

KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 37 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Author: Guns receive unfair news coverage

By Jill Lester
jlaster@kykernel.com

If you knew someone was stalking your family, would you post a sign in your yard that said "This house is a gun-free zone?"

With policies that ban carrying concealed weapons on campus, universities are doing essentially the same thing, said the author of "The Bias Against Guns: Why Almost Everything You've Heard about Gun Control is Wrong" in a speech last night.

"We all want to get guns away from criminals. I think the question is: Who is going to obey the laws taking guns away?" said John Lott, a senior research scientist at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Lott spoke last night as part of an event organized by UK's chapter of Students for Concealed Carry on Campus. Capt. Kevin Franklin of UK police also spoke as part of the event.

Lott emphasized that owning guns and having them on campus is a cost-benefit analysis. While people may commit violent acts using guns, people also use guns to prevent violent crimes from happening, he said.

However, Lott said research has shown both sides of the story are not reported.

In his own investigation, Lott found that of the 190,000 words on crime in reports by ABC, NBC and CBS that he examined, none were dedicated to people defending themselves using guns. Print sources were not much better, he said.

Although he said it is not balanced, Lott said he understands why media coverage of certain events happens. When presented with a story of an innocent shooting victim or someone with a gun who scares a criminal away, the story most news editors will pick is obvious.

"I don't think anybody, without any reference to bias, wouldn't think the first story is more newsworthy with a body on the ground," Lott said.

See Guns on page 3

Project collects textbooks for Afghan students

By Rosalind Esig
news@kykernel.com

The textbooks students cannot sell back may seem worthless to some, but this semester those used books can be pulled out of the garbage and put into the hands of students overseas.

The Center for Community Outreach is partnering with International Book Project Inc. to organize a book drive on campus during finals week. The books students donate and private book donations will be shipped to two universities in Afghanistan.

The International Book Project Inc., a private non-profit organization based in Lexington, hopes to send about 20,000 higher-education textbooks to the American University of Afghanistan and Kabul Medical University, said Tom Greider, associate dean of the Research and Education Division at W.T. Young Library.

Donations will either go to the universities or will be sold to cover the shipping costs, said Greider, who is working with the book project at UK.

"Any number of books we're going to get is going to be helpful," she said. "No donation is too small."

The American University of Afghanistan, established in 2006, and Kabul Medical University, which is going through financial problems, are trying to build their resources with up-to-date textbooks, according to a UK press release.

See Textbooks on page 3

Blue brawns and gold



PHOTOS BY BRITNEY MCINTOSH | STAFF

Above: The UK women's soccer team wins Female Academic Team of the Year last night at the annual CATSPY Awards in Memorial Coliseum. Below: Senior running back Rafael Little celebrates as he makes his way to the stage to receive his Blue Heart Award last night at the CATSPY Awards in Memorial Coliseum. The Blue Heart Award honors an athlete who overcame many injuries during the season.

Football dominates UK's 6th-annual CATSPY Awards

By Bobby Reagan
bregan@kykernel.com

Throughout the year, the UK football team dominated the headlines for its season filled with dramatic wins and capped with its second consecutive Music City Bowl win. Last night, when all 491 students comprising every UK athletic team came together for the CATSPY Awards at Memorial Coliseum, it was the football team that once again stole the show.

The gridiron Cats proved to be the big winners of the evening, taking eight awards, including Team of the Year. Senior quarterback Andre Woodson was named the K-Association Male Athlete of the Year and head coach Rich Brooks was named Coach of the Year.

Senior running back Rafael Little kept the Blue Heart award, reserved for the player who overcame injuries to have the most successful season, inside the football family. Wide receiver Keenan Burton won the award last year.

"It's been hard dealing with all the injuries," Little said. "But I'll never forget my time here and my teammates always poking fun at me to get through it all."

Senior tight end Jacob Tamme and senior linebacker Wesley Woodyard were both named Mr. Wildcat, an award given for all-around excellence in athletics, academics, character and service. It was the first time in the CATSPY's six-year history there have been co-Mr. Wildcats.

"I love this university so much that I bleed blue and white," said Tamme, who also won Male Scholar Athlete of the Year. "This award means a lot to me and there is no one better to share with this than Wesley."

