

KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 36 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

UK announces partnership with Winchester hospital

By Allie Garza
agarza@kykernel.com

UK HealthCare has announced that it will form an affiliation with Clark Regional Medical Center in Winchester, Ky., to help serve the community there.

UK already provides contractual services to Clark Regional, but according to the new contract that is expected to be signed in February, UK HealthCare will help manage the hospital's operations, said Dr. Michael Karpf, UK's executive vice president for health affairs.

"UK will manage the hospital, and a team

from UK, in conjunction with Clark Regional Medical Center, will assist in the planning process with the board, community and doctors," he said.

The two health-care providers will likely sign the management agreement on Feb. 1, according to a news release. In the following seven to eight months, a committee will perform an analysis to look into enhancing revenue, controlling spending and working with the community to identify the health needs that are not currently being fulfilled, Karpf said.

"Through this program we're providing local care and keeping less complicated cases at home," Karpf said. "People can stay close to home, but

when they need to come to Chandler (Medical Center at UK), this will make it happen quickly and efficiently."

Despite UK's anticipated role in operations, Clark Regional will remain an independent hospital and will retain its staff, Karpf said.

"We'll see if additional doctors need to be recruited," he said, adding that the committee will also look into the establishment of new health programs.

"This new relationship is a major long-term benefit for our community and will provide local access to UK health services and physicians and thereby complement and build upon the high-quality

health care currently offered by Clark Regional and our physicians," said Dudley Taylor, chairman of the Board of Directors of Clark Regional, in a news release yesterday.

UK already provides services such as cancer treatment and high-level heart treatment at Clark Regional.

"We're involved to a pretty substantial degree," Karpf said, noting that a psychologist and cardiologist are sent to Clark Regional when needed and that UK HealthCare has a good relationship with Clark Regional's emergency room.

See **Hospital** on page 5

Students debate use of n-word in pop culture

By Ashton Smith
news@kykernel.com

Who can say it? When can it be said? Should it be erased from the human vocabulary?

These questions and many others were up for discussion at the Black Student Union and the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center's presentation "The History of the N-Word" in the Student Center yesterday. This is the second school year in a row that the MLK Center has sponsored a discussion about the n-word.

About 70 people of various racial and ethnic backgrounds came to the dialogue. Veleashia Smith, the MLK Center's director, led the discussion with a detailed history of the n-word, including its origins.

Most of Smith's research came from the book "The N Word" by Jabari Asim. She studied the history of the word from 1555, the year it was first used, and continued to follow its use through the meaning it represents today.

Smith described uses of the n-word not only by hate groups but by contemporary authors and rappers. She asked the people in the audience how they felt about the way the n-word is freely used in songs today. Some said if people did not want to be called the n-word, then they should not say it. But others argued that it was freedom of speech or that it is OK as long as the person saying it is black.

The various responses led Smith to say rappers and songwriters cannot put a positive spin on a word that exemplifies so much hate.

"Why would you let someone degrade you?" she said.

Many of the people who attended the speech shared their own views and opinions on the subject. Some people recalled emotional memories and others elaborated on the harm the n-word embodies.

"This is important because it's American history," Smith said. "It's for everybody."

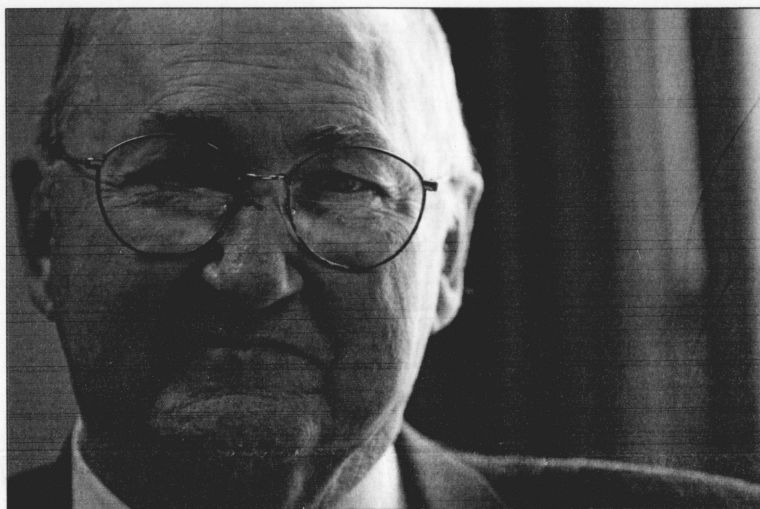
Her history lesson reminded students of the past surrounding the n-word and how its degrading meaning has carried on.

"The n-word is not going anywhere anytime soon," said journalism sophomore Kayla Charleston. "But by talking about it, we gain a better understanding of why we say it and what it really means."

"A discussion like this is important to understanding how hurtful the n-word really is," said Lauren Bach, an undecided freshman.

Smith said she hoped "people who use the word without thinking would think twice from now on."

LEAVING HOME



CHRISTINA LAYTON | STAFF

Henry Clay Owen, who is retiring this school year after 43 years working at UK, is the university's treasurer. Over the past year, he oversaw UK's \$2.1 billion budget. "When you have to account for every penny, every dollar of the university's money, you have to be precise, and you have to be diligent," Owen said.

Treasurer retiring after 43-year career at UK

By Jill Lester
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On July 1, 1964, UK's first computer — an IBM system that took up an entire floor of McVey Hall — arrived. So did Henry Clay Owen.

"As I recall, the transition from the old bookkeeping machines to computers was traumatic for the people in the accounting department, but they made the change," said Owen, the UK treasurer.

"It's like any challenge in life," he said. "You have to learn it, so you do."

Owen will retire this school year after more than 43 years working in UK's treasury department, and three years as a UK accounting student before that.

After graduating from high

school, Owen had no intention of going to college.

"Then I went into the service a couple of years, spent a couple of years working at different jobs," he said, "and then a light bulb goes on that there's a better way to do it, and college obviously was a better way."

As a full-time student from January 1958 to December 1963, Owen worked full-time in an A&P grocery store as a stock clerk and part-time in an accounting office. After making "whatever sacrifice it (took) to go to school and get an education," Owen received his bachelor's degree in accounting.

Six months after graduating, Owen returned to UK, started as a staff accountant and worked his way up to treasurer.

As treasurer he is responsible for the official accounting records and

systems at UK, including managing institutional assets, purchasing goods and services, and reporting the budget to the UK Board of Trustees and other university bodies.

