

KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 37 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Private loans for students may be more difficult to obtain

By Jill Laster
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Students stressed about paying for college will probably have more to worry about next year if they rely on private loans.

Some private lenders for student loans have begun to either offer fewer loans or drop out of the business completely, said Meredith Robinson of the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority and the Student Loan People.

"Some lenders have already pulled out because they have looked in their crystal ball and have seen they can't afford it," said Robinson, a marketing

support manager.

KHEAA and the Student Loan People are state-run sister agencies that guarantee loans for students from private lenders such as banks. The agency has already seen 10 of its 200 lenders drop from the program since August, Robinson said.

"I know 10 seems like a small number, but this looks like just the beginning," Robinson said.

Beginning in late 2006, the housing bubble burst when demand for homes dropped. The poor housing market meant lenders had less money to give out as loans, making them much more selective about giving loans to students.

Because of the poor market, a lender could notify UK that it will not be providing student loans for the next school year as late as the day before school starts, Robinson said. The student would then have to find another lender to cover costs.

UK Student Financial Aid Director Lynda George recommended applying for federally funded loans like Pell Grants or Stafford Loans before going to private companies to get money for college. Federal loans have lower interest rates than private loans. George said, and every student can at least get an unsubsidized loan, where the student has to pay interest.

Federal loans are more stable than private loans and should not be affected by economic woes, said Larry Warder, acting chief operating officer of Federal Student Aid.

"We understand that there is a great deal of uncertainty in the current economic environment," Warder said. "Thus far, we have not encountered any situation in which an eligible school did not have access to federal student loans."

George estimated that about 95 percent of students apply for federal loans before they apply for private loans. That means that the decrease in available private loans should not add strain

to the federal system.

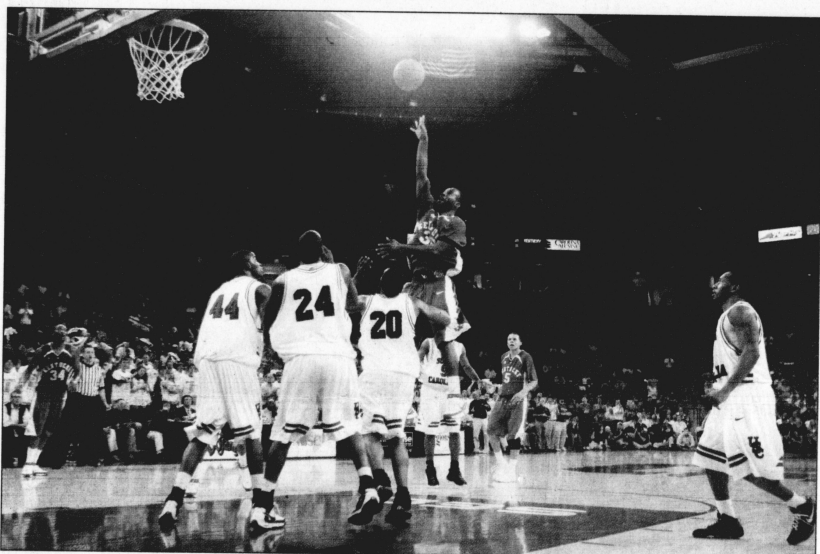
However, state agencies across the country have been reporting they had problems finding private lenders for student loan debt. Michigan, Mississippi and Montana have either shut down or slimmed down their programs because of lack of available lenders.

"It's been a rollercoaster ride so far," Robinson said.

Another disadvantage of federal loans is that they have pre-set limits, whereas private loans do not. The limits and the continuing rising cost of education made UK student Margaret Bard

See **Loans** on page 6

UK 71, SOUTH CAROLINA 63



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

Senior Guard Joe Crawford shoots a jumper over South Carolina forwards Sam Muldrow, left, Mike Holmes, center, and guard Zam Fredrick during the second half of last night's game in Columbia, S.C. Crawford scored a career-high 35 points in UK's 71-63 win.

Joe steals the show in South Carolina

Crawford scores a career-high 35 on Gamecocks' Senior Night

By Travis Waldron
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COLUMBIA, S.C. — The South Carolina student section donned T-shirts honoring Carolina's lone senior, Dwayne Day, during his final home game last night. The shirts said it was "Dwayne's Day." But it was not. It was Joe Crawford's.

The senior guard scored a career-high 35 points to lead the Cats to a 71-63 defeat of South Carolina last night at the Colonial Center in Columbia, S.C.

Crawford was 10-of-19 from the field, including 4-of-7 from behind the arc.

"I took some shots and missed a couple (early), but I saw that my shot was going to be there the

whole game," Crawford said. "So I just stayed aggressive."

He was so aggressive that at one point, Crawford fired up a shot from almost half court that just missed going in.

"I was really disappointed he missed that 42-foot shot," head coach Billy Gillispie said.

"I actually got fouled on that one," Crawford said with a laugh.

The senior guard has taken his game to a new level on the road this season.

Last night marked his sixth 20-point game outside of Rupp Arena on the year, and he's averaging 19 points in road and neutral games this season.

"I know it's going to be a tougher game, some of the young

See **Basketball** on page 6

In the worst of situations, tight-knit Cats are at their best

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Michael Porter was hurting, but he didn't want to tell his coach. Or his teammates. He felt like if he did, he would be letting them down.

So he played. Eleven minutes to be exact.

It wasn't until after the game that he told Billy Gillispie that he thought he knocked his shoulder out of place.

"I said, 'Mike, why didn't you tell me?'" Gillispie said. "And he said, 'We

were in foul trouble. I need to be in there for my team.'"

Porter didn't quit. Porter didn't give up. Porter didn't give up.

But he isn't alone. He's just a product of the entire UK men's basketball team.

This team hasn't quit all season. Not when they were 6-7 overall. Not when they were 1-2 in the Southeastern Conference. Not when they lost freshman forward Patrick Patterson for the season.

And now, with last night's 71-63 win over South Carolina, the Cats have put themselves in position to earn a miracle trip to the NCAA Tournament.

"It's a great story because they won't accept, no matter what happens,

See **Smith** on page 6



JONATHAN SMITH
 Kernel columnist

SG downs more flexible voting rules for Sens.

By Katie Saltz
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Student Government downed a constitutional amendment that would create a more flexible voting system for senators-at-large last night at the full Senate meeting.

Sen. Tom Rauf proposed the amendment, which would allow senators-at-large to be elected by a cumulative voting method that would give students 15 votes to freely allocate among the candidates.

Currently, students can vote for 15 candidates and can only vote for each candidate once. Cumulative voting would allow students to vote 15 times in any way they choose, Rauf said. The intention of the amendment was to give smaller organizations a better chance of electing a senator to represent them.

"It's difficult to run for senator-at-large if you aren't from one of the larger organizations," Rauf said. "You don't have as wide of a network."

The idea of cumulative voting would change the current system of senators being elected as a slate with a presidential candidate, Rauf said, but some senators did not think there was a need for change.

"It creates more of an 'every man for himself' campaign," Sen. Kara Osborne said. "It really takes away from ticket campaigning which has always worked really well in the past."

The amendment was defeated by a 19-6 vote.

The Senate did approve an amendment that requires the Senate to write an act every year outlining the behavioral and job expectations of the senators during their time in office. The act, which passed 17-7 will be valid the entire year the senators are in office and will expire on the first meeting of the newly elected Senate, when the new senators would pass their own act by the second full meeting of the fall semester.

"Every year the new Senate would put together a contract and they would agree to fulfill specific duties," said Sen. Jackie Colgate, the legislation sponsor. "It keeps people accountable."

If senators do not abide by the guidelines they lay out, the Impeachment and Censure Committee would remove them from their position, said Senate President Tyler Montell.

"If senators fail to adhere to the guidelines, they will be asked to give

See **SG** on page 6

Professors look to technological innovations to enhance the classroom

By Annie Urso
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Chalkboards and textbooks used to rule the classroom, but some professors are applying new approaches to teaching.

New technological tools and scenarios are motivating students to take a more interactive role in class, said Kathi Kern, a history professor.

Professors are utilizing more technology — like programs to create digital documentaries and podcasts, as well as the Second Life virtual world — to allow

students to work together and to give them a new approach to learning, Kern said.

"When my students were only writing papers, it was a very private, individualized learning experience," Kern said. "Now students are actively engaging each other with the content of course."