The sixth annual CATSPY'S, a spin-off of the popular ESPY Awards hosted by ESPN, honored individual athletes, teams and sports achievements, both on and off the playing field at UK.

Senior gymnast Crissy Cannon, who spent three months last year building houses in Africa and who spends time helping refugees in America, joined Tamme and Woodyard as Miss Wildcat.

"This award means so much to me that I can't even put it into words," Cannon said. "The service I was able to do at UK was amazing, because besides gymnastics it's one of the most important things to me."

The K-Association Female Athlete of the Year went to sophomore Jennifer Pason of the



rifle team, and the tennis squad won Female Team of the Year after a 15-9 (6-7 Southeastern Conference) season. Athletics Director Mitch Barnhart said the Courage Award was not given out this year because there was no one deserving of it at the time of voting. However, it was announced that the Courage Award will now be known as the Mike Lyden Courage Award, named after UK's diving coach since 1993 who died at the age of 51 earlier this month after a two-year bout with cancer.

The first annual Bill Keightley "Assist" Award, given to a non-athlete who exemplifies hard work, was given to basketball managers Zach Murphy and Will Herschel.

"Mr. Wildcat was the greatest

"I've been to a ton of college athletic banquet awards. But let me tell you, nothing compares to this."

JAY CRAWFORD
ESPN

mentor I ever had," Herschel said. "He was a big part of our lives and I am thankful to be a part of his life and extremely honored to win this award."

Associate Athletics Director John Cropp, who has been with UK for the last 17 years, won the Lifetime Achievement Award. He said working with the student-athletes has made his life easy.

"I'm lucky because I've never had to go to work my whole life," Cropp said. "People like you athletes allow me to call this a job."

The award ceremony was hosted by Christi Thomas of WKYT and Jay Crawford of ESPN, who said he was impressed with what he saw.

"I've been to a ton of college athletic banquet awards," Crawford said. "But let me tell you, nothing compares to this."

Lighting up Earth Day: Tips and facts on conserving energy

ALUMINUM FACTS

■ Recycling aluminum saves 95 percent of the energy needed to make aluminum from bauxite ore.

■ Recycling one can saves enough energy to run a TV for 3 hours.

■ Empty aluminum cans are recycled and returned to store shelves as cans in as little as 60 days.

■ It is estimated that 127,093 cans are recycled every minute nationwide.

■ The aluminum can is so valuable it is the only packaging material that more than covers its own cost of collection and processing.

Life of a can:

- Dropped in the recycling bin
- Taken to recycling center
- Shredded into tiny pieces
- Heated into molten aluminum along with hundreds of other cans poured into an ingot, or

giant piece of aluminum, and taken to a rolling mill

- Rolled into sheets and formed into new cans

HOW YOU UNKNOWINGLY WASTE ENERGY

■ In the average home, 25 percent of the electricity used to power home electronics is consumed while the products are turned off. This can be avoided by unplugging the appliance or by using a power strip and switching it off to cut all power to the appliance.

■ Lighting an empty office overnight wastes enough energy to heat water for 1,000 cups of coffee.

■ A typical window left open overnight in the winter will use enough energy to drive a small car more than 35 miles.

■ Leaving a computer monitor on all night wastes enough energy to microwave six dinners.

ENERGY SAVING TIPS

For the car

- Clear out your car; extra weight decreases gas mileage.
- Use air conditioning only when necessary.
- Use cruise control on the highway to maintain a constant speed and, in most cases, to save gas.
- Avoid high speeds. Above 60 mph, gas mileage drops rapidly.
- Keep tires properly inflated and aligned to improve your gas mileage by about 3.3 percent.

Appliances and electronics

- Clean the lint filter in the dryer after every load to improve air circulation.
- Consider air-drying clothes on clotheslines or drying racks.
- Wash and dry full loads.
- Turn off the computer and monitor when not in use.

■ Consider buying a laptop for your next computer upgrade; they use much less energy than desktop computers.

■ Plug home electronics, such as TVs and DVD players, into power strips; turn the power strips off when the equipment is not in use (TVs and DVDs in standby mode still use several watts of power).