Throughout his career, accounting veered away from "the old concept of the accountant with the green eyeshade and the armband" as technology advanced and UK's budget increased, Owen said. In the 2006-07 fiscal year, the budget was \$2.1 billion.

"When you have to account for every penny, every dollar of the university's money, you have to be precise, and you have to be diligent," Owen said.

Owen said the university has become a second home to him, which is why his UK career has lasted so long.

"You look at opportunities and

you measure them thinking, 'Here's my home, here's my family,' and ask if the differential in salary is enough to leave home for, and the answer's always no," Owen said. "I've always been happy doing my job."

Owen will officially retire on Jan. 2, and he said that although he will take some vacation days, he will work until the end. At 73, Owen said he never really had any reason to retire before now.

With the turn of a new year and a new lifestyle, Owen will probably spend time taking care of his two teenage grandsons, reading and doing home maintenance, he said. While he said he will not be bored, he is not exactly sure how he'll like retired life.

"I've been here 43 1/2 years,

See **Owen** on page 5

State senator to talk politics with students

By Rebecca Sweeney
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State Sen. Ernesto Scorsone, D-Lexington, will be on campus tomorrow night to hold a casual discussion with students about politics, government and the ongoing transition in the governor's office.

UK College Democrats is hosting "A Talk with Ernesto Scorsone" tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in room 359 of the Student Center.

As a UK alumnus, Scorsone said he feels a duty to participate in discussions with students.

"I represent the University of Kentucky in the legislature, and it's my responsibility to be accessible to my constituents," Scorsone said.

Scorsone was a state representative from 1984 to 1996.

Since then, he has been state senator for Kentucky's 13th District, located in Fayette County.

"Getting input from students helps me do a better job in Frankfort," Scorsone said. "These informal discussions, not in the heat and turmoil of a legislative session, can often produce very valuable feedback."

Scorsone has helped pass legislation about school safety, hate crimes and rights of the elderly, according to his Web site (www.senatorscorsone.com). He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Urban League of Lexington, is a volunteer faculty member at the UK College of Medicine and belongs to the National Academy for State Health Policy.

The event will be laid-back, with coffee and snacks provided, said Robert Kahne, UK College Democrats president and a political science and economics junior.

"We'll have a question-and-answer session, so anyone can come ask Sen. Scorsone a question, and he'll answer it," Kahne said.

Kahne said Scorsone has a passion for representing the people in his district and has always had a good relationship with the university.

"This is a great way to connect people to their legislator," Kahne said. "We can let him know what we're thinking, and he can let us know what he's thinking and what's going on in Frankfort."



Scorsone

Greeks to duke it out for charity at UK's first-ever Fight Night

By Ross Bogue
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Members of the Sigma Chi fraternity and the Delta Delta Delta sorority decided to try something more exciting than their typical Friday-evening activities.

Instead, today and tomorrow at 7 p.m. they will be hosting a fraternity-boxing charity event, Fight Night 2007.

Fight Night is an amateur boxing tournament between UK fraternity members that will raise money for the Huntsman Cancer Institute and St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Tim Pearce, a Sigma Chi who is organizing the event, said he expects a large turnout.

"This is something totally different than anything that has happened on UK's campus before," Pearce said. "It should be really exciting to watch some Greek-on-Greek fighting between different fraternities, and it should get pretty competitive."

Pearce, an undecided sophomore, and

some of his friends discovered Fight Night when they traveled to Western Kentucky University last semester and witnessed the Sigma Chi chapter there hosting the event.

Pearce found out that many Sigma Chi chapters around the country were starting to use Fight Night as their main philanthropy project and decided it was time to bring the brawl to UK.

Under U.S. Amateur Boxing Association rules, the event will run in tournament style, with each match consisting of three one-minute rounds. Around 50 boxers will compete in 12 different weight classes ranging from 125 pounds to 200 pounds and above.

"A lot of people have been training really hard and should make for a good fight," Pearce said, "and then there are others who will probably be good for a laugh."

Guy Miller, a management sophomore, will be representing the Delta Tau Delta fraternity and has been training for over two months.

See **Fight Night** on page 5

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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 10 — You're in a glorious mood, but be careful what you say. Creative impulses are high. Communication could be a disaster. Build something, don't talk about it.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 5 — Give yourself time to think about the long-term goals you've set. Do you still want all that stuff? If not, scratch some items off your list.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is an 8 — Don't get stuck in fantasyland. Make yourself be pragmatic. If you don't want to do the work, don't go into that kind of business.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is an 8 — You're doing the work so it's no surprise that the money's coming in. Don't take risks with it though. There's not enough to do that, yet.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is an 8 — You're coming close to discovering the truth, but you still need to be cautious. Don't believe everything you hear. Discretion is still advised.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is a 5 — Want to have people over? Better get busy. Your place is looking pretty good, but there are minor adjustments you want to make before going public. Get on 'em.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is an 8 — Postpone financial discussions. Encourage the others to talk. You're better off knowing their secrets than having them know any of yours. Keep your business to yourself.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is a 6 — You're about to get serious about increasing your income. You're more confident now. Assume

more responsibility and achieve great wealth.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is an 8 — Anticipate delays and have alternative routes in mind. Nobody said it was going to be easy, but getting there is possible, wherever you want to go.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is a 5 — Your fertile imagination is about to come up with lots of ways to increase your fortunes. The next four weeks are going to be fun. Rest up.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is an 8 — Let friends take over the major duties now. It's good for you to learn how to delegate. If you already know how, practice. This makes them stronger.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 6 — Follow instructions and a leader who's been there before. Make comments when appropriate, your judgment is required. They can't do it without you.

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THE DISH

The singer's onetime BFF opens up about Spears' desperation leading up to rehab

By Kevin O'Leary

Britney Spears was sitting in her Beverly Hills mansion, getting primped and pampered by a personal glam squad headed up by her then-hairylist Rick Henry. It was early December 2006, and the singer, freshly separated from Kevin Federline and enjoying the new blonde extensions Henry had put in her hair, was making plans for a night on the town. Suddenly, her eyes fell on Kalie Machado, the hairdresser's assistant, and Spears said in her sweetest southern drawl, "Do you want to come?"

