Christians included, may be subject to a loss of freedom and fundamental rights. And that's something that no American should stand for.

Jason Hope
Spanish and international studies junior

UK needs to be more conscious of fire hazards, better train RAs

Recently, I had a male resident adviser come up to my room at 11 p.m. to tell me that the lamp I had on was not allowed in the dorm rooms. He gave me the options of either giving him the whole lamp or the lampshades. According to a fier that was posted by the elevators, the lampshades were a fire hazard. I had only seen it once and from what I understood, it was a hazard because people installed it the wrong way or used the wrong light bulb.

I consider myself to be a very responsible person and made sure that I used the right light bulbs and double-checked to make sure that everything was assembled properly. The lampshades were hazardous because they melted when they got too hot. You would think that they would ask you to remove the light bulbs since they do cause heat.

When the RA removed the lampshades, he then put the light bulbs back in. This is where I began to become irritated. These light bulbs were put back into the lamp and left beside the cheap plastic blinds that are provided by the dorm. The blinds are one of the leading causes of fire starters and for fire to spread very quickly. I would know because I lost my home to a fire and the blinds were the first things to go. So, I sat there looking at what this RA had left and the thought that kept going through my head was, "He came up here to get rid of a fire hazard and ended up leaving an even greater one." I know that I could have

said something to him or taken the bulbs out myself, but it just baffled me that he left the room with the light bulbs still in and turned on in the lamp.

Something else was brought to my attention. A friend and I were looking at UK's residence halls to see which one we would want to be in next year. We clicked on Baldwin Hall and wanted to see what the rooms looked like. She clicked on the picture and what I saw in it made my blood simmer. In the picture was the exact lamp that I had in my room. Later that day, I went online and looked at what was not allowed in the dorms and it said nothing about the type of lamp that I had.

I know fire marshals have codes and they make sure we are safely using everything in our rooms. But the fact is, if the lamp is such a bad thing, maybe UK needs to A) take it out of the pictures of residence halls, B) list it under the things not to have in your dorm room and C) have the RAs who enforce the rules know the facts and what are also fire hazards besides the initial taking off of the lampshades. It's sad to me that I knew more about fire hazards than the RA who came up. It would have been safer to leave the shades on than to have 5 bald light bulbs left on next to flimsy blinds.

Mia Upton
agricultural education freshman

The following comment was posted online to the Kernel article, "Testing UK's sex education"

Kernel's sex education article used biased sexual health survey

Just as I thought. A survey paid for and run by Trojan. Gee, I could have guessed that the survey used the "availability of condoms on campus," as one of their measures, instead of just using "students' use of condoms." That itself makes the survey biased and useless.

There are drugstores and groceries all around campus to purchase such items. The fact that they are not available on campus does not mean that UK is less sexually healthy. Do

the female students have lubricants available on campus or do they actually have to go to the drugstore/grocery to buy it? Do the older professors have Viagra available on campus or do they actually have to go to the doctor and drugstore to get it?

Elizabeth Moore

BASKETBALL

Continued from page 1

ball and I just wasn't moving my feet."

Even as Patterson received more touches in the second half, the Tar Heels were able to exhort their defensive power against the Cats. North Carolina had three guys shadowing Patterson on nearly every possession in the post, forcing UK's guards to beat them with their play and more importantly, their outside shot.

It was a plan that worked as the Cats struggled from the outside, especially junior Jodie Meeks who shot 5-of-20, finishing with 19 points. Meeks seemed to be off from his first shot of the game, which missed the rim and clanked off the backboard.

Gillispie said he wasn't disappointed at all by Meeks' shooting performance because he knows that it was just a one-night occurrence. Instead, Gillispie focused on the fact Meeks had seven de-

fensive rebounds. What impressed Gillispie the most, however, is the toughness shown by Meeks. "I think he's turned into one of the toughest players I've ever been around," Gillispie said. "Coaches ask players to play until exhaustion and that's what he is doing."

After junior Michael Porter and freshman DeAndre Liggins committed 12 turnovers during the Cats' 111-103 loss to Virginia Military Institute in the season-opening loss, neither improved like Gillispie had hoped.

Instead of improving, Liggins and Porter struggled, especially in the first half. They combined for eight turnovers and seemed over-matched by the Tar Heels' Ty Lawson. However, Gillispie did see an improvement in Liggins in the second half.