Lighting

■ Consider using high-intensity discharge (also called HID) or low-pressure sodium lights.

■ Take advantage of daylight by using light-colored, loose-weave curtains on windows to allow light to penetrate the room while preserving privacy. Also, decorate with lighter colors that reflect daylight.

■ Use compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) in place of comparable incandescent

See Earth Day on page 3

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HOROSCOPES

By Linda C. Black

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

Aries (March 21 - April 19) Today is a 6 — When one door closes, another opens. That's optimistic thinking. The one that opens may be quite a distance away, however. Expand your search.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is an 8 — You're getting more convinced and less interested in changing your mind. So explain your position to the ones who don't get it yet. You could make a few converts.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is a 6 — You can't get where you want to go without personal effort. Even if somebody picks you up and carries you over there, you'll have to

give directions. You're in charge.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is an 8 — A fantasy is shown to be totally without substance. If your money's involved, avoid a deal that sounds too good to be true. Keep digging for the whole truth.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 5 — It's not a very good day to try to sell an idea, or anything else. Buying household items goes well, though. You should find excellent bargains.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is a 9 — Can you take a "well day"? You shouldn't be stuck inside. You ought to be out exploring the countryside. Do what you can.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is a 6 — Not a good day to go shopping. You're liable to get a lot of stuff you don't really need, won't fit, or isn't the right color. Tomorrow will be better.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is an 8 — A situation that seems insurmountable is going to melt away.

You'll find the perfect way to make the mountain into a molehill. It'll be worth the cost.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 6 — It's a safe bet that things will not go exactly according to plan. If you had any false assumptions or weak links, they'll become apparent. Proceed with caution.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is a 7 — Pay your fair share, but you don't have to pay a lot more than that. Save some back for hidden expenses you'll be discovering soon.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 5 — Keep your philosophy to yourself; it's not a good day to make converts. Don't even offer advice. Indicate you hear and understand what's said.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 7 — Nobody said it was going to be a rose garden out there. Even if it is, roses have thorns. The point is, proceed with caution.

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HOW I LOST 20 POUNDS!

THE DISH

She's got a hot album and hotter-than-ever body! Mariah Carey tells Us about the diet and workout overhaul — and attitude adjustment — behind her sleek new shape

By **Melanie Bromley & Jennifer D'Neill**

Slimmer and more fit than she's ever been, it's appropriate that the first single Mariah Carey released from her new album, *E=MC2*, was "Touch My Body." While creating the just-dropped follow-up to her 2005 hit, *The Emancipation of Mimi*, the singer, 38, shed 20 pounds!

"It's a big deal," the star boasted to *Us* while snuggled in the plush leather seats of her limo, en route on the night of April 12 from the Beverly Hills Hotel, where the American Idol mentor had just taped a segment, to a recording studio in L.A.

"It may only be going from a size 8 to a size 2, but that's the kind of size!" In the limo, the five-time Grammy winner treated herself to a glass of champagne (to celebrate breaking Elvis Presley's record of Billboard No. 1 hits with her 18th chart-topper) while detailing her amazing body transformation over the past eight months.

"I didn't realize until people started telling me, 'You've lost weight!' that I really had," marvels the scale-shunning musician. Of note: She showed off her new, super-fit 5-foot-9 shape in black skinny jeans (a size 0, which she downplays: "It's be-

cause they're stretchy!"), a body-hugging black top and her requisite high heels. "It makes me feel like I've accomplished something... I feel really good."

And she has reason. After regaining the 20 pounds she worked off in the winter of 2006, Carey brought her St. Bart's-based trainer, Patricia Gay, to NYC last year to get serious about reshaping her body. "She's been toned since the beginning," says Gay, who began working with Carey eight years ago, when the singer's goal was "just to feel good in her body." Now the pro (who also serves as her nutritionist) tells *Us*: "She is small. She has only muscle and no fat at all. She is a hard worker!"

Indeed, when it comes to a challenge, the multitasker (she recently launched the Elizabeth Arden fragrance *M* by Mariah Carey) isn't one to shy away. "It's about discipline and I have a lot of discipline," insists Carey. "When it's time to get it together, I know that I have to."