From that chance encounter, a friendship was born. "She would want me to be with her 24/7, and I was like, 'I can't. I have a job,'" says Machado. "She was like, 'Come work for me.'" And so on January 16, the Ceres, California, native officially became Spears' assistant, and after two weeks received her first — and, as it turned out, only — paycheck for \$4,000. During the three-month adventure, the sweet-natured Machado, 23, was a featured player in the singer's real-life soap opera, a drinking companion and constant shoulder to cry on as Spears obsessed over multiple schemes to win Federline back. But during their wild ride, "I

I WAS BRITNEY'S ASSISTANT

was there every day, all day and night," says Machado, who shares her story for the first time with Us. "She's very, very nice, but she has crazy thoughts all ways going through her head. I never saw her do drugs. I never saw her take prescription medication — but she needed it. She needs mental help."

'Where's Your Daddy?'

On the surface, assisting Spears might sound like a cushy dream job: watching DVDs while drinking wine or Jack and Cokes at one of her plush L.A.-area homes (Spears' fave flick: Dreamgirls). Or listening to her gush over celeb crush George Clooney and sing her pop ballads as lullabies to sons Sean, 2, and Jayden, 14 months. But the reality was that the songstress was in a troubled state, prone to outbursts of sobbing at the mention of Federline. "In the beginning, she really wanted to get back together," says Machado. "She wanted so badly to have the father of her babies. When Britney thought about Kevin not wanting her, she would hawl!" And, Machado adds, Spears would not shield her kids from her anger and sorrow: "She would look at Sean and Jayden and say, 'Where's your daddy? I need help. Where's your daddy?'"

Spears, Machado says, had never wanted to split in the first place and felt Federline had tricked her into the breakup. The final chapter began with their disastrous Halloween 2006 night in L.A., which ended with Fed-

erline having to crash at a friend's pad after the couple had an explosive argument. (A source says Spears' arrival at a party drew the focus away from her husband, who was trying to launch his hip-hop career.) On November 1, Federline flew to NYC to stay at the \$549-a-night Doubletree Guest Suites Times Square (a source tells Us Spears had refused to fund the trip), and the "Toxic" singer flew out a day later. "She said she went there with the two babies, and Kevin wouldn't even let her in the hotel room," says Machado. "So she had to get a hotel room for herself. And that was it." (Spears checked into the more luxe Loews Regency Hotel.) Four days later, she asked her attorney to draft the divorce petition to end her two-year marriage and signed it before leaving for her ringless appearance on Late Show With David Letterman. "She stood up for herself, and it kind of backfired," Machado says. "That was what he wanted." Indeed, Spears would often feel sorry for herself, asking Machado, "Why did he do this to me?"

On February 21, Spears again entered rehab, this time for a monthlong stint at Promises Treatment Center in Malibu, and Machado was cut off from the singer forever. Machado called Rudolph and asked if she still had a job. "You never know," she says she was told. "When Britney gets out of rehab, she could want everything back the way it was."

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THURSDAY,
November 29,
2007

PAGE 3

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kernel POP

A Tale of Humanity's Dark Side

Originally based on a story by E.T.A. Hoffmann about the depraved side of mankind, "The Nutcracker" was first performed in Russia on Dec. 17, 1892. Composer Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky was commissioned by the czar's choreographer, Marius Petipa, to set the story to music.

"The Nutcracker" tells the story of Clara, a young girl who is given a nutcracker as a Christmas gift by her godfather. At midnight, Clara magically shrinks to the size of a toy and the nutcracker comes to life to lead an army of toy soldiers into battle against the Mouse King and his legion of mice. After defeating the Mouse King, Clara and the nutcracker journey through the Land of Snow and meet the Sugar Plum Fairy.



PHOTOS BY ALLIE GARZA | STAFF

Ellie Fogg, 13, left, artistic director Louis Dominguez and Jamie Rosenstein, 13, right, rehearse a dance during the party scene for "The Nutcracker" ballet yesterday evening. The Lexington Ballet will be performing "The Nutcracker" at the Singletary Center for the Arts on Dec. 7, 8 and 9.

Dancers bring 'Nutcracker' to life

By Kelly Wiley
features@kykernel.com

As Anne Jensen took off her ballet slippers, revealing her bloody toes and blisters, she sighed and groaned.

Jensen, a home-schooled high school senior, finished up dance rehearsal Tuesday night tired, but pleased that she will dance as the Snow Queen in the Lexington Ballet's production of "The Nutcracker" next week. Jensen is one of several dancers in the studio preparing for the performance.

"It's hard to explain, but dancing is amazing," Jensen said. "You can express yourself that way. Every accomplishment is personally very rewarding because it's all your own work."

Jensen, 17, said she has been dancing for 10 years and has been involved with "The Nutcracker" for the past nine years. Jensen attends practice six days a week for a total of about 15 hours, but she said she loves every minute of it.

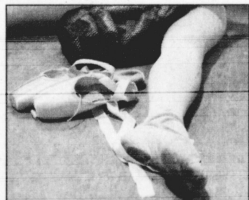
"I do love 'The Nutcracker,'" Jensen said. "It's your classic production; every company does it."

Because it is so common, however, it is up to the dancers to bring something unique to every performance.

"I think each show is different," said Luis Dominguez, artistic director of the Lexington Ballet. "We can see the same show the next day and experience something different. Each performer adds a different role, and they play it differently."

Jensen said she always likes to add a personal touch to the roles she plays.

"We have to keep it exciting," Jensen said.



Natalie Redish, a junior at Lexington Christian Academy, prepares for rehearsal of "The Nutcracker" at ArtsPlace yesterday evening.



Cast members of "The Nutcracker" get ready to rehearse at ArtsPlace on Mill Street. A majority of the cast members are students, with the ballet only consisting of three professionals.

"The dancers have to be enthusiastic to keep the audience interested."

"I love performing and expressing myself through ballet," she said. "A lot of dancers just do the steps. I like to bring my character into the part."

"The Nutcracker" has been an annual performance in Lexington for the past 33 years, Dominguez said. The program used to be performed at the Lexington Opera House, but for the past three years, the performance has been held at UK's Singletary Center for the Arts.

Dominguez said he believes the audience will be moved, even if they have already seen it. "You really don't see the same things twice," he said. "You see it twice and the energy of the show is different because it's a live art form. When you come see an expensive performance and you are moved to tears, then it was worth it."

Dominguez said he tries to add new elements to the show every year, since dance has evolved over time. The pace of dance is now quicker, which makes it come alive, he said.

The live score provided by the Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra sets the Lexington Ballet's "Nutcracker" performance apart from others, said George Zack, conductor of the orchestra.

"Every performance is a unique and exciting event," Zack said.

"The orchestra enjoys the challenge of the performances, and the dancers always perform at their best with live, versus taped, music," he said.

Even in this annual performance, perfection is impossible, Dominguez said.

