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February 2, 2005

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# THE KENTUCKY Kernel

Celebrating 33 years of independence

Columnist: Don't break  
the bank for Spring Break  
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Men's tennis eager to face  
No. 1 team in nation  
Page 8

Right: Gov. Ernie Fletcher addressed the state in his annual State of the Commonwealth Address in a joint session of the state House and Senate. Speaker of the House Jody Richards sits behind Fletcher. The governor presented his tax modernization plan, which would gain \$22 million for state universities, said UK President Lee Todd.

Bottom right: Todd (left) and his wife, Patsy Todd (right), listen from the balcony of the General Assembly as Fletcher gives his annual State of the Commonwealth address last night.

JONATHAN PALMER | STAFF



## Governor: My tax plan helps universities

By Troy Lyle  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

FRANKFORT Ky. — Gov. Ernie Fletcher said last night that his tax modernization plan, which includes a \$500 tuition tax credit for Kentucky college students, will benefit higher education in the Commonwealth.

In the House Chambers of the Capitol Building, Fletcher issued his annual State of the Commonwealth Address to a joint session of the House and Senate.

"This is a new year, and we have a new opportunity," Fletcher said. "We all are Kentuckians, and we all want Kentucky to flourish and prosper."

Continuing with this bipartisan tone, he added that this year is a crossroads for Kentucky.

There are two paths for the state, Fletcher said. One route is the timid status quo, with a budget that fails to look to the future. The other road is a courageous course with opportunity and prosperity, he said.

"But to forge that path, we must pass tax modernization," he said, to applause.

That's a path that UK President Lee Todd said is essential to the future of UK.

Todd said the tax modernization plan — if passed — would give \$22 million to Kentucky's universities. The governor's plan also includes more operating funds, which were UK's first priority, he said.

"There's promise in this budget, and I support tax modernization," Todd said. "What I take from this is he (Fletcher) wants tax modernization as well and is ready to make it happen."

Fletcher said one of the biggest problems for Kentucky is that too many college graduates leave Kentucky each year. They're raised, trained and educated here, only to benefit other states, he said.

"My vision for Kentucky is a commonwealth where there is so much economic opportunity and our quality of life is so high, that people who are born here can stay here," Fletcher said. "And people who aren't fortunate enough to be born in Kentucky can look forward to locating here."

The proposed tax modernization plan would heavily rely on two revenue-generating measures: a cigarette tax increase of 31 cents per pack and a 6 percent sales tax on packaged alcohol.

In addition, the tax plan would offer incentives to help promote education and economic growth.

"I'm proposing a tuition tax credit of up to \$500 for each student going to Kentucky colleges and universities," Fletcher said. "This will help working families cope with the rising costs of tuition."

But Fletcher's speech didn't impress Kathy Stein, the 75th district representative, which is part of Fayette County.

See Fletcher on page 3

## Faculty, staff raises at least 2 percent Merit-based, stratified systems possible to distribute staff raise

By Adam Sichko  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

In the wake of a staff hiring freeze announced last week, UK's staff will get at least a 2 percent raise next year, a budget official said.

But staff opinion varies on the best method to administer that raise — twice the percent they received last year.

"It will be a minimum of 2 percent, but we've not settled on anything final yet," Angie Martin, vice president for planning, budget and policy, said yesterday. "A lot of that is still unclear, but it will be at least 2 percent."

Martin said faculty and staff will each get at least a 2 percent raise next year. She said a faculty hiring freeze is unlikely.

"Given the enrollment growth, I think that's (chance is) very low," Martin said.

President Lee Todd announced the staff hiring freeze Friday, which only affects the roughly 3,000 state-funded staff positions on campus. The hiring freeze doesn't affect UK Hospital staff, because the hospital is largely funded through internal revenues. He also proposed that the staff salary increases occur on a merit-based system, which, in theory, rewards staff members based on their performance.

This system wasn't announced for faculty as well. Martin said a merit-based reward system doesn't cost UK any more money than an across-the-board percent raise or a one-time bonus.

"There's no cost differential at all as far as cost to the institution," Martin said.

"First, we ask how much it costs us if we increased all salaries by 1 percent, 2 percent and so on. Then, the allo-

\$36,423

average staff salary for non-hospital UK staff

\$748.26

average staff raise in an across-the-board 2 percent raise

2 percent

minimum salary increase for UK's faculty, staff next year

cation of that money is a different decision."

For Staff Senate Chairman David Ellis Jr., it's refreshing that the administration has already decided to increase staff salaries.

"Anytime the administration puts faculty and staff to the forefront, that's going to make us happy as far as the Senate is concerned," Ellis said. "We understand that budgets are tough, but we've been more than patient for the past three years."

Last year, the staff received a one-time bonus. The year before that, they received no extra compensation, Ellis

See Staff on page 3

## Override of water veto stalled until next session

By Elizabeth Troutman  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Action to override Friday's veto decision from Lexington Mayor Teresa Isaac stands at a halt as one member of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council seeks more time to investigate the issue.

Second district councilman Jacques Wigginton proposed a 40-day halt of legal proceedings concerning the condemnation of Kentucky-American Water Company. The council rejected Wigginton's proposal by a 10-4 vote. Isaac did not vote.