Kern assigns students in her history of women class (HIS 405) to create short, digital documentaries.

"For most students, it's a totally positive experience," Kern said. "They like it because they

are doing something creative. Sometimes there's a tad of frustration with the technology — like when it fails — but for the most part, students really end the semester with a sense of pride and achievement."

Hannah Alsgaard, a student in Kern's class last semester, said using the documentary program in the classroom is a good alternative and is effective. Alsgaard enjoyed the digital documentary so much that she used the method on a final project in a different class.

"(The technology) can be

frustrating at times, but the sense of achievement when you have managed to produce a digital story is phenomenal," Alsgaard said. "It is something different, yet it still achieves academic goals because there is so much research that goes into putting a digital story together."

Kathy Swan emphasizes using technology in her programs training teachers. Swan, who works in the curriculum and development department, develops Web sites for educators on how to apply technology in classes, which she believes helps moti-

vate students.

"I'm trying to train students to teach, so I take into consideration the technology available in most schools," Swan said.

Swan co-created the Digital Directors Guild, which explores applications of digital movie making in the classroom, and the Historical Scene Investigation Project, an organization focused in part on bringing more social studies resources to students through the Internet.

The virtual world of Second Life is also a new program that

students are beginning to use. Beth Kraemer is a librarian at the W.T. Young Library and has a profile on Second Life.

Although Second Life is a new approach to teaching, Kraemer believes that it will not replace textbooks and other "well-established educational tools that we use today."

"I do think it has educational potential," Kraemer said. "It's like the early days of the web where the technology is evolving, content is being developed, and people are exploring the potential."

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Horoscopes

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

Aries (March 21 - April 19) Today is a 7 — A friend's comment inspires you to consider alternatives. What works may include some things you have rejected before. Re-evaluate and reconsider.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 7 — Gather a few close advisors together to knock some ideas around. The combination of your diverse talents could produce a stroke of genius.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is a 5 — You do best when you're pushed to come up with new ideas. It's kind of stressful at first, but you'll do very well under this pressure.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is a 7 — Take yourself out for a special treat, to celebrate a recent win. If you can't think of one, make one up. You're in charge of this game.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 8 — You and your partner need to work out your shopping lists. There'll be enough for all you need if you plan this out together.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is an 8 — A lot of your communication now is the non-verbal kind. You can let people know what you like, and don't like, without saying a word.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is a 7 — Work becomes top priority again, in a good way. Use your imagination, and discover hidden paths to success. You're surrounded by them.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is an 8 — You don't have to express yourself in words to get your meaning across. Use another way that you and your loved one understand.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 6 — It's perfectly OK to hide out in the security of your own home and do something you really enjoy. Hobbies save our mental health.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is an 8 — Pay off old debts and make sure you have enough put away for the future. Don't expect anyone to do it for you. You'll be more satisfied anyway, if you do it for yourself.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 7 — Money is not your greatest motivator, by any means. It's nice to have, however. No need to turn it down, if you come about it honestly.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is an 8 — You're more confident now, and very creative. Begin a project you've been thinking about. There'll be a few problems, but you'll emerge triumphant.

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THE DISH

Olympian Kristi Yamaguchi sizes up her competition with Us

Kristi Yamaguchi is nothing if not modest. When asked about her chances to win the next round of Dancing With the Stars (premieres on ABC March 17), she simply replies, "I'm in the same boat as everyone else. It's an eclectic group!" Nonetheless, the California native has an edge: A 1992 Olympic gold-medalist figure skating champ, Yamaguchi, 36, is known for her grace under pressure. The married mother of two (daughters Keira, 4, and Emma, 2, with NHL player Bret Hedican, 37) talks to Us.

Q: The cast just appeared on Oprah. Any trash talk?

No, not yet. Everyone was pleasant. But I could see who's going to be strong — Mario said on the show he's an entertainer at heart. And Marissa [Jaret Winokur] is used to performing live on Broadway for Hairspray.

Q: Please. That can't compare to the Olympics!

But I haven't dealt with judges in over 16 years, and I've never had direct feedback from them. I am actually really anxious about that. And the fundamentals of dancing are more technical than I thought. Still, I'm excited knowing that I won't have to leave the floor in

my heels and do a double axel.

Q: Plus, you get to revisit the many joys of tiny sequined costumes.

I've always felt the performance goes up 10 notches if the costume and lighting are right!

Q: Are your girls skating prodigies?

That's what everyone thinks, but they only go on the ice a few times a month. They do it for fun. It's a lot of pressure, so I'll be happy if they find their own niche.

Q: Ever watch your gold medal skate on YouTube?

I'm new to the YouTube thing. I've only seen my performance three or four times in my life because there's a mistake in it [she fell], so I don't want to keep watching that. I think my mom has the tape.

Celebs' Marilyn mania

More than 45 years after her untimely death, Marilyn Monroe is still the talk of Tinseltown. Nicole Kidman, Scarlett Johansson and Madonna are among the stars who have emulated the icon. Now, Lindsay Lohan has paid homage to the blonde bombshell by recreating her infamous "Last Sitting" photo shoot for New York magazine. "It's really an honor," Lohan said of posing like the star. But none have gone as far with their adoration as Megan Fox, who inked the actress' face on her forearm. "I just had an incredible amount of empathy for her my whole life," says Fox. "I cry when I see her on camera."

Rashida's TV Dating Life

All right, so Rashida Jones didn't get the guy on The Office. But she did receive a nifty consolation prize: her very own raunchy new comedy. In Unhitched (Fox, Sundays, 9-30 p.m.), she plays a lawyer navigating the murky dating world. The single L.A. native, 32, counsels Us.

Q: You only have male friends on the show. Is that realistic?

I've had the same group of guy friends since high school. If you're not too girly, they can be open with you about how you look and act. And they give great relationship advice.

Q: You and a business partner just unveiled a fashion line called Lalo. Details?

It's a very simple line of organic cotton T-shirts and other basics that was inspired by our frustration with not finding the perfect tee. Our shirts look good on all women.

Q: Your dad, Quincy Jones, is close with Lionel Richie, and you grew up with Nicole and Paris Hilton. How are they doing now?

Nicole and her family were at our house for Christmas, and I must say, her boyfriend [Joel Madden] is the nicest guy in the world. She picked really well. I did see Paris at Nicole's baby shower. She was like, "Hi, you look good." It was weird. She kind of lives on a different planet.

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THURSDAY,
March 6,
2008

PAGE 3

Emily Coovert
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kernel POP

“I’m very in love, but I’m not going to jump up and down on your couch. I’m sorry.”

— Jim Carrey, gushing to Oprah Winfrey about girlfriend Jenny McCarthy

TIPPING THE SCALE

Celebrate all weight loss victories

For many of us, losing weight isn't as much about what we see in the mirror as it is about the number we see on the scale. It's easy to get bogged down when you realize that you have a large amount of weight that you want to lose, whether it's 20 pounds or 50. When you think about your goal in its totality like that, it can seem hopeless and unattainable, and you may wind up giving in.



EMILY COOVERT
Kernel columnist

And what about those inevitable weeks where you have a couple of bad days or even work really hard only to see a weight gain? How do you stay motivated? Sometimes it's all you can do to keep from throwing in the towel. So what's the solution? A good way to start down the right path is to start rewarding yourself for smaller victories. It can be hard to celebrate a loss of 2 pounds when you were hoping to lose a pound or two, but it's important to take into account that it's still a loss. It's still adding up to the bigger goal. Plateaus are similarly hard to manage, but it's all about keeping the bigger picture in mind. For me, remembering where I'd be in three months if I quit is a good way to stay focused.

It's also important to celebrate victories that don't necessarily have to do with the scale. Losing weight is about learning to change over to a healthier lifestyle, not just eating your day's worth of calories in cookies and doughnuts. Programs like Weight Watchers have people eat what they want to and still lose weight, but when they say "eat whatever you want" they don't mean indulge yourself on nothing but Cheetos and peanut butter (as much as that diet

See Coovert on page 4

BOUTIQUE OF THE WEEK

Helen's Boutique offers a variety of clothes for students with a little extra money in the bank.