Turning Point

That time came about eight months ago, after fatty food indulgences while on tour undid the 2006 shrinkage that took her from a size 8 to a 4 (via high-intensity water aerobics and a "bleak" diet). "If you're on the road and you can't prepare foods in a healthy way, room service menus are usually the only thing good," says the star.

Witnessing the change, her "dear friend," *Vogue* editor at large Andre Leon Talley, issued a wake-up call. "He was helpful

because he is honest," she says. "He said, 'Darling, you've got to lose some weight.'" And while Carey admits, "I wasn't miserable as a size 8," she says years of "comfort eating" had taken her to a place she didn't want to be.

"It might have been because I was unhappy," says the star. "I think I wasn't having a personal life that was fulfilling... and everything was focused on my career." So Carey, who's been romantically linked to music producer Mark Sudack for more than three years, decided to turn it all around and made what she describes as "a life choice" to commit to new habits.

Her Diet Secrets

The kickoff? An approximately 1,000- to 1,500-calorie-a-day portion-control diet devised by Gay specifically for the star. Carey credits 75 percent of her sleek physique to her new diet (the rest to workouts), which bans butter, is light on oil and prescribes drinking up to three liters of water a day. The regimen doesn't allow much room for her old favorites — macaroni and cheese and pizza — but the star says that eating clean is now an ingrained habit. Of course, there is the occasional splurge. "Actually, today Patricia gave me mac and cheese, which was a shock!" the singer says. "But it was just a little bit because she knows I am using a lot of energy right now, working so much."

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Football: Ark. vs. Georgia Tech; Ark. vs. South Carolina; Columbia, SC; Music City Bowl vs. Florida State
Basketball: Men's SEC Basketball Tournament; Atlanta, GA; Women's SEC Basketball Tournament; Nashville, TN
Wolver Marching Band; NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament; Anaheim, CA; UK Baseball; Pop Band

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GUNS

Continued from page 1

Franklin was invited to last night's event as a counter to Lott's speech, said David Burnett, who heads UK's chapter of Students for Concealed Carry on Campus. UK policy currently bans carrying concealed weapons on campus, and a bill in the state legislature that would permit concealed carry on campus failed to make it out of a House committee before the legislative session ended earlier this month.

Franklin said he supports UK's stance on gun control and spent the last half of his time on stage responding to audience members who opposed the school's policy. When one student compared keeping a concealed carry weapon to other safety methods, including keeping a fire extinguisher in your house in case of a fire, Franklin disagreed.

"The odds of your house catching on

fire are a lot more likely than someone firing a gun at you," Franklin said.

Last night's event with Lott and Franklin was intended to educate and persuade people that licensed holders of concealed carry weapons should be allowed to bring those weapons on campus to protect themselves, said Burnett, a business management junior. Students for Concealed Carry on Campus will also participate in a national Empty Holster Campaign this week, where participants wear empty gun holsters as part of a national campaign.

Undeclared sophomore Meg Soileau said she went to last night's event for an economics class and was surprised it was interesting. While she fears guns in the hands of inexperienced users, Soileau said last night's event gave her a few more facts on the issue that led her to consider the benefits of guns.

"If my opinion isn't changed completely, it certainly made me think," she said.

TEXTBOOKS

Continued from page 1

Carol Behr, general manager at Kennedy Bookstore, said the drive is a "win-win" situation. Otherwise Kennedy Bookstore would have to throw away the merchandise it could not sell, she said.

"It's great — before, we didn't have any options for the books that we couldn't sell," Behr said.

Students can find donation boxes for the drive in several Student Center locations: the main lobby near UK Bookstore, next to Starbucks and in the Center for Community Outreach office. Boxes are also at the entrances to White Hall Classroom Building, in the Patterson Office Tower lobby, outside room 133 in Dickey Hall, in Kennedy Bookstore and outside of the Medical Center Library.

EARTH DAY

Continued from page 1

bulbs to save about 50 percent on your lighting costs. CFLs use only one-fourth the energy and last up to 10 times longer.