"It is important that this issue is not one with a definite timeline," he said. "My motion is what it is. It encloses a period of time. It is not perpetual."

The council passed another motion from Wigginton, this time asking the council to stop incurring

"While I am concerned with the condemnation, I am ready to move on with other business."



Mike Scanlon  
Lexington Vice Mayor

expenses concerning the water company debate. Councilman-at-large David Stevens made a "friendly amendment" to the motion, which provided an exception for legal expenses of additional settlements.

See Water on page 2

## Council debates UK Hospital expansion plan

By Elizabeth Troutman  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

A top UK Chandler Medical Center administrator addressed members of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County council yesterday to present a strategic plan for expansion of the UK Medical Center.

Michael Karpf, the medical center's executive vice president, said over the next six years the medical center plans to spend more than \$60 million on renovating Medical Center facilities. He referred to the current organization of the university's medical college as a "disaster."

"We are not asking the city for any of this," Karpf said. "We recognize we have to do this on our own backs."

"All of this is the cost of doing business; it has to come out of operations," he said.

Karpf said the strategic plan — which the UK Board of Trustees approved during finals week last semester — is funded partly by internal revenue from the hospital, and partly by state and national bonds. The first phase of the project should be complete by 2010, Karpf said. The entire \$375 million project is expected to be complete in 2020.

University Health Services will have a new building adjacent to the Kentucky Clinic as part of the plan, Karpf said. The next step is determining a location for a new parking garage, he said.

Some council members expressed

concern for traffic on Rose Street during the construction process.

"We get back to the old problem about closing Rose Street," said 3rd district councilman Dick DeCamp. "Rose Street is a city street. We need to know it does carry a lot of traffic surrounding the university."

DeCamp, whose district includes UK — plans to meet with the council and medical center officials again to discuss a potential traffic plan.

"I'm not saying it can't be done," DeCamp said. "I want to make sure we are feeding traffic on and off Rose Street."

See Hospital on page 2

## One shot fired at Greg Page

By Darlusch Shafa  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

A domestic dispute inside a UK student's apartment Monday at Greg Page turned violent, with an assault and one shot fired.

UK police received a 911 call regarding a domestic disturbance at the apartment complex at about 3:15 p.m., said Capt. Paul Grant with UK Police.

David Moore, 21, of Louisville, was arrested this morning by Louisville Metro police. He is charged with four counts of first-degree wanton endangerment in connection with the incident.

Moore's girlfriend, Arnisha Snead,

19, also of Louisville, is being sought by Louisville Metro police on charges of second-degree burglary and fourth-degree assault.

Lexington police and Shelbyville police are also assisting in the case.

Grant said the dispute began when Moore went to Greg Page to retrieve a ring from his ex-girlfriend, UK student Lonniea Coe Holman, 18. An argument began and Moore left. Snead then came up to the apartment and assaulted one of the other three people who were with Holman there, Grant said.

Moore then came to the apartment with a .40-caliber pistol, used it to smash a window and fired a shot into the apartment, the police report said. The bullet traveled through the wall of Holman's apartment and into the apartment on the other side of the building, through a bag of trash and into a stove before falling to the floor,

the report said.

Grant said Moore has a prior arrest record but did not know if he had been charged with wanton endangerment before.

"Right now, it's still an ongoing investigation," Grant said. "It's still unfolding, but at least we have one of the suspects in custody."

Grant was also optimistic about the investigation.

"As of right now, it's (going) good," Grant said. "We've got the major player in custody that fired the shot."

Grant also said UK police detectives were en route to Louisville yesterday to interview Moore about the case and how to find Snead.

"Hopefully his cooperation will lead to Ms. Snead and put her in custody," Grant said.

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Second district Urban County councilman Jacques Wigginton sits in yesterday's council meeting. Wigginton asked the council for a 40-day grace period for the water condemnation issue, which was voted down.

## Hospital

Continued from page 1

"There are some questions, and we would like to see further planning," Linda Gorton, the 4th district councilwoman, anticipates complications of traffic during the construction but said the council has seen the issue before.

"It's the people that have pounded us over the years for closing the streets," she said. "If we close the street, I think it is the

citizens that will be the most vocal." Council members welcomed the economic benefits of the project. Karpf said the hospital expansion would provide an estimated 1,300 permanent jobs to the community, as well as about 500 more temporary jobs.

Ninth district councilman Jay McChord said he supports the expansion of UK's medical center.

"As a lifelong resident and graduate of the university we don't do things with the future in mind," McChord said.

"Anything that's going to bring 2,500 jobs, we should be doing flips for."

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## Water

Continued from page 1

Two weeks ago, the council voted 8-7 to end the condemnation of the water company, which Isaac suggested in 2002.

Kentucky-American is currently owned by RWE, a German conglomerate.

After the council's vote on Jan. 8, Isaac pledged not to let the issue fade on the back burner.

Wigginton's undecided stance on the issue prevents anti-condemnation council members from gaining the nine votes required to override the mayor's veto.

He said he is waiting for events to fall into place before he makes a final decision on condemnation.