"As a performer you want to do a really good job and do a clean performance with no mistakes," he said. "Technically that is very difficult for a dancer. For a dancer there is never a perfect show. There is always something that you can improve on. Whether or not the audience realizes it, you know as a performer."

But Jensen said she enjoys the challenge of dancing because it helps build discipline and work ethic.

"Not many people can do it, because it's a lot of work," Jensen said. "I couldn't imagine not doing it."

The Nutcracker will be held at the Singletary Center for the Arts on Dec. 7 to Dec. 9. The Dec. 7 and 8 performances will be at 8 p.m., and the Dec. 9 performance will be at 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 to \$35, depending on the location of the seats, and can be purchased through the Lexington Ballet or the Lexington Philharmonic.

Film festival to showcase student productions

By Kristin Sherrard
features@kykernel.com

Students won't just be in the audience at a film showing on campus tonight — they'll also be the ones behind the camera.

The films from this year's finalists in NextFrame, the University Film and Video Association's annual student film festival, will be shown tonight at 10 in Worsham Theater in the Student Center.

The showing will last about an hour and will be followed by a brief informational session about "the homegrown film festival," said Andrew Crawford, an English senior who is film coordinator of UK's Late Night Film Series, which has free showings of various movies every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in the Student Center.

Tonight's showing is co-sponsored by the Late Night Film Series and the UK Film Club.

NextFrame is currently in its 15th year and is run entirely by student filmmakers at Temple University's film and media arts department, according to the festival's Web site (www.temple.edu/nextframe).

As an international festival, NextFrame receives about half of its submissions from countries other than the United States, according to its Web site. Students from all over the world, including many developing nations, present their work to be judged in the competition.

NextFrame finalists are chosen in July of each year, and then the festival begins its year-long international tour. Award winners are chosen by a jury of filmmakers, scholars and industry professionals. Winners receive product grants and cash prizes from the festival's corporate sponsors.

Crawford hopes NextFrame will inspire UK students to pick up a video camera and submit their work.

"(NextFrame is) an opportunity to see something that (students) might not otherwise be able to," said Crawford. "(It is a) chance to see that students their age and older are doing things like this, not just sitting back and watching films, but actually going out and making them."



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Most-played albums of the week

1. **Les Savy Fav**, "Let's Stay Friends"
2. **Aesop Rock**, "None Shall Pass"
3. **VHS or Beta**, "Bring On The Comets"
4. **Animal Collective**, "Strawberry Jam"
5. **Simian Mobile Disco**, "Attack Decay Sustain Release"
6. **Jose Gonzalez**, "In Our Nature"
7. **M.I.A.**, "Kala"
8. **Rilo Kiley**, "Under the Blacklight"
9. **Liars**, "Liars"
10. **Bird and the Bee**, "Please Clap Your Hands"

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Popular post-'80s writers make their mark in China

By Satoshi Saeki
The Yomiuri Shimbun

BEIJING — A new generation of authors known as the "post-1980s writers" is emerging in China, gathering strong support from young readers. Born in the 1980s, they are the generation that grew up under the country's one-child policy and during its opening-up process. They wield increasing influence in society as the country's market-oriented economy develops.

Guo Jingming, 24, is one of the most popular post-'80s writers. He has an office on the 15th floor of a building in Shanghai.

"The world through the eyes of the younger generation, who spent their childhood in a rapidly developing country during those 10 years, differs greatly from the one the older generation saw," Guo said.

Guo's good looks make him especially popular among teenage girls. In his writing, he deals with themes such as adolescent friendship, love, feelings of pain, pent-up discontent or anger. But what really stands out in Guo's writing is the sense of isolation inherent to the children of the one-child policy.

Every time he publishes a new novel, it reaches the best-seller list. His autograph ses-

sions, held at many locations in the country, attract thousands of fans.

Guo also is a successful businessman. He is the main editor of monthly magazine Top Novel, which carries novels written by post-'80s writers as well as younger "post-'90s writers" and has been a huge success with a circulation of 500,000. He also launched a pocketbook series, which contains a story per book, enhancing his reputation as a leading player in the publishing business in the market-oriented economy. According to a Chinese newspaper, Guo heads the list of wealthiest writers in the country.

Guo recently was admitted to the China Writers Association, which is under the instruction of the Communist Party, together with nine other post-'80s writers. However, Guo's admission to the association created an uproar on the internet, due to his suspected plagiarism a few years ago.

"Few authors could stir up such controversy. It constitutes a reversal of his popularity," a source involved in the publishing business said.

The Ning, who chairs the association, explained the reasons for Guo's admission, saying it was partly down to the success of the post-'80s writers.

ontap | For the week of Nov. 29 - Dec. 5

TONIGHT
Little Brother
8 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$10.

Rubber Knife Gang
9 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Admission is free.

FRIDAY, Nov. 30
Very Emergency w/ Motel
8 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$5.

Little Brother w/ Evidence
8 p.m., Bogarts, Cincinnati. Tickets cost \$15.

Peter Bjorn & John
9 p.m., Headliners, Louisville. Tickets cost \$16.

All the Day Holiday w/ Come on Caboose, Swearengen, Houseguest and The Minor Leagues
9:30 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$5.

Dan Mecher w/ Dirtybird, Zack, Steven Loki Howell
9:30 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$5.

SATURDAY, Dec. 1
Fusion Music 2 w/ In Rage, Upset Victory, Langus and Livid
8 p.m., The Mad Hatter, Covington. Tickets cost \$5.

Robert Pollard w/ Death of Fashion
9 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$10.

Straw Boss
9 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Admission is free.

COMPILED BY FEATURES EDITOR EMILY COOVERT

part. Admission is free.
MONDAY, Dec. 3
My Life with the Thrill Kill Kult
7:30 p.m., Headliners, Louisville. Tickets cost \$16 in advance, \$19 at the door.

PBR presents Open Mic Night w/ Jeff Roberson (of Lens Lounge)
9 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Admission is free.

TUESDAY, Dec. 4
ForStella
8 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$3.

Fiction Plane w/ Fickle and Bluf
7 p.m., The Mad Hatter, Covington. Tickets cost \$12 in advance and \$14 at the door.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 5
Enslaved w/ The Faceless, Arsis, Misery Rising and Defaced Humanity
7 p.m., The Mad Hatter, Covington. Tickets cost \$13.

Lexingtonhiphop.com One Year Anniversary Party w/ Kynfolk, Main Event, Art of Covenant and Madd Militia
8 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$5.

Joshua Michael Scutella and The Dusters w/ J.C. Wheaton
9 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Admission is free.