CHRISTINA LAYTON
STAFF

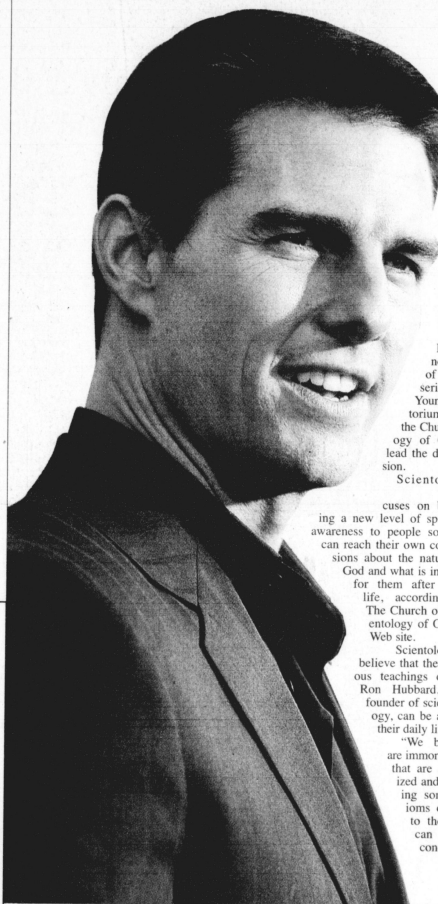
Name: Helen's Boutique
Location: On the corner of Woodland Avenue and Maxwell Street
Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Price: High-end
Why it's cool: Helen's, run by Helen Vanneter, 24, is one of the newest boutiques in the Lexington. Vanneter held the grand opening of the store on Monday. Helen's Boutique features clothes that fit people of all shapes, sizes and personalities. She has clothing suitable for gym regulars, bar hoppers and racetrack lovers. Shipments come in daily, and Helen's also offers a variety of accessories, including purses, earrings and necklaces. With Spring Break right around the corner, Helen's has fashion-friendly getaway gear for those with a few extra dollars in their wallet.

COMPILED BY ANA CLEGG

Taking the fiction out of sci-fi

UK's SAB to bust myths surrounding scientology

By Kristin Sherrard
features@kykernel.com



Scientology isn't just for Tom Cruise.

Tonight at 6, students will have the chance to learn what all the fuss is about when it comes to Scientology, as the Student Activities Board hosts the next installment of its Faithbusters series in the W.T. Young Library Auditorium. Members of the Church of Scientology of Cincinnati will lead the discussion.

Scientology focuses on bringing a new level of spiritual awareness to people so they can reach their own conclusions about the nature of God and what is in store for them after their life, according to The Church of Scientology of Ohio's Web site.

"People see icons like (Tom Cruise) and it makes them wonder about why they think that way."

MEGHAN BOSTIC
Sab director of engaging issues

Scientologists believe that the various teachings of L. Ron Hubbard, the founder of scientology, can be applied to help their daily lives.

"We believe people are immortal spirit beings that are presently realized and that by applying some of the axioms of Scientology to their lives, they can improve the conditions of their

lives," said Robert Barrieau, information officer for the Church of Scientology International in Los Angeles. Despite high-profile celebrities popularizing the religion, the specifics of Scientologists' beliefs are a mystery to many.

"People see icons like (Tom Cruise) and it makes them wonder about why they think that way," said Meghan Bostic, SAB's director of engaging issues. The purpose of Faithbusters is to answer the questions everyone has about religion but have never asked, according to the SAB Web site. Bostic said Scientology is an intriguing entry in the series because of its presence in pop culture and the controversy surrounding it.

"We're only 50 years old and not 200 years or 2,000 years old or 10,000 years old and that means a lot of people don't know a lot about Scientology so consequently others have been able to poke fun at it," Barrieau said. "You know how some people react negatively to things they don't understand? I think that's what we have going on."

While the majority of the event will be a question and answer session, the church will also provide a presentation on different aspects of the religion and the history of its beliefs. "SAB does not endorse or promote Scientology," Bostic said. "By learning, (students can) perform their own decisions — therefore, they will have more educated opinions about it."

Barrieau said he hoped students could take away "a new way of looking at things." Bostic said students should come to the event with an open mind and a willingness to learn about a religion different from their own.

"Religion is important because so many people have different opinions and ideas about their religions," Bostic said. "I think when you come to college, it's a good opportunity to find out who you are and what you truly believe in, and the Faithbusters series allows you to do that."

Spring Break in Lexington doesn't have to be a bore

By Kelly Wiley
features@kykernel.com

Spring Break is officially only a day away. Even if you're not boarding a plane or taking a road trip, there are a variety of local events to keep your week from being a spring bummer.

3K Shamrock Shuffle

No matter what your physical fitness level, this aerobic "shuffle" will bring out your inner leprechaun. The 3K Shamrock Shuffle will start downtown at Victorian Square on March 15 at 10 a.m. There is a

\$20 entry fee. All proceeds from the race will go to the Pat Smith Habitat for Humanity Endowment Fund. Jennifer Combs, director of the race, started the fund in honor of her father, Pat Smith, who was killed in the Comair Flight 5191 crash. Smith worked with Habitat for Humanity and participated in disaster relief efforts overseas, Combs said.

There will be awards offered at the race for anyone who shows off St. Patrick's Day spirit, including one for the best dressed, Combs said.

"It's just a great way to get out and spend some time with your

friends," Combs said. "It's doing something healthy for yourself as well as knowing that you are making a difference in someone else's life."

You can register on site the morning of the race or online beforehand (www.shamrockshuffle3k.com).

Traditions of the Emerald Isle: An Evening of Celtic Music and Dance

St. Patrick's Day means more than just flashing a little green to keep others from pinching you. The Singletary Center for the Arts will

be offering a program that features Celtic music, fiddlers, Irish flutes, tin whistles and — of course — pipes.

The Kentucky McTeggart Irish Dancers will be performing, as well as multi-instrumentalists Daniel and Amy Carwile and pipe-player John Skelton, at 7:30 p.m. on March 15 in the Singletary Center Concert Hall. Tickets cost \$15.

"If you're interested in Irish culture, you would love it," said performance coordinator Lynne Costello.

"You can't see a great performance like this anymore for 15 bucks," she said. "I know college

See Break on page 4

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TONIGHT

Lowbrow Nobility
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$3.

Jackass Flats
9 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets are free.

FRIDAY, March 7
Kenny Chesney
8 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$10.

Black Mountain
9 p.m., Headliners, Louisville. Tickets cost \$13.

N.E.R.D.
9 p.m., Bogarts, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$20.

Happy Chichester w/ Wussy and Meadoe
9:30 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$5.

Stardevils
10 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$5.

Jayne Sachs
10 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets are free.

SATURDAY, March 8
In the Clear
7 p.m., Headliners, Louisville. Tickets cost \$11.

Phat Mavericks
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$3.

Black Mountain w/ Bon Iver and Nordic Nomadic
9:30 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$10.

Pepi Ginsberg w/ Fabel and Pete Fosco

10 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$4.

Dave Smith & the Country Rebels
10 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets are free.

SUNDAY, March 9
Dub Trio w/ Oxford Farm Report
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$6.

MONDAY, March 10
777
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$3.

Islands w/ Supreme and Pomegranates
9:30 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$10.

TUESDAY, March 11
Grace Potter
8 p.m., Headliners, Louisville. Tickets cost \$14.

The Gutter Twins w/ Great Northern
8:30 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$15.

WEDNESDAY, March 12
Sick Puppies w/ Dropping Daylight and Saving Abel
7:30 p.m., Bogarts, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$13.50.

Relient K
8 p.m., Headliners, Louisville. Tickets cost \$21.

The Stapletons w/ Ralph Jones Band
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$3.

Pomegranates w/ The Read
9 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets are free.

COMPILED BY FEATURES EDITOR EMILY COOVERT

MAKE YOUR

WEEKEND PLANS

1. Gun Show

The Lexington Center will feature the area's largest selection of modern guns on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Accessories, scopes, antique guns and wholesale ammunition will also be available. Tickets cost \$8 for adults and \$2 for children 6 through 12; they are free for children under 6. For more information, visit the Gun and Knife Show's Web site (www.kennywoods-gun-show.com).

2. Pipes and Rock

Natasha's Café will be offering a night of traditional Scottish music, ranging from pipes and drums to Scottish rock and roll at 9 p.m. Saturday. Natasha's is located downtown at 112 Esplanade. For more information about the event, visit the musicians' Web site (www.kentuckyknited.org).