"My hope is to impress upon my colleagues the importance of having a transferring government of

bringing all parties to the table," he said.

Wigginton proposed the organization of a committee comprised of citizens, water company officials and legal professionals for the council to consider all aspects and opinions concerning the issue.

He said there are too many unanswered questions hanging over the heads of citizens.

Wigginton said the council should be "good stewards of the public trust."

"Those that are engaged in making the law have to be responsible for due process and carry out the duties of the law," he said.

Vice Mayor Mike Scanlon stressed the importance of resolving the issue as soon as possible.

"If you had a settlement, a truly negotiated settlement, you would bring it before the council," he said.

"This is just a water company."

"While I am concerned with the condemnation, I

am ready to move on with other business," he said.

Fifth district councilman Bill Farmer questioned Wigginton's desire to postpone settlement of the issue.

"Did Jesus wander for forty days?" Farmer asked. "And God created the world in seven. That's all I have to say."

Isaac said Wigginton is interested in resolving the issue with all citizens of the Lexington community in mind.

"I think he is trying to make sure settlement talks continue," she said of Wigginton.

Isaac said she knows members of the council have the authority to override her decision.

"The veto stands until it is overridden," she said.

"At any time, they (the council) can make a motion on the veto."

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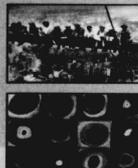
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February 2-4

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Room 206

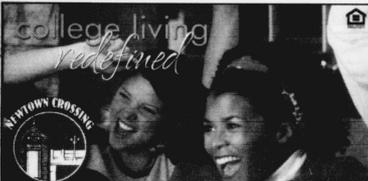
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## Einstein

and Beyond



Photo courtesy of the Archives, California Institute of Technology

Thursday, February 3  
Memorial Hall

Alexei Filippenko

Professor of Astronomy, University of California, Berkeley  
"Dark Energy and the Runaway Universe"

Thursday, February 24  
Memorial Hall

Eric Adelberger

Professor of Physics and Adjunct Professor of Astronomy, University of Washington, Seattle  
"How Many Dimensions Does the Universe Have... Really?"

Thursday, March 3  
Memorial Hall

Barry Barish

Professor of Physics and Interdepartmental Lecturer in Physics (UCO) and Under-Professor of Physics, at the California Institute of Technology  
"Einstein's Legacy: Our Best Description of the Universe"

Thursday, March 31  
Memorial Hall

Joseph Polchinski

Professor of Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara  
"The Search for Nature's Ultimate Building Blocks"

All lectures will take place at 7PM  
Free and open to the public



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The site will open Wednesday, January 26th.

The Deadline for participating in the survey is February 2nd.

## Staff

Continued from page 1

said. "They (UK's administration) can't continue to do that if they want to retain good faculty and good staff," Ellis said. "They're not going to get anywhere with 1 percent raises."

"I make about \$30,000, so this year I got an extra \$300," Ellis continued. "That didn't do much for me, except maybe pay my parking bill."

Staff Sen. Ann Livingstone said UK needs to start paying its employees more competitive wages.

"If you want efficient staff, you have to pay them a decent wage," said Livingstone, who works with UK's Office of International Affairs. "Equally if you spend all your time worrying about bills or food on table, you can't concentrate."

Livingstone worked on a Senate ad hoc salary committee, which advocated a stratified plan to give a higher percent salary raise to those staff who are currently on the low end of the pay scale, and a lower percent raise to those near the high end.

The Senate did not vote to endorse the committee's report, but it did authorize a motion to ask the administration to examine what it could do to better help the lower-paid staff, Livingstone said.

"There's simply too much strain," Livingstone said. "I'd

like to see a start made on improving pay scales for the lower-paid staff, with a plan to continue the process over two years."

"Unfortunately, with tradition of percentage increases, they (UK) simply have not kept pace with inflation," she said.

Staff Sen. Kyle Dippery, a member of the ad hoc salary committee, said the lower-paid staff should receive more help in the situation of a salary raise.

"It is the most tangible benefit we have from working here," Dippery said. "The health insurance and the benefits and everything else don't really mean anything if you can't afford to use them."

Meanwhile, Ellis said he would prefer that staff receive a merit-based raise, as opposed to the stratified approach.

"You can't tell somebody that makes \$80,000 per year that they're not as important as someone who makes \$16,000," he continued. "We are all for them (lower-paid staff) getting as much money as possible," but the Senate can't ignore higher-paid people, he said.

"Give it to them based on how they work," he said.

A stratified salary raise system must keep an eye on the local market, UK's biggest competitor for staff, said Kim Wilson, associate vice president for Human Resources.

"With skewing, it always has to be anchored to a competitive salary level in the marketplace," Wilson said. "That's not looking at a number and

saying, 'That's low,' but it's asking what the competitive wage in that area is."

"It's not the complete picture to only look at low wage earners versus high wage earners," Wilson said.

According to data from Human Resources, the average UK staff member earns \$36,423 per year. That figure does not include any UK hospital staff.

Within the staff salary debate, and to help attract and retain UK staff, the university's strong benefits package must be accounted for, Wilson said.