■ Turn lights off when you leave a room. Standard, incandescent light bulbs should be turned off whenever they are not needed. Fluorescent lights should be turned off whenever you'll be away for 15 minutes or more.

■ Consider three-way lamps; they make it easier to keep lighting levels low when brighter light is not necessary.

Source: Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Recycling Center and the U.S. Department of Energy.

GreenThumb hosts Earth Day Fair

UK GreenThumb is sponsoring a campus Earth Day Fair from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. today on the Student Center patio and Free Speech area. The event will include free food, prizes and live music, and will feature campus and community organizations focused on improving the Kentucky environment.

For more information, visit the Earth Days in the Bluegrass Web site, (www.earthdaysinthebluegrass.org).

Donation to fund global design contest

The UK Board of Trustees is expected to accept more than \$5.5 million in its board meeting today for a proposed international design competition to be housed at the UK College of Design.

The donation, from the Curry Stone Foundation, would be presented to the university over 10 years and would also establish a chair in the field of contemporary design, according to Michael Speaks, dean of the College of Design.

The annual prize given by the foundation, established by UK alumna Clifford Curry, will be \$100,000 for exceptional emerging designers with extraordinary design projects or ideas that contribute to living conditions for global humanity, according to a news release.

Two UK groups honored for environmental contributions

Two UK groups were among those honored late last week in Frankfurt by the Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission for significant contributions to the environment.

The Water Pioneers Water Quality Award for sponsoring an in-depth study of Appalachian watersheds for students enrolled in the Robinson Scholars Program.

The Bluegrass Partnership for a Green Community was also awarded for its efforts over the past two years in the Conference of Mayors' City Recycling Challenge. More than 3.7 million cans were collected in Fayette County as part of the week-long program in 2006 and more than 10 million cans were collected during the week in 2007. The program was sponsored by a partnership between UK, Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government and Fayette County Public Schools.

NEWS BRIEFS

O.A.R. to bring love, make memories at UK

By Sara Tracy
features@kykernel.com

If you're up music's creek without a paddle, try using O.A.R. instead.

O.A.R., an American jam band from Rockville, Md., is scheduled to perform at UK's Memorial Coliseum tomorrow at 8 p.m.

"Students should get with their friends, come out to the show and take a break from studying this week," said Ashlee Harris, an integrated strategic communications junior and the Student Activities Board public relations director. "The SAB was excited to have the opportunity to bring this band for the students — not only do they have amazing music, but an inspirational story that hits close to home for all of us who feel like our

dreams are too big to chase sometimes."

The band, composed of Marc Roberge (vocals, guitar), Chris Cukos (drums, percussion), Richard On (guitar, back-up vocals), Benj Gershman (bass guitar) and Jerry DePizzo (saxophone, guitar, back-up vocals), is known for songs such as "The Wanderer," "Hey Girl" and "Love and Memories."

The band has been featured on "TRL," "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno," "Last Night with Conan O'Brien" and "Last Call with Carson Daly," and has received the "Streaming Woodie" award from MTVU in 2006 because its hit "Lay Down" was the most downloaded, according to a press release.

Josh Rupp, SAB director of concerts, also an integrated strategic communications junior, is excited the opportunity to bring

O.A.R. to campus is finally a reality.

"This concert is really in celebration of the students at UK because O.A.R. is a group that people have wanted to see come to this area for an undoubtably long time," Rupp said. "It's a band that is extremely popular in the mainstream musical perspective, and also really hits home for many of the college students pursuing passions of their own."

Students can purchase tickets with their student ID at the Student Center Ticket Master office. The general public may purchase tickets online at the Ticketmaster Web site (www.ticketmaster.com). Tickets cost \$15 for students, \$25 for faculty, staff and the general public.

For more information on the show or other upcoming SAB events, check the SAB Web site (www.uksab.org).

Costs of cutting greenhouse gases small, group says

By Renee Schoof
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Americans won't pay huge new electricity and heating bills, unemployment won't skyrocket and the U.S. economy won't be damaged in the decades ahead if Congress passes legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, according to a study released Monday.