3. Downtown Film

The Kentucky Theatre and the Central Public Library will host the next installment of the One World Film Festival on Sunday at the Central Public Library Theatre. They will be showing "Angels in the Dust," a documentary about Marion Cloete, who leaves her middle-class Johannesburg suburb and establishes a traditional African community to house, nurture and give hope to more than 500 orphans. The film will show at 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. For more information, visit the film festival's Web site (www.oneworldfilmfestival.org).

COOVERT

Continued from page 3

might rock!). They promote healthful guidelines that include drinking plenty of water and eating a good amount of vegetables.

The problem with the way many of us try to lose weight is that we're too hard on ourselves. We don't pat ourselves on the back, even when we deserve it. Celebrate a day where instead

of eating a slice of cake, you opt for a serving of a low-calorie fruit salad or a container of sugar-free Jell-O instead. Congratulate yourself for going out to the gym three times one week, or for taking a longer route to class just to get more exercise.

It's the small victories we forget about when it's really the small victories that we should care about. Just like dimes add up to dollars, baby steps toward making a lifestyle change contribute to the bigger picture. If we discourage ourselves by beating ourselves

up every time we make a mistake but don't congratulate ourselves every time we succeed, we're setting ourselves up for failure. When the negatives outweigh the positives, what's the point in forging ahead?

Next time you go for a three-mile walk or avoid the high-fat breakfast buffet at work, pat yourself on the back for a job well done. You're continuing on the right track towards a healthier, happier you.

Emily Coovert is a journalism junior. E-mail: ecoovert@kykernel.com.

BREAK

Continued from page 3

students are on a budget, and if you are wanting to get into the spirit of St. Patrick's Day, then this is it."

Lincoln: The Man, the Music and the Legacy

The Lexington Philharmonic will offer students the chance to take a few steps back in time to remember one

of the greatest U.S. presidents.

"Lincoln: The Man, the Music and the Legacy" will be at the Singletary Center for the Arts on Tuesday. Tickets are \$5 for the 10 a.m. performance and \$4 for the 11:30 performance.

The concert will feature "typical old-school classical music," said Joe Tackett, director of education for the Philharmonic. Some music is from Lincoln's time and hasn't been played in over 200 years, he said.

fers students the chance to be educated outside the classroom. He said a lot of college students usually attend the event, especially education majors.

"The discovery concerts are specifically catered to young students," Tackett said.

Lexington RV Super Show

If you enjoy camping or taking your RV out on the road for an adventure, this will be the show for you.

Vendors will pile into the Lexington Convention Center to showcase RVs, campers, trailers, pop-ups, van conversions, fifth-wheels, slide-in campers, motor homes and even some camping equipment. The show will be on March 14 from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m., March 15 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and March 16 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The event will also feature a trout-fishing pond. Admission is \$5 for adults and free for children 14 and under.

Fast chat with 'Law & Order'/Broadway star S. Epatha Merkerson

By Joseph V. Amadio
Newsday

NEW YORK — First off, it's pronounced "ee-PAY-thuh." S. Epatha Merkerson's name may be unusual, but it's familiar to "Law & Order" fans. She's played Lt. Anita Van Buren on the juggernaut series for 14 seasons.



Merkerson

A Michigan native and graduate of Wayne State University, Merkerson debuted on TV as Reba the mail lady in 1987 on the quirky children's show "Pee-wee's Playhouse." She's popped up in films (including "She's Gotta Have It" and "Terminator 2"), but it was her first starring role, in the 2005 TV movie "Lackawanna Blues," that blew away critics and earned her Emmy, Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild awards. She was also nominated for Tony and Drama Desk awards for her work in August Wilson's Pulitzer-Prize-winning play, "The Piano Lesson."

Recently divorced, Merkerson lives in Harlem and is starring in the Broadway revival of "Come Back, Little Sheba." The limited run ends March 16 — just in time to resume shooting "L&O." Joseph V. Amadio sat down

with her at the Biltmore Theater.

Q. Rumor has it you're a quitter.

A. My first quit was for Zoe Jackson (actor Samuel Jackson's daughter), as a gift, 'cause I was broke. That's how I started. Then, opening-night gifts, I'd use remnant fabric and make "valuable bags" with cast members' names on them. When I was struggling, it was a way to give gifts that weren't costly. I still make them.

Q. You've got quite a hefty role in "Sheba." As Lola, you're onstage almost every minute, costume changes and all. She's haunted by her past, timid, shy — don't you wanna scream by curtain call?

A. I'm usually typecast as a strong, authoritative, so to find that kind of vulnerability is a real challenge. But Lola is not so far from me, either. I was married, and I understand how to be lonely in a marriage. I believe she's in menopause. And that alone, hormonally, can send a woman into a tailspin. Add in her alcoholic husband, and (you've got) a decent person who's just, um ... stuck. In the past, but she's muuuuch stronger than she

thinks.

Q. She's a far cry from Lt. Anita Van Buren. I understand you and Anita made TV history.

A. I've done over 300 episodes and am the longest-running African-American character on television. Male or female, I'm a trivia question.

Q. Van Buren doesn't get a lot of screen time. Why do you think viewers so connect with her?

A. She's trustworthy. She accepts responsibility for whatever happens in her precinct. And she's a mother — you see her nurturing victims, detectives. You see a full woman who doesn't suffer fools. People appreciate that. I like Van Buren. We probably wouldn't hang out. Because ... I cuss a lot. And, you know, um ... I do things Van Buren would never do ...

Q. Quilting.

A. (She laughs.) Yeah, I don't think she has time for that. Also, she has children, and it never occurred to me to do that.

Q. It never occurred to you?

A. I never wanted children. That was a real bone of contention for years between my

mother and me. But I knew from a young age I wasn't going to be a parent.

Q. Is Epatha a family name? An African name?

A. From the New Testament. My dad said he had a teacher named Epatha who was influential in keeping him in school. But my mother said it was an old girlfriend of his. So that's why she stuck in the Sharon Epatha. That's what the "S" stands for. Everyone knows now because some numbskull I went to high school with decided to put it on the Internet.

Q. So you felt you were more an Epatha than a Sharon?

A. My family always called me Epatha. That's all I ever knew, really. The last time anyone called me Sharon was in high school.

Q. So why keep the initial?

A. You know why ... when I was coming up, G. Gordon Liddy — I thought that was the coolest name. Now he was probably not the coolest person in our history, but there was something about it. I said, yeah, S. Epatha Merkerson. I like that. And I had it legally changed.

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Woodson hopes strong performance at Pro Day will quiet critics

By Eric Lindsey
elindsey@kykernel.com

Andre Woodson put his hand on the football, took one peek to his right at wide receiver Keenan Burton and then snapped the pigskin. The former UK quarterback took a quick, three-step drop, locked onto Burton and fired a bullet to his 6-foot-2 wide out.

It was a scene UK fans have become accustomed to watching over the past two years, only this time the duo was putting on a show for 24 NFL teams.

Woodson and Burton were two of 10 departing UK seniors who worked out for NFL scouts yesterday at UK's Pro Day inside the Nutter Field House. The former UK football stars ran sprints and drills for scouts in hopes of improving their draft status for the upcoming NFL Draft on April 26-27 in New York City.

Burton, wide receiver Steve Johnson, tight end Jacob Tamme and linebacker Wesley Woodyard — all of whom are expected to be locks in the NFL Draft — elected not to participate in the individual sprints yesterday after participating at the NFL Combine last weekend. Woodson ran all of the individual drills after not traveling to Indianapolis last week for the Combine because of a pulled hamstring.

While Woodson participated yesterday morning in the 40-yard dash — which he ran in a modest 4.8 seconds — the highlight was a 25-minute throwing session between Woodson, Burton, Johnson and Tamme.

Woodson, whose draft status has fallen from a potential first-round pick to a second- or third-round selection, was extremely sharp yesterday, continually hitting his receivers in stride while showcasing his arm strength with his uncanny ability to throw the deep ball.

"I think I made a good statement with the way I threw the ball, and I think a lot of people noticed that," Woodson said. "All my balls were really accurate. I did a great job



ELLIOTT HESS / STAFF
Former UK wide receiver Steve Johnson tosses former quarterback Andre Woodson a football during UK's Pro Day at the Nutter Field House yesterday.

of getting out there and putting some pretty good power (on my passes)."