"It's the whole compensation package, not just salary," Wilson said. "The salary is one element that attracts someone. In looking at recent salary inflation, it would be nice to get closer to that."

"But the benefits package is competitive and well-rounded," she said. "It does a lot to attract potential staff."

Ellis said certain elements of the benefits are rare. "We get benefits that others don't get," Ellis said. "For example, the university doubles what you put in to your retirement fund, which is unheard of. That's basically giving us free money."

"When you look at salaries, you have to look at the whole picture," he said. "Salaries could be higher, but overall, the staff is compensated well."

Still, UK's staff would more than welcome a salary increase, Ellis said. "It's very encouraging," he said. "Anything is better than nothing."

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## Fletcher

Continued from page 1

"I have a student attending UK, and though \$500 is welcome, I'd really like to see adequate funding of our universities so we aren't looking at double-digit tuition increases next year," she said.

Stein added that Fletcher's budget doesn't go far enough to generate revenue.

"We need even higher cigarette taxes," she said. "We also need a tax structure that realizes we are a knowledge-based economy and not an agricultural-based one."

The General Assembly has 23 days to pass a budget. If it cannot, a basic budget must be passed, said Brad Cowgill, state budget director.

The budget we're sending to the General Assembly is a bare-bones version of what the

state needs to appropriate funding," Cowgill said.

As a result, a long list of university construction projects left over from last year must go without funding, such as the proposed UK Biological and Pharmaceutical Complex, Cowgill said.

The governor is supportive of these projects, but the fact is that the demand for money is increasing faster than its supply, Cowgill said.

"We need to stabilize revenue streams and the economy first before moving forward," he said.

According to the bare-bones budget released yesterday, the state will have an additional \$823 million heading into this session resulting from revised forecasts and a budget stability initiative undertaken by the administration. Of this, 57 percent is allotted for education, 30 percent for Medicaid, 11 percent for state employees and retirees and 2 percent for the corrections system.

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# ONTAP | For the week of FEB. 2 - FEB. 8



JONATHAN PALMER | STAFF

Lexington musicians Club Dub will perform at 10:30 p.m. Thursday at Cheapside Bar & Grill. Cover costs \$2. To learn more about Club Dub, visit the band's Web site at [www.clubdub.com](http://www.clubdub.com). For more information about the venue, visit [www.cheapsidebarandgrill.com](http://www.cheapsidebarandgrill.com).

## WEDNESDAY

**Hunger Mountain Band w/Kentucky String Band**  
9 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$3.

**Jason England**  
9 p.m. Cheapside. Free.

**From First to Last w/Matchbook Romance, Motion City Soundtrack, The Matches and John Berry**  
8 p.m. Bogarts, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$12.50.

**Harold Sherman**  
8 p.m. Natasha's Cafe. Free.

**The Other Brothers**  
12 a.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$2.

## THURSDAY

**Leon Russell w/Kuchi Guru**  
7 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$20.

**Chase Dabney**  
8 p.m. Live Wire Coffee & Music, Richmond. Free.

**St. James Gate**  
9 p.m. Cheapside. Tickets cost \$2.

**Hollow Road**  
9 p.m. Short Street Lounge. Tickets cost \$3.

## The Swells

10 p.m. High on Rose. Tickets cost \$5.

## Watty Peytona

10 p.m. The Fishtank. Tickets cost \$3.

## Club Dub

10:30 p.m. Cheapside. Tickets cost \$2.

## FRIDAY

**BR549 w/The Deehawks**  
9 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$7.

## SATURDAY

**Chase Lounge**  
9 p.m. Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$5.

## SUNDAY

**Poor Man's Riches w/Overglow**  
7 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$6.

## MONDAY

**Interpol w/Blonde Redhead**  
8 p.m. Bogarts, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$20.

## DJ Carlos of Interpol

9 p.m. Alchemize. Tickets cost \$5.

## The Fakes w/Cosmic Dirt

9 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$3.

## TUESDAY

**Low w/Pedro the Lion**  
8 p.m. Singletary Center for the Arts.

Tickets cost \$14.50.

**Heartthrob Jesus w/Suicide Instigators, I Inside and Kill Toby Wyatt**  
9 p.m. The Dame. Tickets cost \$3.

## COMING SOON

**Wilco**  
8 p.m. Feb. 11. Taft Theatre, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$26.

## moe.

8 p.m. Feb. 17. Singletary Center for the Arts. Tickets cost \$17 to \$22.

## Neko Case

8 p.m. Feb. 20. Phoenix Hill Tavern, Louisville. Tickets cost \$15.

## Slint

7:30 p.m. Feb. 22. Brown Theatre, Louisville. Tickets cost \$17.50 to \$22.50.

## Robert Ranolph and the Family Band

8 p.m. Feb. 22. Jillian's, Louisville. Tickets cost \$20.

## Gov't Mule

7:30 p.m. Feb. 23. Bogarts, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$25.

## Jesse Malin

8 p.m. Feb. 23. Phoenix Hill Tavern, Louisville. Tickets cost \$10.

- Compiled by On Tap Editor Ryan Ebelhar

## Rap utilized as useful study aid

By Rafeer Guzman  
NEWSDAY

Quick: Which of the following words would you expect to hear in a rap track:  
a) bling; b) hustle; c) crunk; or d) symbiotic?