The Environmental Defense Fund, an advocacy group that supports a mandatory cap and a substantial reduction of emissions, conducted the study by examining a range of peer-reviewed economic models from five academic and government

groups. The models looked at the costs of emissions-slashing proposals that are at least as tough as the one the Senate will debate in June.

That measure, sponsored by Sens. Joseph Lieberman, I-Conn., and John Warner, R-Va., would cut greenhouse gas emissions by about 60 percent below 2005 levels by 2050. It sets up a "cap and trade" plan in which the government would give or sell allowances to pollute, reducing the overall amount each year. Companies could buy or sell the allowances, or they could save them to use in later years.

There have been wildly different estimates of the cost of the legislation. Studies that hide

their assumptions or make assumptions that skew the results are "a dime a dozen," said Peter Goldmark, director of the Environmental Defense Fund's climate program.

Now that they've lost the debate on the science of global warming, opponents of a cap on greenhouse gases have shifted gears and are spending millions to try to "scare the public into thinking this will put scads of people out of work and damage the economy," he said.

Goldmark and economist Nathaniel Koehane, the director of the group's economic policy analysis section, examined models produced by the Energy Information Agency, the Research Trian-

gle Institute, Harvard University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Pacific Northwest National Laboratories.

The bottom line, they found, is that the United States could continue its economic growth over the next decades while making "ambitious reductions" in greenhouse gas emissions.

"If we put a cap-and-trade policy in place soon, we can achieve substantial cuts in greenhouse gas emissions without significant adverse consequences to the economy. And in the long run, the coming low-carbon economy can provide the foundation for sustained American economic growth and prosperity," the report said.



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The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement. Registered Student Orgs. and UK Depts. can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information it to appear. Call 252-8867 for more information.					
Tuesday 30 th	Wednesday 31 st	Thursday 1 st	Friday 2 nd	Saturday 3 rd	Sunday 4 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mock Social Networking Reception, 4:30 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center Honors Program Student Council Meeting, 7:00 PM, Student Center Martin School Open House, 4:30 PM, Patterson Office Tower Psycho/Saw- Cheap Seat Tuesdays, 7:00 PM, Worsham Theater Volunteering at the Hope Lodge, 6:00 PM, The Hope Lodge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn to Knit, 7:00 PM, student Center Young at Heart Meeting, 5:00 PM, Student Center Project Health Meeting, 4:00 PM, Student Center Comedy Caravan, 8:00 PM, Cats Den 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STAG Meeting, Student Center The Naked Truth, 7:00 PM, Student Center The Final Word- Dr. Desantis, 8:00 PM, W.T. Young Library Spades Tournament, 7:00 PM, Cats Den Career Center Workshop: Education Abroad and your Future, 3:30 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center CCO Board of Directors Meeting, 5:00 PM, Student Center Etiquette 101, 3:00 PM, Oliver H. Raymond Bldg PostSecret Exhibit, 11:00 AM, Student Center DanceBlue SubCommittee Meeting, 6:00 PM, Student Center National Student Exchange Info Session, 12:30 PM, Miller Hall Mad Max: The Road Warrior, 10:00 PM, Worsham Theater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Italian Conversation Practice, 5:00 PM, Coffee Island Sunshine, 10:00 PM, Center Theater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have a GREAT Weekend 	

OPINIONS

KERNEL EDITORIAL BOARD

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The opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas. Unlike news stories, the Kernel's unassigned 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

Committee makeup doesn't represent students' interest

Increased student representation in administrative decisions is always a positive move. But the advances made by the Student Fee Committee, which will present its recommendations for next year's student fees at today's Board of Trustees meeting, don't necessarily amplify the student body's voice.

The committee is made up of seven voting members, each representing a group that received student fees last year, according to a Thursday Kernel article.

Yes, a student committee directly making recommendations to the board is a great thing. And yes, such representation is far overdue.

But while the student groups are represented in the committee's makeup, the average student not involved in a student group who still pays student fees is not.

In essence, this committee is a body more sensitive to their own funding needs than what is fair to have students pay.

The committee should expand for next year to add more than just students involved in fee-receiving groups. This would accurately increase the

student voice to the Board of Trustees. It would also keep the committee members involved in campus organizations sensitive to the views of students who are forced to pay the fees but who might not benefit from them like the group members.