Woodson passed for 3,709 yards and 40 touchdown passes during his senior season, but he has been highly scrutinized of late for a slow release.

Scouts have pointed to a hitch in Woodson's release since a disappointing performance in the Senior Bowl, but Woodson looked smooth yesterday.

"Hearing your name get bashed day in and day out for no reason is tough, but you've just got to stay hungry," Woodson said. "I'm hungry, and I'm ready to get out there and prove people wrong who are doubting me."

Head coach Rich Brooks was on hand to watch the workouts and said the criticism Woodson and the other seniors face is all part of the process.

"Andre has a two-year library of film that if anybody wants to put it on, they can see this guy played as well as anybody in the country," Brooks said. "There's no question Andre will be a starting quarterback in the NFL, and whoever doesn't get him is going to miss out, in my opinion."

Burton, Woodson's primary target over the past two seasons, is one of five former UK players that are all but locks to be chosen in the NFL Draft. Several other players like center Eric Scott, defensive lineman Dominic Lewis and running back Rafael Little, who had knee surgery Monday, are all making a push toward getting drafted.

Several underclassmen worked out for the scouts prior to the seniors, including speedy tailbacks, freshman Derrick Locke and sophomore Alfonso Smith. Locke ran a 4.21 40-yard dash, and Smith was not far behind with a 4.24.

UK wastes no time hammering Evansville; still undefeated after 10 games into season

By Matthew George
mgeorge@kykernel.com

Not even 20 minutes into yesterday's baseball game, the Cats had just about everything going their way.

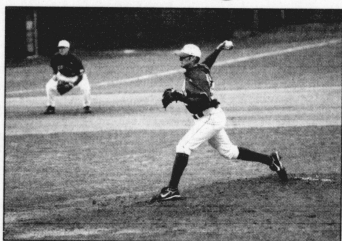
Senior center fielder Collin Cowgill cracked a groundball in the first inning to Evansville third baseman Andy Smith, who gloved the ball and tagged out sophomore left fielder Keenan Wiley.

The play brought UK head coach John Cohen from his roost in the dugout. After an argument and a conference amongst Cohen and the umpiring crew, the umpires ruled that Smith had tagged Wiley with his glove, but held the baseball in his outstretched hand. Wiley was safe at third.

Though the play came in the first inning, it was indicative of how yesterday's game would go for the Purple Aces. No. 9 UK (10-0) cashed in on five runs before Evansville pitcher Sean McCarthy could escape the inning, scored six more runs in the second and cruised to a 15-1 win at Cliff Hagan Stadium.

"Sometimes it takes a play like that for the game to kind of unfold," Cowgill said. "That was a crucial out for them, to get the first out of the inning and still have a double play."

"It's tough to bounce back from that, especially early," he said, "because now you have the bases loaded and you have the pitcher in a tough situation."



BRAD LUTTRELL / STAFF
Sophomore pitcher Clint Tilford fires a pitch during the fourth inning of UK's 15-1 drubbing of Evansville at Cliff Hagan Stadium yesterday.

The Purple Aces kept putting themselves in tough situations, committing three errors, beaming four UK hitters and throwing a wild pitch. But struggles like those are not new for the Purple Aces, who fell to 0-8 on the season.

Evansville has already committed 25 errors on the season, more than double UK's total thus far.

UK showed little mercy. The offense continued to perform as it has all season. The Cats pounded out 15 total hits on their way to 15 runs, the team's second-highest total this season.

Evansville managed a run against sophomore pitcher James Paxton in the third, but six relievers combined to shut



added two RBIs at the offensive end.

"Spencer Korus looked like Brooks Robinson today," Cohen said. "He just had a big-time day defensively and got a huge double down the right field line."

Korus, who battled back into the lineup after a knee injury, was surprised by the action he saw at third.

"Pretty much all three of the balls were exactly the same," Korus said. "I was sitting there after I caught the first one thinking there is no way they are going to hit another one there because they just hit two in a row in the same spot, but sure enough (they did)."

The two teams met last season at a time when both were considered on the bubble for an NCAA Regional bid. Evansville erased a three-run deficit against the Cats and won 5-4 on a walk-off single.

UK ultimately failed to make a regional. "It was big last year," said senior right fielder Sawyer Carroll, who finished 3-for-4 with two RBIs. "Maybe we would have got in if we had won that game, but we didn't. But we can't look back."

But the Cats fed off the disappointment from that loss, Cohen said.

Using the contest as motivation, UK tallied another 10-plus run total, a feat they have accomplished in each of their 10 games this season.

Cards deny Cats bid for record winning streak

By Kenny Colston
kcolston@kykernel.com

Riding a seven-game winning streak, the UK softball team had a chance to make history yesterday when it took on archrival Louisville at the UK Softball Complex.

But the Cardinals (9-8) refused to cooperate, defeating UK 6-1, in part by capitalizing on the Cats mistakes defensively, to deny UK (9-8) from tying a school record eight-game winning streak.

The Cats committed three errors in the second inning, which led to six Cardinal runs, four of which were unearned. The six runs were all the support U of L pitcher Kristen Wadwell needed as she threw a three-hit, one-run complete game.

"When you play a good hitting team like Louisville you can't make mistakes," head coach Rachel Lawson said. "Had we

not had those three mistakes, we're looking at a different ballgame. It's hard to come back."

UK had a chance to end the second inning with the Cards up by only two runs, but senior first baseman Ashley Dimkich dropped what would have been the third out in foul territory, opening the floodgates for four more Cardinal runs.

U of L center fielder Kristi Cunningham knocked the ensuing pitch over the center field wall to extend the Cards lead.

"We had a couple of mistakes early," Dimkich said. "We should have finished (the inning) a lot earlier than we did."

UK chipped away at the Cards lead in the fourth, scoring a run on freshman third baseman Annie Rowlands' two-out, RBI single. Wadwell threw two wild pitches to advance UK runners but struck out Dimkich with Rowlands on third to end the in-

ning.

After putting on an offensive showcase in the Chattanooga Frost Classic in Chattanooga, Tenn., last weekend, the Cats struggled at the plate yesterday. The inability to produce offensively combined with their defensive lapse in the second inning led to the loss.

"We didn't do a good job of getting runners on base with one or no outs," Lawson said. "When we were winning games, we did a good job of getting runners on with one or no outs and taking advantage."

The Cats hope to rebound this weekend when they host doubleheaders on Saturday and Sunday against Longwood and Valparaiso in UK's third annual Frostbite Classic. Without a lot of time in between games, UK is looking to rebound quickly.

"We've just got to shake this game off and focus on the next one," Dimkich said.

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- Applicant must be in good academic (minimum 2.0 GPA), disciplinary and financial standing with the University at the time of application and during the term as editor.
- Applicant must have a minimum of one year's publications experience and be familiar with the operation of a daily newspaper.
- Persons applying for the position who have not worked at the Kentucky Kernel must provide a recommendation from previous employer, adviser or both.

Editor in Chief of the 2008 Summer Kentucky Kernel

Requirements:

- Applicant must be enrolled full-time on the UK Lexington campus for the semester prior to and following the term as editor.
- Applicant must have publications experience and be familiar with the operation of a newspaper.
- Applicant must be in good academic (minimum 2.0 GPA), disciplinary and financial standing with the University at the time of application and during the term as editor.
- Persons applying for the position who have not worked at the Kentucky Kernel must provide a recommendation from previous employer, adviser or both.

Applications may be picked up in Room 026 Journalism Building and must be returned by 3 p.m. on Wednesday, March 12, 2008.

Group offers tips on having safe break

By Paul Schlich
news@kykernel.com

Some students are already boarding planes and packing cars to head off to tropical climates and vacation paradises for Spring Break.

But each year the break brings undesirable and unsafe situations for some students.

"I drank so much, I spent the entire day hugging the toilet," sophomore Adam Fields said. The experience put a damper on last year's vacation, he said.

Some groups on campus are making efforts to make sure students not only have a fun break but also return to campus safe and avoid experiences similar to Fields' rough day.

Responsible drinking is the focus of UK's The Cause and the student-lead organization is hosting Spring Break Safety Week all week to help students plan for a safer vacation.

The week-long event will conclude tomorrow with Spring Break Spirit at 3 p.m. in front of the Mining and Minerals Research Building on Rose Street. Students will get free T-shirts, can try on goggles that simulate vision when drunk and receive information about alcohol safety.