Actually, the answer is all of the above, thanks to the appearance of a new music CD that uses rap to help high school students boost their vocabulary.

That's right: The music that includes stars who spell their names Fabolous and Ludacris is now being used as a study aid. And it's just in time for the new SATs, scheduled to begin in March.

Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions, the company that offers nationwide courses aimed at boosting students' SAT scores, recently released a music disc called "Vocabulary Accelerator," which features a dozen tracks of rap, R&B and alternative rock. The goal is to help students retain more than 300 SAT-level vocabulary words.

What the disc will do for students' street cred is another matter. The songs sound like current hits, but the lyrics contain words typically found in Scrabble

games and crosswords puzzles. For example, the smooth R&B number "The Letter" sounds like an Usher tune, though you'd never hear him croon the lines, "My heart's debilitated, don't know if it can handle this/How ironic that you're going away to become a cardiologist."

Or consider the clubby dance number "SuperGirl," with its combination of bottom-heavy beats and heady lyrics: "With candor we say pithy things/We must confess about our minimal resolve." And the rap track "Move It" may mark the first time a rapper has used the word "fete" in place of "party." And who knows, the song may spawn a new dance with these instructions: "Clap your hands like this/We're gonna gambol like that."

## Attention UK SENIORS

If you are planning to enroll in one of the University of Kentucky's graduate or professional programs for 2005-2006, now is the time to apply for fellowships.

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For application forms and a statement of eligibility criteria, please see:  
[www.research.uky.edu/gsfellowship/fellopps.html](http://www.research.uky.edu/gsfellowship/fellopps.html)  
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# moe.

Thursday February 17 8:00 pm  
Concert Hall, Singletary Center for the Arts

For tickets, call (859)257-4929, or visit [www.uky.edu/sca](http://www.uky.edu/sca)

Ticket prices are \$22 and \$17. \$5 discount for UK Student and \$3 discount for UK Faculty, Staff, and Alumni Association Members.

**FRAME X FRAME** | In theaters and on shelves



"7th Heaven" heartthrob Barry Watson believes in the boogeyman... do you? *Boogeyman*, opening Friday, just might make you relive those childhood nightmares. Then again, maybe not.

PHOTO FURNISHED BY SONY PICTURES

**THEATRICAL RELEASES**

**Boogeyman**

Producer Sam Raimi (director of cult classic *The Evil Dead* and the admittedly more mainstream *Spider-Man* and *Spider-Man 2*) adds yet another horror film to the glut of last week's releases. Yeah. Anyway, somebody has to confront the terrors that haunted him as a child. But you know what really haunted me as a child? The boogeyman monster from the "Ghostbusters" cartoon, that's what. That thing looked crazy and sadistic, and it had a voice resembling nothing so much as Barbara Streisand. At **Regal and Woodhill**.

**The Wedding Date**

"Will and Grace" star Debra Messing makes another jump to the big screen in this film. In a romantic comedy of errors, Kat (Messing) is a single, "Sex and the City"-esque New Yorker — until she is called home for her younger sister's wedding. To stave off unwanted questions or comments, she does what any sane capitalist would do: look for a boyfriend in the Yellow Pages. Kat hires Nick (Dermot Mulroney), how long has it been since *My Best Friend's Wedding*? an attractive escort. At the wedding, he

manages to win over everyone (because it's his job) and make Kat happy (because it's his job). So, when Kat falls in love with Nick, would that mean Kat falls in love with his job, and not the man? What a conundrum! What happens when retirement comes? Oh wait, we won't get that far. At **Lexington Green, Regal and Woodhill**.

**DVD RELEASES**

**The Grudge**

Sarah Michelle Gellar stars in this American remake of a Japanese horror film. It still scares me that movies have such a high turnaround. c'mon, we've all seen *The Ring*. So really, what's the point? My, how time and bad movie rip-offs fly.

**Ray**

Jamie Foxx's Oscar-nominated turn as the famous musician bops into stores this week. Yet another movie I reviewed when it came out. Weird. Anyway, I recall talking about the triumph, tragedy and dark side of an American Original. So I'll stick to my story. Besides, with all the awards it's been nominated for, how can it be bad? mean, think about *The English Pa-*

*hent*. No wait, don't! An added perk is that this release is an extended edition, which seems to be worthy of a Peter Jackson release. Now where's my Diet Pepsi?

**Charmed: The Complete First Season**

I guess since the WB's released four out of six seasons of "Dawson's Creek," it's time to crank out DVDs of another series. In this drama about three magical sisters, it's hard to pick out the most enchanting parts. Alyssa Milano's DUILs? The lack of men who are neither evil nor complete lapdogs to the main characters, that's a good one, too. Or, to quote *Maltrata*, "Brenda?"