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'Blade Runner' started Hollywood's love affair with Philip K. Dick

By Colin Covert
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Hollywood's love affair with the science fiction of Philip K. Dick has spawned eight films from such distinguished talents as Steven Spielberg, John Woo, Paul Verhoeven and Richard Linklater, and earned over \$1 billion in ticket sales and other revenue.

But when Ridley Scott was filming "Blade Runner," the first Dick novel to come to the screen, the author was distraught. The first-draft screenplay reduced his vision of corrupted humanity and all-too-human androids to a crude shoot-'em-up adventure. He told Twilight Zone Magazine in 1982 that he fantasized bursting onto the set screaming "You've destroyed my book," and grabbing Harrison Ford by the throat and "battering him against the wall" as security guards seized him.

Dick died of a stroke four

months before the film was released in a compromised form that cut many character-developing scenes, added a cynical first-person voiceover and pasted on an unexpectedly happy ending. The film was a failure in its initial release but gained a cult reputation on home video and over the years attained classic status. It was theatrically re-released in modified form in 1993, and in various special editions on DVD.

Now it's showing in select cities for a limited run in Scott's definitive director's cut that eliminates the narration, extensively reworks the film, and meticulously restores the groundbreaking special effects.

Dick's daughter, Isa Dick Hackett, believes that her father would approve of the latest iteration. Dick-Hackett, who with her two half-siblings owns Electric Shepherd Productions, the film and television production arm of her father's estate, enthusiastically introduced the new

edition at the New York Film Festival this fall.

"I was stunned" by the film's visual power in its new, pristine 35mm print, she said in a phone interview from her San Francisco home. "What they've done with it is so spectacular. You think, OK, they've cleaned it up. But there are places where it almost looks like 3-D. The effects are so stunning, you can see things that I never noticed in the original film."

Stripping away the intrusive narration and studio-mandated happy ending brought the film closer to her father's vision, she added. The editing changes give the film "more emotional impact, because I think you really feel for the quote 'bad guys unquote,' androids who initially appear villainous but ultimately are seen as rebellious slaves fighting for their lives.

"You're thinking much more about these people who aren't people, who want to be people,"

she said. "You're feeling sort of empathetic for their plight. The questions that he considered and wrote about were what it means to be human, so it's very powerful on that level. I was surprised that I felt there was even more emotional impact this time around. Everyone I know who's seen it feels the same way so I know it's not just my personal bias."

That reaction is especially gratifying in light of the film's initially poor reception, which seemed to be a damning epitaph to Dick's career. "It was disappointing initially, but over time it's been the single most important event that has impacted his readership, leading people to his novel ("Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?") and then to his whole body of work," Dick-Hackett said. Now Dick is published by the prestigious Library of America, "which is the canonization of an American author with the Twains and Hawthornes," she said.

Read the Kernel

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HOSPITAL

Continued from page 1

Through the management contract with Clark Regional, students in UK's medical school will also have the opportunity to learn and find mentors.

"There are a number of excellent physicians at Clark who can be role models for students," Karpf said.

Students will be able to learn that practicing in a rural community can be a rewarding experience, Karpf said.

"The new affiliation is a natural fit for Clark Regional Medical Center and the University of Kentucky," he said. "UK will further enhance its mission of helping the people of the commonwealth gain and retain good health by providing university health-care programs beyond Fayette County."

OWEN

Continued from page 1

and they've never given me time to sit down and think about that," he said.

Jack Blanton, a former senior vice president for administration who was Owen's boss for 32 years, said Owen is the most articulate accountant he has ever met.

Owen "tells it like it is" when it comes to UK's finances,

FIGHT NIGHT

Continued from page 1

"I haven't trained for any kind of sporting activity like this since I played high school baseball two years ago," Miller said, "and this was the perfect opportunity to get back into shape for an event like this."

Miller has been taking full advantage of the UK boxing gym at the Buell Armory, which has been open to anyone who wants to come and get a little more practice sparring and training.

If watching fraternity rivals duke it out isn't enough, 30 ring girls will represent their sorority chapters at the fight. "This is by far the most anticipated Greek event that has ever come to UK," said Kristen Fulcher, a Delta Delta Delta member and integrated strategic communications junior who is organizing the sororities' portion of the event.

The event will be held at Tattersalls Horse Sales, located at 847 S. Broadway St., right across from Newtown Crossing apartments.

Tickets for Sigma Chi's Fight Night 2007 cost \$5 per night or \$8 for both nights with a valid student ID, and \$10 per night or \$15 for both nights for non-students.

Blanton said, giving those within the university both the good and the bad.

"One thing people always understood: If it was Mr. Owen, you didn't have to worry about it," Blanton said. "He was honest. He was incorruptible."

As the "keeper of the university's purse," Owen made decisions that were sometimes unpopular, Blanton said. As treasurer, Owen also had to deal with occasional theft or embezzlement.

Through it all though, Owen

stuck by the rules of the university, said Brenda Greiner, his secretary for 30 years.

"The most notable thing I can say about Mr. Owen is that he did things one way — the right way," she said. "He was a great boss and friend, and will be missed by the university."

Faculty and staff members who want to say goodbye to Owen before he retires in January can attend a reception from 2 to 4 p.m. in the LexMark Public Room of the Main Building on Dec. 13.

Graduate textiles students recycle used clothing through projects

By Kelli Long
news@kykarnal.com

A semester-long assignment for merchandising, apparel and textiles graduate students is helping students clean out their closets while benefiting both the environment and less fortunate members of the community.

The merchandising, apparel and textiles graduate seminar asked students to develop a project that makes a contribution to a sustainable environment. Four groups of students created projects to collect different types of garments for reuse.

The projects help solve some of the lack of sustenance in the area of textiles, said Elizabeth Easter, a merchandising, apparel and textiles professor who is teaching the seminar.

"Students addressed the topic of sustainability from the con-

cept of creating a design idea to the disposal of a garment to its reuse," Easter said.

Stefanie Burnett, one of the students in the seminar, chose to donate used tennis shoes to Nike Grind, which is part of Nike's Reuse-A-Shoe program.

"One of the benefits of being involved in this project is learning about just how much damage is being caused by human consumption and production in our environment," Burnett said, "and also the many ways in which we can protect our environment and how to help clean up the mess we have caused."

After the used tennis shoes go to Nike, they are ground up into three different parts and given a new life as playground equipment, weight-room flooring and surfaces for track, basketball and tennis facilities.