The Violence Intervention and Prevention Center also is offering advice to students on how to have a safe time away from classes.

During Spring Break, students can be subjected to a lot of high-risk drinking, which can lead to sexual violence, said Sally Evans, program coordinator at the VIP Center. Students are encouraged to do things in groups so they can watch out for each other and should make plans and decisions in advance, Evans said.

The VIP Center is also telling students to be mindful of their drinks and of their surroundings and to speak out if they know something is wrong.

LOANS

Continued from page 1

nervous when she returned to school to get a second degree.

Bard uses federal loans. Her son had to supplement federal loans with loans from private companies, which she said he is still paying back years after graduating.

"Back when I got my other degree, tuition was so low," said Bard, a dietetics senior. "Now, I don't see how students even make it."

In 2006, about 29 percent of students left UK in debt and the average amount they owed was \$18,758, according to the Project on Student Debt.

Tuition is increasing each

year and UK President Lee Todd has said UK cannot guarantee tuition increases under 10 percent if state government does not fully fund UK's Top 20 Business Plan. Gov. Steve Beshear recommended budget cuts for higher education of 12 percent for the 2008-10 biennium, on top of a 3 percent cut already in place.

Kentucky's budget will be determined by the state legislature in April.

This year, about 7,200 of UK's 27,000 students received an average of \$10,833 in federal financial aid, George said. About 1,200 students received an average of \$9,900 in private loans.

English junior Rummanna Amin is one of about 7,200 UK students to receive federal financial aid. The limited amount of

money for federal loans and news of a state budget that may lead to a jump in tuition has Amin worried about whether she can afford school.

"I hope (tuition) doesn't increase too much so I'm not in debt the rest of my life," she said.

The federal government offers both subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford Loans based on financial need determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form, due April 1 for UK students.

With unsubsidized loans, students will amount interest while in school. With subsidized loans, the government pays the interest while the student is in school. For next year, the interest rate will be 6 percent, down from 6.8 percent for the 2007-08 school year.

SG

Continued from page 1

up their seat to someone who would serve it better," Montell said. If an at-large senator breaks their oath, they would be removed from office and replaced by the runner-up candidate from the year's election.

Because the legislation in an amendment to the SG constitution, it must pass the Senate twice to go into effect. It will be voted on at the next full Senate meeting.

A referendum was presented to the Senate that will ask students if they want to use student fees to the amount of \$2 per person each year to fund the Collegiate Readership Program, which provides newspapers such as USA Today and The New York Times on campus for free.

The Senate approved the resolution and the referendum will appear on the 2008 spring SG presidential ballot for students to vote on.

The program had a trial run in January and February in eight locations on campus, and SG Director of Constituency Services Tyler Fleck said students responded positively.

BASKETBALL

Continued from page 1

players aren't going to be as confident, and I get the ball more," Crawford said of playing on the road. "I take advantage of my opportunities."

With 10 minutes left to play, it looked like the Cats (17-11, 11-4 Southeastern Conference) would coast to a victory on Crawford's back. Then, the Gamecocks, who made just 13 of their first 33 shots, caught fire.

UK's lead was as wide as 16 in the second half before South Carolina (13-16, 5-10 SEC) cut it to five with just over four minutes to play.

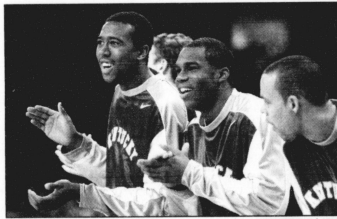
But close games are hardly terra incognita for the Cats, who've now won their 11 SEC games by a combined 65 points, and senior guard Ramel Bradley responded — with a little help from above.

With the shot clock under five seconds, Bradley shot a long 3-pointer. It hit off the back iron, then off the glass, rolled around the rim and fell into the basket. It stretched the UK lead to eight, and South Carolina was finished.

"Shooter's bounce mixed with a little bit of the basketball gods," Bradley said of the shot.

Bradley and Crawford carried the Cats, scoring 55 of UK's 71 points, including 33 of its 37 second-half points.

"Two guys combine for 55 out of 71 — that's not the way you'd like to have it," Gillispie said. "But you love to have two



Freshman forward A.J. Stewart, left, sophomore guards Jodie Meeks and Dwight Perry celebrate after UK was fouled early in the second half of UK's 71-63 win over South Carolina last night in Columbia, S.C.

guy score 55."

Gillispie said his seniors have almost willed UK through this season, in which six of the top seven scorers have missed at least one game because of injury.

While UK's top two scorers were lighting up the Gamecocks, South Carolina's leading scorer couldn't get going. Sophomore guard Devan Downey, who lit up UK for 24 points more than a month ago, scored just nine points last night.

"We started out great," Gillispie said. "We really did a great job on the ball screen, and it's really such a difficult team to guard. They really put so much pressure on your defense. We were able to get off to a great start because we really helped each other."

The win moved the Cats to 11-4 in the SEC, and they will control their own destiny Sunday against Florida. With a win, the Cats will clinch the second seed in the East Division and earn a bye in the first round of the SEC Tournament.

But this win meant more than that for UK. It was its first victory without freshman forward Patrick Patterson, something the Cats needed to prove, Crawford said.

"We can win without Pat," Crawford said. "That's the question everyone was asking. We're a stronger team with Pat, but we can still win ball games."

And for the first time all season, Gillispie almost let out a sales pitch to the NCAA Tournament committee.

"I don't think anyone can ignore what this team has done in conference play," Gillispie said. "It's a great story because ... no matter what happens, they won't let it bother them. And it's fun."

SMITH

Continued from page 1

they won't let it bother them," Gillispie said. "No matter what happens, they will not let it bother them. And it's fun."

This team has no business being in the position it's in.

Six of UK's top seven players have missed at least one game this season. Combined, they have missed 37 games.

No sweat. If someone doesn't play, the next guy steps up. Or in UK's case, the whole team steps up.

UK was playing its second game without Patterson, unquestionably their best player, and possibly the best player in the SEC.

Gillispie said before the South Carolina game that when a basketball team loses its star player, it's kind of like a backup quarterback having success in his first game, but in his second, when the other team has more time to prepare, the backup quarterback struggles.

That seems like common logic. But this is no common basketball team.

The Cats followed the all-heart, but heart-

breaking, performance against then-No. 1 Tennessee with another amazing effort against the Gamecocks.

Joe Crawford was out of gas for much of the second half. Still, he played 19 minutes after halftime and scored a career-high 35 points.

Ramel Bradley had four turnovers, but he scored 20 points.

The two scored all but four of UK's points in the second half.

Crawford said after the game he knew he had to pick up the scoring slack when Patterson went down. He's right. But he's also wrong.

Every UK player that has spoken with the media since the injury has said that one person alone couldn't pick up Patterson's slack. Instead, they had to do it together.

As a team.

"The odds have been against our team," Gillispie said. "We've had so many injuries, and when you learn on Friday that Patrick Patterson is going to be out, I think a lot of teams would have thrown in the towel. This team has gotten better."

This team is remarkable.

Jonathan Smith is a journalism senior. E-mail: jsmith@kykernel.com.

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■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

SG's poor pacing left too many groups without needed funds

One of the true benefits that Student Government provides to campus is allocating funding to help student groups and organizations.

Unfortunately, that positive work will not be available for the rest of the academic year.

SG gave away all that remained of the \$70,000 set aside to help campus groups at a Senate meeting two weeks ago, the Kernel reported Monday.

Since funding student activities is a principal duty of SG, it is unacceptable that money for students didn't last to Spring Break this year.

Many campus groups depend on money from SG for expenses that registration fees and club dues don't cover, said Jesse Horn, former president and current member of the UK men's rugby team — which received \$1,000 for new bleachers at the last Senate meeting, the article reported.

As Horn pointed out in the article, finding local sponsors is one option for clubs that need money. But this is far more difficult than applying to SG.

Not to mention, again, that SG should always be where students can go first to request funding.

Some SG officials are quick to draw positives to be out of funding for student groups.

"I think the reality is the Senate was very visible and very vocal about helping student organizations, so more students' organizations came asking for money," SG adviser Todd Cox said in the article. "I think there were 60 to 80 groups that received some funding, and that's a good number."