**Frasier: Season Four**

Anybody remember the episode of "Family Guy" where they make fun of "Frasier" for merely trumping up old fat jokes? Me too. Despite such indictments, "Frasier" is an adroit programme that intertwines issues of kinship, generational donnybrook, and the place of intellectual endeavors in an unappreciative, banal world. Wait, how do you spell pretentious? *F-r-a-s-i-e-r?*

COMPILED BY STAFF WRITER KEVIN MOSER

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**Graduate School Dissertations**

<p>Name: Yan Chen Program: Anatomy and Neurobiology Dissertation Title: Effects of Glial Cell Line-Derived Neurotrophic Factor (GDNF) on Stem/Progenitor Cell Proliferation and Differentiation Major Professor: Dr. Ben Gosh Date: 02/08/2005 Time: 1:00 PM-5:00 PM Place: NW 5613 Science, NW 5212 Building</p>	<p>Name: Naoshi Chen Program: Materials Science and Engineering Dissertation Title: Investigation of the Micro-Characteristics of Conductive Oxidized Particle Matter by Analytical Electron Microscopy Major Professor: Dr. Gerald Ruffman Date: 02/22/05 Time: 2:00 PM Place: 109 Whaley Bldg.</p>	<p>Name: George Baharin Dey Program: Biomedical &amp; Agricultural Engineering Dissertation Title: Graduate Robotics Curriculum for Self-Real Master Wheel in Controlled Strategy Bots Dr. Sun, Major, Co-Chair Date: 02/28/2005 Time: 1:00 PM-5:00 PM Place: 028 228</p>
<p>Name: Steven Michelle Elam Program: Communicative Disorders Dissertation Title: How Do You Use Language? Exploring New Sociolinguistic and Pragmatic Graduate Teaching Assistant's Information Seeking, Self-Efficacy and Role Allocation in Learning Major Professor: Dr. Robert Kacharek Date: 02/14/2005 Time: 1:00 PM-5:00 PM Place: Conference Room Graham Bldg.</p>	<p>Name: Jungho Lee Program: Biomedical Engineering Dissertation Title: A Study of Characterization and Optimization of Artificial Kidney Major Professor: Dr. Dongyuan Cao Date: 02/08/2005 Time: 12:00 AM Place: 173 Anderson Bldg.</p>	<p>Name: Daniel Luo Program: Mechanical Engineering Dissertation Title: Electromagnetic Breeding of Cryogenized Bioreactors Major Professor: Dr. Dongyuan Cao, Co-Chair Dr. Guo-Qing Li, Co-Chair Date: 02/08/2005 Time: 2:00 PM Place: 173 Anderson Bldg.</p>
<p>Name: Adisa Marie O'Flara Program: Educational Policy Studies &amp; Evaluation Dissertation Title: From University Century to Community College: The Evolution of a Distinctive System of Higher Education in Kentucky Major Professor: Dr. John Truitt Date: 02/23/2005 Time: 8:30 AM Place: 153 F Taylor Edn. Bldg.</p>	<p>Name: Jason C. Rosales Program: Psychology Dissertation Title: The Applicability of Item Response Theory in Measurement of Management Performance: An Evaluation of the Major Formative Assessment of Symptom Test Major Professor: Dr. David Berry Date: 02/07/2005 Time: 12:00 AM Place: 226 Knott Hall</p>	

www.rgs.uky.edu/gs/gradhome.html

**MONEY MATTERS** | Savvy saving and spending

**Say 'sayonara' to Spring Break specials**

Every time I step outside I feel like I'm walking into an outdoor meat locker in Chicago, where the wind only adds to the cold and frustration. However, instead of freezing solid, I go to my little imaginary happy place and instantly warm up.



**Kenny Moyer**  
FINANCE COLUMNIST

So where's this happy place that has such magical heating powers? Visions of Spring Break dancing in my head, of course. It's over a month away but is already on the mind of students everywhere. From the mountains of Colorado to the sands of Acapulco, final destinations all over the globe are preparing to be interrupted by sun-crawling students. But everything great — especially Spring Break — comes with a price. Not everyone has the opportunity to journey to the sun and back in a week's time. If you're adamantly waiting to bon voyage for Spring Break, the raising money and planning portions should have existed long before I began to write this piece. But fear not. Booking a trip this late in the year is still possible, though maybe a bit more expensive. The Student Travel Agency, located in Room 255 of the Student Center, offers exceptional deals on trip packages. Also on a limited availability booking schedule, STA offers discounted rates for students oftentimes unavailable to other travel

agencies or Web sites. They can set you sailing anywhere from the Caribbean to Europe. Branch Manager Lee Ellis recommended booking as soon as possible, as their remaining packages are selling out fast. "Most of our flights to traditional Spring Break beach locations are now leaving out of Indianapolis," Ellis said. "The flights out of Cincinnati are full-up." If flying out of Indy is out of the question, Bianchi-Rossi Tours, another renowned student travel agency, has multiple Spring Break packages still available. As long as there's room available, you may pay up to the day before you leave. However, discounted deals for this coming Spring Break have almost vanished from the time they were offered last fall, so availability is limited, to say the least. For the Europe-traveling fiends, your Euro Rail pass, hotel arrangements, and other such traveling expenses could all be taken care of at lower rates. To travel overseas you need a passport — that's the personal travel document that identifies the bearer and his or her nationality. The process to obtain one may take up to six weeks and could cost up to \$70. To receive yours before the break, you must put in a rush order at an additional cost. That stings. Visit the State Department's official Web site, www.state.gov, to find further details. If you decided that you'd like to visit somewhere other than Lexington but can't gather the money in time, no worries, mate: The UK Federal Credit Union is just one of many local banks