"I love to see the shoes pile up in the bin we are using for collection," Burnett said. "I am glad that people would want to participate in something that could make a difference."

Another group is collecting new and used suits, separates and accessories for the Suit Up for Success program. The items will be given to unemployed women who are trying to enter the workforce.

Students can also donate fleece clothing that the seminar will send to Patagonia's Common Threads recycling program and gently used formal dresses and accessories for the Fairy God Foundation.

The seminar will collect donations on the third floor of Erickson Hall, at John's Run Walk Shop on South Ashland Avenue and Lexington Green, and at J&H Lamark on Moore Drive.

Executed activists' descendants link U.S. detainee policy to McCarthyism

By Kara Barker
news@kykarnal.com

Despite the controversy over the executions of Robert Meeropol's parents in 1953, the air was light in the W.T. Young Auditorium yesterday afternoon when Meeropol and his daughter Rachel spoke against the treatment of Muslims being held following immigration sweeps in response to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. This was the first time that the father and daughter had spoken at a forum together.

When Robert Meeropol was 6 years old, his parents, Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, were executed by the U.S. government for allegedly selling nuclear secrets to the Soviet Union during the Cold War. In 1990, Meeropol founded the Rosenberg Fund for Children to help support children of activists who have been killed, jailed or fired in the course of progressive activities.

The Rosenbergs' executions took place in the midst of McCarthyism, a period of intense anti-communist suspicion in the United States in the 1940s and 1950s. Many Americans were accused of being communists and lost their jobs or were sent to jail. Robert Meeropol charged the administration of President George W. Bush with running the nation in a similar way.

"2007 reminds me of 1953," Robert Meeropol said. "Federal prosecutors linked the thing that America feared the most, the atomic bomb, to the

people that they feared the most, communists." Today, he said, the Bush administration is doing the same by linking weapons of mass destruction to Islamic fundamentalists.

Rachel Meeropol is a member of the litigating team in Doe v. Bush, where she is trying to attain legal representation for the unnamed detainees in the Guantanamo Bay detention camp in Cuba. Since the Sept. 11 attacks, more than 750 non-U.S. citizens have been arrested and held in the prison, she said.

Today, Rachel Meeropol said, more than 300 detainees remain. Some of those detainees have been cleared, she said, but because of laws such as the Military Commissions Act signed by Bush in 2006 they do not have the right to habeas corpus, which allows people to seek relief from unlawful detention.

"It is incredibly important, but difficult, to undo the damages that this administration has created," Rachel Meeropol said. She also compared the detainees' situation to that of her grandparents, saying both cases of imprisonment were marked by unfair conditions and false evidence.

Although the Meeropols have not won all their cases, they have not given up.

"There have been victories, and that is worth fighting for," Robert Meeropol said. "If you can say about yourself, 'I made the world a better place,' no matter how small the act, that makes life worth living."

NEWS BRIEFS

College of Design hosts final candidate for dean

The final of three candidates for the position of dean of the College of Design will be at an open forum from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. today in room 209 of Pence Hall.

Nichole Wiedemann is an associate professor in the School of Architecture at the University of Texas. Today she will tour the campus, meet with student and faculty groups, and give a lecture and answer questions at the forum.

The first two candidates, Mehrdad Hadighi of the State University of New York at Buffalo and Michael Speaks of the Southern California Institute of Architecture and the University of California-Los Angeles Department of Architecture and Urban Planning, participated in

open forums earlier this month.

After today, the College of Design search committee will make a recommendation to UK Provost Kumble Subbaswamy, who will then select the new dean. The selected candidate is expected to take the post by the beginning of the spring semester.

SG committees vote to recommend legislation

Two Student Government committees met last night to vote on legislation to recommend to the full Senate. The Graduate and Professional Student Affairs Committee voted to recommend a resolution commending the University of Louisville and all the students who organized the National Conference on Graduate Student Leadership. UK co-hosted the

conference.

The Internal Affairs Committee recommended an act relating to a budget amendment. The act concerned the continuation of staff salaries for next semester.

SG and PTS provide free shuttle for holiday shopping

Student Government and Parking and Transportation Services will run a free shuttle service between campus and the Fayette Mall on Dec. 2. The shuttle will run from noon to 6 p.m. Stops include the Student Center, Greg Page Apartments, Shawneetown, the corner of Rose Street and Columbia Avenue, the corner of Hilltop Avenue and Woodland Avenue, the corner of University Drive and Mueglet Drive, and near Macy's at Fayette Mall.

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

■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

Initiative to attract older UK students benefits everyone

UK has recently kicked off a program that will look to bring more non-traditional students back to the university to attain their degrees, an effort that everyone at UK should be proud of.

As part of the Double the Numbers program, which looks to double the amount of college graduates in Kentucky to 800,000

by 2020, UK will be seeking to bring back students who left the university with 90 or more credit hours, and encouraging them to finish the requirements left for graduating.

It's important, however, that UK takes several steps in ensuring that this initiative is successful.

UK's University Studies Program requirements have changed over the years, and a USP overhaul might be due in the near future. Many non-traditional students returning to attain degrees might be faced with a number of graduation requirements they did not have when first attending the university, and some older requirements left incomplete.

It is vital that returning students not be faced with an unnecessary burden of figuring out confusing USP changes that might affect their ability to graduate with a reasonable amount of effort and time. If potential non-traditional students view finishing their degrees as more of a burden than an opportunity, it's unlikely they will take the initiative to do so.

Another possible problem that returning students might find in finishing their degrees is the availability of both classes and advisers to fit their

schedules.

The likelihood of these students having full-time careers and families is much greater than a traditional student at UK, and if it is expected that a significant number will be attending UK, offering flexible classes through correspondence and at night is imperative to the success of the program.

In addition, it will be necessary to ensure that non-traditional students have more than enough access to advisers with schedules that can meet a variety of career needs they might have. This means there will need to be an increase in the amount of advisers available for night-time appointments

that non-traditional students can have priority access to.

All of these things will necessitate increased funding for both internal operations and financial aid offered to returning students. UK has already looked to address this issue, as the Kernel reported Nov. 26, but the need to be in constant self-assessment so as to not let the program collapse under financial strain is vital.

Taking the initiative to reach out to these students shows UK's understanding in how increased college graduations will benefit the state as a whole. It shows UK's commitment to using its resources not just for research opportunities, but for giving students and Kentuckians opportunities for success.

Most importantly, however, it's reassuring in that it shows UK's willingness to examine many alternative ways to increase the depth of the student body and improve the experience of everyone involved with the university.