There is no doubt that helping fund 60 to 80 groups is good.

But SG senators also need to ask if they're truly doing their job when they cannot fund groups throughout the entirety of the school year. If they think

so, they need to think again — and listen to groups who still need funding.

"My view is that (SG) should have an idea of how many clubs and organizations come to them every year," said Ben Chaffins in the Kernel article. Chaffins is treasurer of the Japanese Culture in Kentucky Society, a group that applied for but will not receive funding. "I've never heard of them running out of money in February before."

Like with the state currently, it was a tighter budgetary year for SG, but as an organization that has an inherent commitment to fund student activities, it should pace itself better in the future to make sure funds will be available throughout a year.

Much of the funding went to Senate special projects, and greater discretion over funds for these efforts should aid in conserving money throughout the year. SG should implement stricter guidelines as well to ensure that groups with the most need receive funding before others.

Notifying students of the lack of funds is another point SG failed on.

As of Sunday, 10 student groups had turned in funding requests that could not be met, said SG Appropriations and Revenue Committee Chairman Kevin Parrott in the article.

One of those who requested funds was Forestry Club President Ryan McNertney, who also said he had not been contacted by SG about the lack of funds as of Thursday — eight days after the Senate meeting where the rest of the funds were allocated.

To better aid students and fulfill its obligation, SG should take steps to prioritize funding allocations and to conserve money for student groups to prevent such a shortfall from happening again.

Ruling correct in protection of Web site's free speech

The following editorial appeared in the *Sao Jose Mercury News* on Tuesday:

It was good to see a federal judge Friday wipe away his own earlier ruling and reinstate the Wikileaks.org Web site, which publishes information from whistle-blowers. The reversal rightly preserves First Amendment rights on the Internet — which were trampled by the judge's mid-February injunction that forced Wikileaks to go dark.

The developments serve as a lesson that courts must tread carefully before curtailing free speech rights, even in an age when words can spread instantaneously on the Web. Online speech, like words in print, deserve full First

Amendment protections.

Swiss bank Julius Baer sued to silence Wikileaks after it published information suggesting the bank was being used for money laundering and tax evasion. The judge's earlier injunction was overly broad and tantamount to shutting down an entire newspaper because of one offending article. And it also amounted to "prior restraint" on the media, which courts have almost always found to violate the First Amendment.

Courts such as Wikileaks can expose injustice and hold powerful institutions accountable. Courts must not roll back or chip away at free speech protections that ensure the public good is served.

■ LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Think of turnout when planning events

As a student at a university that is so aggressively seeking to bring "diversity" to campus and increase awareness of cultural issues, I was very disappointed with the decision to show the film "Las Madres: The Mothers of Plaza de Mayo" in a conference room at the Gaines Center's Bingham Davis House.

This event, a part of the Gender and Women's Studies Film Series on Women Resisting, was publicized as being open to the public as well as students. It also featured a question and answer session with Alicia Partnoy, one of the women interviewed and featured in the film. However, due to the unaccommodating features of the room, particularly the large table that took up nearly half of the available space, I and several other persons interested in the film were turned away or chose to leave because we did not want to sit on the floor in the little space that was available.

Not only was the film heavily publicized in classes pertaining to the subject, it was also talked about the previous day when Alicia Partnoy gave a talk about disappearances, speaking for others and her book, "The Little School: Tales of Disappearance and Survival." The space used for that event was filled beyond capacity, as was the screening of the film.

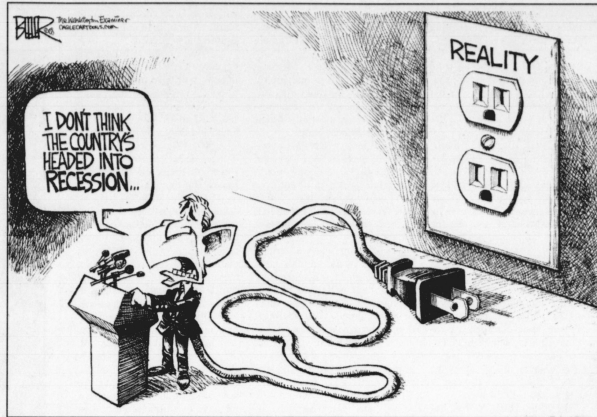
I understand that it is hard for the committees organizing these events to gauge how well attended they will be or how responsive students will be, but I also think that if they are going to publicly advertise the event in the way that this film and guest speaker were advertised, then they need to anticipate a larger turnout and plan accordingly. I genuinely appreciate their efforts to bring Ms. Partnoy to campus and to encourage students to attend the event and raise their awareness; however, I am also very disappointed I was not able to benefit from the film and particularly the discussion afterward.

Rebecca Linares
Spanish and international economics sophomore

Submissions

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

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com



NATE BEELER, The Washington Examiner

In this month of natural rebirth, think about what truly matters

My good friend's father jokingly informed me Sunday that Tuesday was the one day of the year which is a command — "March forth!"



DAVID REMPPFER
Guest columnist

— but amid the humor his words brought to mind something far deeper than I think he was alluding to. March is the perennial season when people watch nature rebirth all around, yet our thoughts

gaze inward. Seniors wonder what will be next as their last Spring Break draws near, and their minds try to forget that a brutal spar with final exams is all which remains between them and the most expensive piece of paper they will ever buy. Freshmen catch second-semester syndrome as the months until home lessen amid increased questions of whether this degree, or even college, is right for them.

Regardless of our year, all of us ponder the greater meanings and envision the greatest dreams during March, making it fitting that I ease our shared state of heart by stating this: You do not change when a diploma hits your hand. You are you. Unique as a winter

sunrise and special as ice cream on a cool July night, you are you. Our generation, perhaps more than any preceding it, bears such intense pressure to become — to find an identity and to obtain status — that we often lose sight of the simplicity and joy in being ourselves.

Whether we are survivors of a tough young road who fight to never go back, lovers who strive to be better spouses and parents than ours were, people of heritage who want to uphold tradition, or the dreamers whom everyone anxiously watches, the mentality is common — bordering on universal — that receiving a degree somehow feeds us into white-picket-fence happiness, somewhere out there beyond a graduation ceremony and a Spring Break. In our minds, getting through college in all its facets is validation that you can be all the world asks for you to be.

I want to ask: Why not just be you? Don't get me wrong — degrees and dreams are great things, but do they define us? I might talk about GPA, young vacations and video-gaming prowess for a few years, but like every other memory, those stories will ultimately fade, and all that will remain in meaningful standing will be who I have become and who I have helped others become.

I don't think either of those are

defined by a piece of paper.

So here's my challenge to you: Ask yourself this Spring Break who it is that you have always wanted to be apart from school, and dare to believe that you could really be that person. Did you think you have to get a job that makes six figures to have "arrived"? While few careers can be a calling, any calling can be a career; being paid to do what you love is a higher salary than that of any entrepreneur.

Have you always told yourself that looking in the mirror with a smile isn't possible? I challenge you to face that insecurity and dare to believe that you can be forever changed.

Is your life defined by your ability to cope with tragedy? While we live in a broken world, a share of which I have known, I challenge you to believe that healing is always possible. Does getting that girl or that guy have your worth caught up? They may be amazing, but the truth is so are you — with or without them.

Spend some time reflecting this next week and ask yourself who that person is that you have always wanted to be yet maybe never thought you could be. Then, come back from your week off ready to face your fire and "march forth" into the person that you alone were meant to be.

David Remppfer is a computer science junior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

America's peculiar way of justice unfairly favors whites over blacks

Legal scholars pondering reports that one of every 100 U.S. adults is in jail or prison need look no further



LES PAYNE
Syndicated columnist

than Roger Clemens to see why it is blacks who mainly choke the jails. Men such as Clemens — unlike their counterparts such as, say, Barry Bonds — enjoy a white privilege conveying a sense of immunity from prosecution, or even suspicion.

Clemens' raised right hand seemed steady while he swore before a House committee that he'd never, ever used steroids or human growth hormone. His self-righteous duplicity, however, was too much even for the U.S. Congress. Defending what passes for its honor, the committee has called in the Justice Department to sort through the baseball star's inconsistencies. The more credible Andy Pettitte, as well as the man who admits to injecting illicit chemicals into Clemens' butt, testified to a different set of facts.