**Spring Break Fever**

The following Web sites could most certainly help solidify your Spring Break plans. Don't forget to compare rates for each — a little extra time and effort can save money.

www.bianchi-rossi.com  
www.expedia.com  
www.hotwire.com  
www.orbitz.com  
www.startravel.com

(or visit Room 255 in the Student Center)

www.studentuniverse.com

that offer personal loans to students. Qualifying student bank members may be eligible for a loan, which would cover Spring Break expenses. As soon as 30 minutes after you apply, the Credit Union could grant you the loan and have funds for you immediately. In order to qualify, the bank will look at your credit history, employment record and ability to repay. Whatever the case, keep in mind you only have 28 school days to decide what you want to do. Ideally, most students, who are broke every other week of the year, should stay home and work. But if you're ready to break loose from the confines of academia, I recommend taking the week off from school and from budget woes. Have fun and enjoy Spring Break while you can — you have the rest of your life to work.

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IN OUR OPINION

## SG vote could open doors to students

Some UK students have long considered Student Government to be an institution of elitism and exclusion.

The approval of an amendment to the SG constitution by the SG Senate tonight would be a huge step toward changing that perception.

Senators will vote on a constitutional amendment that would allow any UK student, regardless of experience in SG, the opportunity to run for SG President.

If passed, the bill would go into effect immediately.

The amendment was approved in its first reading on Jan. 19, and members of the SG Senate would be doing all UK students a service by approving it for a final time tonight.

The SG constitution currently states

that anyone running for a "chief leadership position in any branch of government" must have served as an SG officer for one year prior to running for that position.

This amendment would eliminate that condition and only require that a student running for office be "a member of Student Government," which the SG constitution says includes all UK students.

Allowing anyone to run for SG president would open the door for more widespread involvement in the organization, which it

sorely needs.

The non-Greek community is dramatically underrepresented in SG, and the approval of this amendment could entice more non-Greek students to get involved with campus politics.

And with the probability that more students, Greek or non-Greek, would run for office if this amendment were approved, that could also lead to the higher voter turnout.

Last year's presidential race only drew 2,347 students, less than 10 percent of eligi-

ble voters.

SG Senator Ben Carter also pointed out that any student running for SG President, even if that student did not win, would have the opportunity to discuss important issues in a public forum and add to student discussion regarding those issues.

Carter cosponsored the amendment with fellow SG Senator Becky Ellingsworth, who announced Monday she would be running for SG President.

Ellingsworth should be commended for initiating such legislation even though it runs counter to her interests as a presidential candidate.

Passing this legislation would show that current SG officers have a genuine interest in involving students who are not insiders in the organization.

**A change to SG's constitution could encourage student involvement and foster discussion of issues important to UK students.**



JONATHAN PALMER, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

## Dinner date offered an entree in etiquette

Coconut shrimp, grilled Tilapia, snow crab and luscious lobster tails.

All these delectable seafood dinners are offered at one of my favorite restaurants, Red Lobster. But, let's be real, who wants to pay those prices?

My solution: Let someone else pay for them! However, my faultless planned backfire on me and I was left minus \$16 and a tummy full of seafood pasta.

What ever happened to the old-fashioned way of doing things? Boy meets girl. Girl likes boy. Boy asks girl to Red Lobster. Girl eats endless shrimp. Boy pays for dinner.

Well, I'm sure that's not how it usually went, but it should have. Dating etiquette has changed drastically over the years.

I was shocked and pretty upset when I learned this. Unfortunately, I had to learn the hard way.

A friend and I were asked to go to dinner with two guys that we know, so of course we cheerfully said yes. Offering to take us to Red Lobster, we jumped in the car and tried to maintain our drool the best we could.

The wait was about 15-25 minutes, so we all sat at the bar and chatted with one another until our name was called.

Arriving at a table set for four, we sat down and began looking over the menu.

The conversation was great, the shrimp was excellent, and the bill was pricey.

And then it was time for the check. Assuming we were all couples, the waitress placed two meals on one ticket and set the two tickets gently on the table.

My friend's "date" picks up their tickets and tells her, "Don't worry about it. I got this."

My "date" picks up our ticket and says, "Don't worry about it. I'll tell the waitress to split up our bill. Let's see, I had the seafood platter and the water. I think the rest is yours."

I'm thinking to myself, "Is this guy for real?"

Not only did I have to pay for my own meal, which I can manage, but he also had the audacity to ask for my number afterwards.

This is a negative. Due to this horrific experience, I realize that it might be time to reevaluate and re-define dating rules and regulations for those who may not know or have forgotten.

For this I have consulted dating etiquette expert and author of *Don't be Rude: Part I and II, Relationships*, by Margaret Berry. Here are three dating tips Berry recommends:

**Rule #1: Call only once.** When you've first met someone, it is impolite to make more than one attempt to contact him or her without reciprocation.