If potential non-traditional students view finishing their degrees as more of a burden than an opportunity, it's unlikely they will take the initiative to do so.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SG agenda not looking out for UK student body

I would like to address the letter written by Tyler Fleck on Tuesday regarding the installation of cameras in the Johnson Center. Mr. Fleck states that there was appropriate debate among the senators who were elected to represent the student body before the cameras were installed.

This compels me to ask: If the installation of the cameras has been met with such opposition by a large part of the student body, doesn't that show they weren't represented as well as they should be?

Furthermore, Mr. Fleck goes on to enlighten us that Florida State University, Cornell University and the University of Arizona also have cameras but do not post warnings as UK does. The policies of those institutions regarding invasion of their students' privacy do not affect the lives of UK students, but the policies that Mr. Fleck and his fellow senators have enacted certainly do.

Lance Cutshall
History junior

Music columnist's facts don't match up

While I completely respect John Crowell's opinions on today's country music — to each their own — I'm just curious: Did he actually watch this year's Country Music Awards? Because Toby Keith didn't even have any nominations, and I never saw Jeff Foxworthy.

Were we watching the same

awards show? Next time the Kernel publishes a column about country music, make sure the writer at least gets the simplest facts straight, even if they aren't as big of a fan of country as I am.

Karrah Dixon
Pre-nursing freshman

Submissions

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

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

Columnists Needed

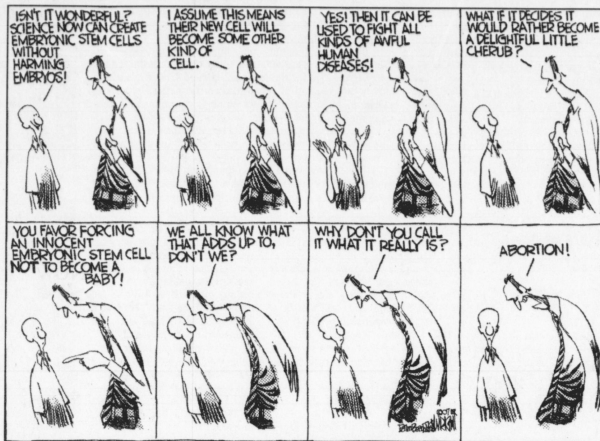
The Kernel is looking for columnists, especially those with an interest in campus and local issues, to write for the opinions page on a regular basis.

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

Cartoonists Needed

The Kernel is looking for a cartoonist to draw pieces for the Opinions page on a regular basis. Those who have an interest in campus and local issues will be given special attention.

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com



DON WRIGHT, The Palm Beach Post

Charities across the nation suffer from recent outbreak of toy recalls

There are many times when politics doesn't matter to the individual person. People argue that nothing will change in their lives, or that whoever is elected won't affect the ins and outs of daily life.

But there are some times, some issues that infringe on everyone, and they become difficult to ignore. I've written in the past about how I believe the United States' growing reliance on imports from foreign countries hurts our nation. But as the year comes to an end and the number of recalls increases, there are new concerns arising about the damage being done.

Because of the recent massive recalls of toys due mainly to lead contamination, charities are having difficulties providing the same services they have in past years.

According to a recent MSNBC report, the process of screening all the toy donations is causing some charities to give up toys this year, while others are severely burdened by the process. For instance, the Salvation Army, which usually uses volunteers for service projects and fundraising drives, has had to use its volunteers to sift through the list of

hundreds of recalls and remove dangerous toys.

And it's not just the donated toys that are a problem. The Salvation Army in Charlotte, N.C. ordered during the summer many of the items that they use at Christmas time, but most of those items were recalled. In Boise, Idaho, the Marine Corps Toys for Tots is dealing with similar problems and had to allocate 15 Marines to do the job of sifting through the nearly 30,000 toys to check for recalled items.

But some are giving up. Local chapters of Goodwill Industries in Colorado, Wisconsin, Hawaii and Massachusetts are simply throwing toys away, MSNBC reported. Goodwill Industries of Milwaukee wrote a statement regarding the decision to remove the toys, saying, "until we can guarantee that recalled toys will not reach our shelves, we have made the decision that we can no longer sell toys in our retail outlets."

Not only do parents have to deal with the burden of recalled toys this holiday season, but those who are seeking to be generous — to share the Christmas spirit of giving — are faced with a challenge.

It's no longer enough to purchase items for donation because those items, particularly toys, may be dangerous and end up getting thrown away. Even throwing the toys away takes considerable work. Because lead

is considered a hazardous material, it can't simply be thrown in the trash. Federal disposal regulations come into play.

It's no longer enough to purchase items for donations because those items, particularly toys, may be dangerous and end up getting thrown away.

The spirit of giving and charity during this time of year is part of the reason that Christmas is such a wonderful time of year. People come together and show that we are all a part of a community by offering their time or money to help others. But this year that sentiment is being disrupted.

Maybe you don't care about U.S. trade policies or politics, but maybe you do care about charities and donations or volunteering your time to a cause. This is a dramatic example of how a politician, a law or a policy can affect your life and the lives of others.

I only hope that everyone gets what he or she needs this Christmas to ensure a wonderful season.

Megan Vazmina is a political science senior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Teach For America rewarding choice for students unsure about future plans

Seniors, as the time comes to put the finishing touches on your resume and begin addressing those graduate school applications, I want to encourage you to consider a future that could prove more challenging and yield more immediate results.

As a senior at UK, I was certain I wanted to attend law school. I had studied for the Law School Admission Test, researched schools and considered a possible focus.

But despite the work I did, I never felt completely comfortable with my decision.

Last in the fall semester of my senior year, I was reminded of the Teach For America program and the positive impact I could have on another individual.

Teach For America is a national teacher corps committed to bridging the achievement gap between students from affluent backgrounds and those students from lower-income communities.

TFA places highly qualified college graduates in low-performing schools throughout the country with the expectation that teachers will

work each day to change the life prospects of their students. Teachers receive a competitive salary and a benefits package in addition to more than three months vacation.

With nearly 13 million children living in poverty and only half of them expected to graduate from high school, TFA corps members' two-year commitment can irreversibly influence young minds.

While the task is daunting, TFA translates the qualities of many UK seniors — strong leadership abilities, relentlessness and persistence — into the classroom. Success most often follows.

Aaliyah, one of my seventh grade students in Baton Rouge, entered my classroom not knowing any of her multiplication facts and still needing much help with complex addition and subtraction. With the help of fellow teachers, classmates, her grandmother and a lot of after-school tutoring, Aaliyah was performing on a 5.5 grade level by Christmas break — nearly two years of growth in five months.