Baseball and some other professional sports and pseudo-sports — football, wrestling, speed skating, bodybuilding, track and field — are awash in illicit drugs designed to enhance performance. Can it be that the athletes punished as poster children for drug abuse, such as Bonds, Marion Jones, Jose Conseco, Ben Johnson, etc., are either Latino or black?

Yes, for this is the American way

of justice. This racial pattern of enforcement imprisons one of every nine black men between the ages of 20 and 34. The '06 national figure was disclosed by the Pew Center, which ranks the United States as the world's lone incarceration superpower. Its 2.3 million inmates in jails and state and federal prisons far outdistanced China, which has a population four times greater. The U.S. prison rate also tops that of other "policestate" nations such as Russia and former Soviet republics.

Concentrating on the overall incarceration, however, the media downplay the vastly disproportionate impact of the harsher sentences that courts hand to blacks.

Another recent study revealed a stark contrast in the way blacks and whites are jailed for drug offenses, which account for a high percentage of prison populations. The Justice Policy Institute studied drug arrests in 198 of the largest U.S. counties, making up over half the nation's population. All but two of these counties incarcerated blacks at a higher rate than whites. Suffolk County, N.Y., where my wife and I raised three children, sent black drug offenders to prison at a rate some 36 times that of whites.

Such a shameful, national disparity in incarceration rates, according to the institute, occurred even with a pattern showing no appreciable difference between whites and blacks in illegal drug possession, use and sale. Some 8.5 percent of whites were found to use illicit drugs in '02, compared to 9.7 percent for blacks. Despite this similarity, blacks, the report found, were "admitted to prison for

drug offenses (at) nearly 10 times the rate for whites."

Much has been made of the federal sentencing policy softened by a recent Supreme Court decision — that punished crimes involving crack cocaine at a 100-1 ratio compared with powder cocaine. This Draconian law was mocked in this space as if, say, during Prohibition Congress found that whites drank mainly Coors and blacks Colt 45 and the lawmakers then proceeded to enact a policy punishing crimes involving Colt 45 some 100 times more severely than those involving Coors.

The sinister court system reaches well beyond even the de jure structures of policy to ensure, de facto, that blacks are hauled off to prison at a much greater rate. Some 24 percent of crack cocaine users were reportedly black, for example, and 72 percent were Latino or white. Yet, the institute says, "more than 80 percent of defendants sentenced for crack cocaine offenses were African-Americans."

This disparate rate of black incarceration appears to result from unfair police and court policies at every level. "Cash-strapped" states that last year spent some \$50 billion on corrections, so called, reaped no clear benefits in recidivism rates or overall crime, the institute concluded.

Treating blacks the same as whites — whether it's Barry Bonds or Roger Clemens — would be a cost-effective way out of this national shame of incarceration. Besides, it's the right thing to do.

Les Payne is a columnist for *Newsday*. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

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3, 4 & 5 BR. All size houses. Walk to campus. State. Walker. University area. Lease begins 08-01-08. '08. '09. '10. '11. '12. '13. '14. '15. '16. '17. '18. '19. '20. '21. '22. '23. '24. '25. '26. '27. '28. '29. '30. '31. '32. '33. '34. '35. '36. '37. '38. '39. '40. '41. '42. '43. '44. '45. '46. '47. '48. '49. '50. '51. '52. '53. '54. '55. '56. '57. '58. '59. '60. '61. '62. '63. '64. '65. '66. '67. '68. '69. '70. '71. '72. '73. '74. '75. '76. '77. '78. '79. '80. '81. '82. '83. '84. '85. '86. '87. '88. '89. '90. '91. '92. '93. '94. '95. '96. '97. '98. '99. '00. '01. '02. '03. '04. '05. '06. '07. '08. '09. '10. '11. '12. '13. '14. '15. '16. '17. '18. '19. '20. '21. '22. '23. '24. '25. '26. '27. '28. '29. '30. '31. '32. '33. '34. '35. '36. '37. '38. '39. '40. '41. '42. '43. '44. '45. '46. '47. '48. '49. '50. '51. '52. '53. '54. '55. '56. '57. '58. '59. '60. '61. '62. '63. '64. '65. '66. '67. '68. '69. '70. '71. '72. '73. '74. '75. '76. '77. '78. '79. '80. '81. '82. '83. '84. '85. '86. 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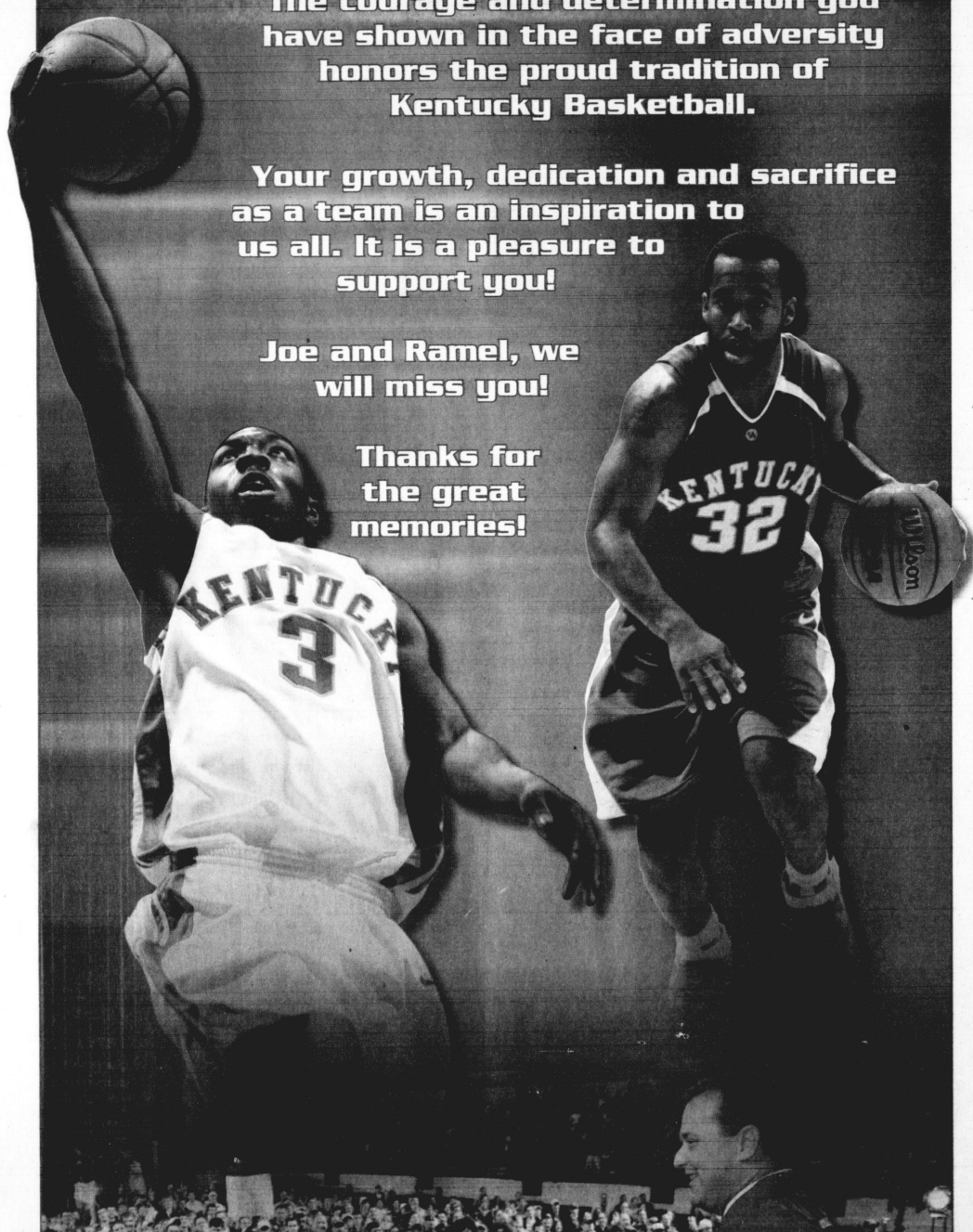
Thank You Wildcats!

The courage and determination you have shown in the face of adversity honors the proud tradition of Kentucky Basketball.

Your growth, dedication and sacrifice as a team is an inspiration to us all. It is a pleasure to support you!

Joe and Ramel, we will miss you!

Thanks for the great memories!



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