This rule is so widely ignored that you may be incredulous at the suggestion. "But, but, but..." you stammer. "What if the message never got passed on? What if the answering machine is broken? Maybe

the email program was acting up."

Yes. However, the most polite way for this person to express disinterest in your amorous attentions is to avoid contact.

When you call repeatedly or send multiple emails, you force the object of your affections to find a more personal, painful way to shake you loose. Like telling you she's not into skinny guys.

**Rule #2: If you asked, you pay.** If the date was your idea, it is also your financial responsibility. Ladies, I don't care what your mother told you about it being the man's job to pay.

She also told you that you were never supposed to ask a man out, so you do the math.

**Rule #3: Don't force intimacy.** Note how your date is avoiding eye contact, how he has shredded an entire napkin and is now rearranging the torn bits into ever-shifting shapes.

Perhaps the first date was a little soon to share the details of your sex life, how your last boyfriend treated you and what your therapist thinks about it. Mystery is attractive; your daddy complex is less so.

By following these few helpful reminders, women and men can benefit greatly in the dating world. These simple steps are easy to perform and easy to remember.

Although times are changing, I have confidence chivalry is not dead; it's just holding on to its last breath.

Shandra Livanarchi is a journalism sophomore. Her column appears every other Wednesday. E-mail: slivanarchi@kykernel.com.

### Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Andrew Martin or Assistant Opinions Editor Ben Roberts. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Be sure to include your full name, class and major with all submissions.

E-MAIL

opinions@kykernel.com

### ONLINE POLL QUESTION

Which of the following should receive higher priority from UK admissions?

Quality of students

Quantity of students

VOTE ONLINE AT WWW.KYKERNEL.COM

## Personalized license plates are pointless proclamations

Vanity plates. I just don't understand them.

Like I don't understand the need for s'mores makers — instead of buying a machine that will gather dust in the recesses of my kitchen cabinets, I just pop my graham cracker, Hershey's and a marshmallow in the microwave.

So I'm sorry, I guess both objects just seem a bit superfluous to me.

Then again, I think leaf blowers are pretty futile, too.

But really, as far as personalized license plates go, who really needs to have "VROOM" on the back of their PT Cruiser?

Is it some grand proclamation?

I think not.

Rather, I think people have too much time — and money — on their hands.

OK, so maybe it's a personal rebellion against the stupid regular-issue smiley face with its insipid "It's that friendly" logo, but is the alternative really worth a \$40 annual fee in order to stamp your very own extra-special, six-character concoction onto your vehicle? Especially when the cringe-inducing smiley face and logo are still there?

It's more like a public proclamation of utter stupidity.

Not to mention frivolity.

— And come on, how deeply meaningful can personalized plates be when they read (and I'm serious here, at least according to the Kentucky Vehicle Licensing System's Web site, as these are unavailable for purchase and therefore already out there somewhere) "RED HOT," "2 COOL," and "C U L&R"?

I'm a little scared of the implications here. (By the way, the address for the Web site is kvlyc.state.ky.us/KyRenewWeb/) I mean, I know our culture embraces instant gratification — McDonald's and Google alone can attest to that — but when did we have a collective identity crisis that denoted a Starbucks drink order that's not just a latte, it's five minutes long, and a license plate that's not just a random assortment of letters and numbers, it's a "personal statement"?

Maybe about the time the ever-vapid, ever-annoying Paris Hilton became the stuff of pop-culture fanaticism. Or maybe it was when 90-pound soccer moms started driving H2s with a plate that reads "SWEET." (You'll remember that one after they roll over your teeny Civic without batting an eyelash — they don't feel a thing in an off-road vehicle that never sees anything but pavement.)

Either way, I'm not entirely sure when this identity crisis came around. But it just feels wrong to worry about something so entirely superficial.

And since I'm ranting about such an obtuse topic, how deep can I be, right?

Well, no worries — according to the Web site, "CYNIC" is still available.

Crystal Little is a journalism senior. Her column appears every other Wednesday. E-mail: clittle@kykernel.com.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Editorial failed to leave readers knowledgeable and informed

We are writing to express our discontent with Monday's editorial, in which Green Thumb Environmental Club was discredited because of inaccurate information about the student referendum on renewable energy.

Student fees of \$6 to \$8 will not go toward research or investigation of renewable energy, but rather directly to the purchase of certified renewable energy on the national grid. Green Thumb has and will continue to investigate viable options for energy reduction at UK. However, the proposed money generated by student fees is in no way financing that effort; our club's work is voluntary.

Currently UK derives most of its energy from the burning of coal, the mining and burning of which is socially and environmentally destructive to Kentucky's culture and landscape. By purchasing blocks of certified renewable energy, five to 10 percent of the energy powered by coal on campus will be replaced with cleaner, less destructive methods on the national grid. Green Thumb sees this as an opportunity for students interested in making their campus more sustainable to do so.

Students will be able to vote in favor of or in opposition to the referendum in the spring, but they need accurate facts to be able to do so.

The Kernel Editorial Board is entitled to its opinion, but the board owes it to its readers to be well informed and knowledgeable about any subject it chooses to address.

Maggie Messerschmidt  
Jen Miller  
UK Green Thumb