Aaliyah's story is further evidence that, when challenged and given the opportunity to succeed, students do learn. Additionally, Aaliyah's growth is not out of the ordinary when compared to several of my other students and students in other Teach For America classrooms.

One year and four months into my commitment, it's hard to believe

the progress that my fellow corps members and I in southern Louisiana have made through Teach For America. I have learned immensely from

There are nearly 13 million children living in poverty and only half of them are expected to graduate from high school.

the experience, but most importantly, my students have learned that through hard work anything is possible.

I invite you to learn more about this movement by joining me at a Teach For America informational session to be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday in the Lexmark Room of the Main Building. Corps members will share their experiences in the classroom, answer questions and provide general information about Teach For America's movement.

With your commitment, our country may realize the reality of TFA's mission: that one day, all children will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education. I hope to see you Thursday night.

Will Nash is a political science alumna from the class of 2006. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

STADIUM RATER: COMMONWEALTH STADIUM



70,857 fans packed Commonwealth Stadium to watch UK upset No. 9 Louisville 40-34 on Sept. 15.

Stadium offers great game-day experience

By Matthew George
mgeorge@kykernel.com

The Stadium Rater returns to take a look at Commonwealth Stadium on the heels of one of the most exciting seasons in UK football history. This is the second installment of a special feature rating UK's stadiums, arenas and athletic facilities that house varsity sporting events from a fan's perspective. Ratings are based on a scale of one to five tickets, with five being the best. The overall rating is not an average, and all opinions are strictly those of Matthew George. The Stadium Rater will run periodically throughout the school year.

Overall



With the conclusion of the 2007 UK football season on Saturday, the Cats finished the regular season 7-5 (3-5 Southeastern Conference) and are awaiting their second consecutive bowl selection. And what a season it was. UK beat in-state rival Louisville for the first time since 2002, knocked off No. 1 Louisiana State and finished the year with seven or more wins in consecutive seasons for the first time since 1976-77. Which is why now is the best time to put UK's football venue to the test. While Commonwealth Stadium provides all the spectaculars that SEC football has to offer, it fails to present much of a home-field obstacle to visiting opponents.

Seating



Commonwealth Stadium had a capacity of 57,800 until expansions in the late 1990s increased that number to 67,606 — though the Cats have eclipsed that on multiple occasions. For this year's Florida game, 71,024 fans packed the house, setting a new attendance record. UK also set the records for total attendance and average attendance this season, drawing in 550,588 and 68,823, respectively. Even with such a large capacity, just about every seat in Commonwealth Stadium provides a quality view of the game. And for those rare few stuck in the far reaches of the corners of the nosebleed sections, Commonwealth Stadium provides two Mitsubishi Diamond Vision video boards, an incredible sound system and jumbo scoreboards. If fans can't see the game, they must be either in the bathroom or asleep.

Playing Surface



In 2001, the Cats officially named the playing field C.M. Newton Field in honor of the former UK baseball player, basketball player and athletics director. The stadium's grass was given a drastic makeover in 2005, as the grounds crew laid a beautiful new Bermuda grass to blanket the gridiron. That same crew has maintained a solid playing surface, but wear and tear during the course of the season does tend to take its toll on the grass, especially in the area between both 40-yard lines where most of the game action transpires. Though the aesthetics of the grass suffer a bit, the field always provides firm footing for the players even when conditions are soggy.

Game-Day Availability



Home football games are greatly accessible to UK students. With the presentation of a valid UK student ID, tickets cost just \$5 apiece the week of the game. Season tickets can also be purchased by students each spring before the upcoming fall season at the price of \$5 a game for the number of games in the season (eight games x \$5 a game = \$40). Fans may be forced to camp out and line up early to get tickets for marquee games, but that's all part of the SEC football experience. Commonwealth Stadium is within sight and easy walking distance of the South Campus dormitories, so parking and transportation is a non-issue for a large number of Cats fans. And students occupy some of the best seats the stadium has to offer. The UK student section spans from the corner of the east end zone to the 30-yard line on the lower level, and from the end zone to the 50-yard line on the upper level.

History



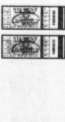
Since its construction in 1973, Commonwealth Stadium has housed a legacy of heartbreaking losses, exemplified by the Bluegrass Miracle against LSU in 2003 and most recently the 52-50 four-overtime defeat to Tennessee on Saturday. But it really hasn't been all bad, especially recently. In mid-October, UK knocked off then-No. 1 LSU in a 43-37 triple-overtime thriller. It was the first time the Cats had beaten a top-ranked team since 1964, and it happened in Commonwealth Stadium. The structure has also housed such UK legends as quarterbacks Tim Couch and Jared Lorenzen, running back Moe Williams and wide receiver Craig Yount, all of whose careers continued in the NFL. And there are a group of seniors on this year's squad who have etched their names in the record books repeatedly and should expect to be playing at the next level soon. Both good and bad, Commonwealth Stadium has hosted a plethora of memorable moments for Cats fans to talk about for generations.

Atmosphere



When it comes to sports, there is no environment that can match the intensity surrounding SEC football. For schools in the SEC, football is a way of life. And while UK has traditionally centered its celebration on basketball, the success of the last two seasons has brought football back to the forefront of the minds of fans in the Bluegrass. For Saturday home games, students are ushered out of the parking lots surrounding Commonwealth Stadium and are replaced by campers, tents and hoards of tailgaters. UK football games provide fans the forum for an all-day party of tailgating, football and post-game celebrations that can last into the wee hours of the morning, particularly after big wins. And while the game-day experience may not rival that of football powers like LSU or Florida, it isn't far behind. Whether UK has a good season or a bad one, the fans always turn out in big numbers.

Home-Field Advantage



UK finished 5-3 on its home turf during the 2007 season, which seems good at first glance. But a closer look at those numbers reveals the Cats were just 1-3 against SEC opponents and 2-3 against teams with winning records at Commonwealth Stadium. Since the stadium's construction in 1973, UK has averaged 56,670 fans for home games but has compiled just a 113-96 overall record for a 540 winning percentage. The record is modest at best, and one should keep in mind that many of those wins came against early-season cupcakes. While the Big Blue faithful often fills the stadium to capacity, most fans — aside from the dedicated crazies in the student section — sit on their hands during the game unless a pivotal play arises. Fans showed this season that they can get excited during big games, but as a whole, Commonwealth Stadium simply doesn't strike much fear in opponents' hearts.



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