"I think we have a very talented player who is learning and if he gets help from the other guys out there he can be special," Gillispie said. "I think he had a good second half against pretty

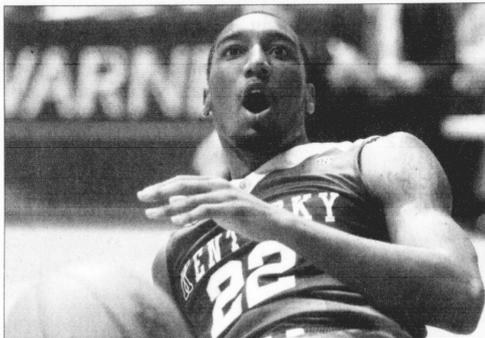
good players on both the offense and defense sides of the ball."

While all the blame can't be put on the point guards, the Cats struggled with turnovers and mental mistakes throughout the game. With five minutes remaining and a chance to cut the lead to 10, the Cats came out of a timeout and were forced into a shot clock violation. That allowed the Heels to push the lead back up to 17.

"When you play a team like North Carolina you can't give them turnovers," junior Ramon Harris said. "They really capitalized off turnovers and that's what separated them from us."

With the Cats off to their first 0-2 start since 2000-2001, UK's questions are starting to amplify. Meeks said while no game is easy to lose, the turnaround to the season starts tomorrow.

"It's not going to be too easy because no one likes to lose," Meeks said. "We have to just start tomorrow in practice and put everything behind us."



Ramon Harris reacts after no foul was called against North Carolina in a play that knocked him to the floor. PHOTO BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

LINDSEY

Continued from page 1

So don't panic. Things can turn around much the way they did last season. It is only November and the turkeys haven't even been put on the dinner table yet.

Now, if you've stepped back for a second and taken a deep breath, it's time to look at the issues. The Cats are indeed drowning with problems.

It wasn't too long ago that the best athletes and players in the nation went to UK. That hasn't necessarily gone completely way-side, but the gap in talent level on the hardwood of the Dean Smith Center was pretty evident Tuesday night. The Cats no longer have the best athletes in college basketball — nowhere close to it.

UK got ran up and down the floor against VMI, and they got trampled from baseline to baseline against the Tar Heels, who were playing without two of their best players. The Cats don't have the speed or athleticism to play 40 minutes of ball and win without doing all the fundamentals.

Without athleticism, UK is going to have to rely on playing mistake-free ball. On Tuesday night, they failed miserably. The Cats turned the ball over 17 times in the first half and finished the game with 28. Let me repeat: 28 turnovers. The Tar Heels are good enough to beat the Cats without their charity.

"When you play a team like North Carolina, you can't give them turnovers," junior Ramon Harris said. "They really capitalized off turnovers and that's what separated them from us."

And that's just the start of the problems. If

you have an athletically inferior team, the ball has to go to your best players. It's a simple concept. Going nearly seven minutes without feeding Patrick Patterson in the low post is unacceptable.

"I think just we have to do a better job of finding him early on," Harris said. "He was fighting in the post, and we just have to find him. We didn't do too good of a job getting him the ball in the first half and let him get into a rhythm of the game."

And of course there's the point guard saga that likely won't go away for the rest of the season. Part of the Cats' turnover problems started from the point guard spot, where junior Michael Porter and freshman DeAndre Liggins combined for eight turnovers. So what should UK do?

Well, as bad as it seems right now, there were a few bright spots. UK head coach Billy Gillispie said the turnover problem isn't going to fix itself overnight, but said he's confident UK can correct the problem. The Cats actually got the ball to Patterson in the second half, and he ended up with 19 points. And possibly the biggest positive of them all comes where the biggest question mark still remains: the point guard spot. Gillispie was extremely impressed with Liggins' play in the second half, where he dished out five assists to just one turnover.

"I'm really disappointed about getting beat, because I don't like to lose at all. But all those things are correctable," Gillispie said.

Remember, this is the guy that turned last year's early season disaster around. If Gillispie did it once, he can surely do it again. The endless list of problems is definitely enough to get worried about, but it's still early in the season. It's not quite time to panic. At least, not yet.

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