Also, the recommended rise in fees for next year is a concern. Both the recommendations from the committee and the vice president of Student Affairs call for a more than \$35 increase

in fees per semester.

In a time when the state Legislature swiftly unloaded its responsibility of funding higher education, tuition is rising while the quality of a UK education is not. All parts of the university need to cut back on their consumption, and this includes fees that go to student groups.

Small increases add up. And while all the groups that receive fees are important and benefit the larger campus community, it is also crucial that a committee claiming to represent the voice of the students actually does so. If not, the body is reduced to a self-appropriating organization with little appearance to fully embodying student views.

In essence, the Student Fee Committee is a body more sensitive to their own funding needs than what is fair to have students pay.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Judeo-Christian god is a bad father figure

I am writing in response to Natalie Glover's column in yesterday's Kernel. She asserts that the lack of a father figure in life is trivial because indeed "God is our ever-present Heavenly Father," whether we know it or not. Not only do I question her certainty on the matter, but I also ask: Who wants a father figure like the Judeo-Christian god of the bible anyway?

After reading the Old Testament, it is made clear that this is a father who encourages rape, incest, genocide, homophobia and revenge, all in His name. God the Father tells us to kill people who don't listen to priests, women who are not virgins on their wedding night and those following other religions (Deuteronomy 13:7-22:21). This god is also responsible for the murder of thousands of newborn babies in Egypt in the story of Passover. How can we get a clear moral sense of right and wrong from a Heavenly Father who contradicts his own Ten Commandments?

If He does serve as humanity's supreme father, then by our own American standards, He should be recognized as quite a bad father, to say the least. After all, he has fathered a human race that kills without mercy, enjoys the perversions of materialism and rejects its own "God-given" abilities of logic and reason in exchange for blind faith and dogma.

For these reasons, I am proud not to call this Heavenly Father "dad." My own earthly father has done a better job demonstrating what is right from wrong. He has shown me how to love, how to grow and how to appreciate the beauty that surrounds us here on Earth. My father has never told me what to think, but rather how to think, how to discern information for myself so that I can make my own conclusions, something religion fails to do. I have learned more from my own father than I ever will from the god of the bible.

We all must ask ourselves Nietzsche's famous question: "Which is it, is man one of God's blunders or is God one of man's?"

Nate Kremer
Psychology sophomore

Columnist out of touch with Catholic Church

In Kathryn Hogg's column appearing in Thursday's Kernel, she asserted that "Vatican City is in control of an unseparable amount of money — literally unseparable." On what does the columnist base this wild claim? Does she have some special access to Pope Benedict's bank account? Far from being a secret, as the columnist asserts, the Vatican's finances are available on the CIA World Fact Book online or in any encyclopedia.

The truth is, the Vatican is not "unseparably rich" as Hogg purports. The Vatican's economy is fueled almost entirely on tourism. With the exception of an annual contribution known as "Peter's Pence," the money Catholics put in the collection plate on Sundays and Holy Days remains in their own local dioceses.

Hogg then goes on to criticize the Vatican's collection of fine art when people are starving. What does she propose? Should we shut down every art gallery? Ms. Hogg blames the Church for the fact that people are starving, but, in fact, the Catholic Church is the largest charitable organization on the planet. When was the last time Ms. Hogg donated money to a Catholic charity? Has she taken a vow of poverty? Does she wear shoes?

Ms. Hogg mentioned several times that the Pope wears Prada shoes. One almost gets the impression that Hogg harbors a deep-seated jealousy and resentment of the man who can afford Prada. The underlying sentiment behind Hogg's statements is the opinion that good people shouldn't own nice things. But the fact is, the Pope's shoes aren't even Prada. As the Wall Street Journal reported in 2006, his shoes were made by his personal cobbler. And he didn't pay for them — they were given as a gift.

Ms. Hogg herself said that she was a "bad student of Catholicism" — that much is true. To argue against something, one must demonstrate one knows at least a little about what one is talking about. Quite frankly, Ms. Hogg's credentials are lacking.

Douglas Poindexter
History junior

Submissions

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

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com



WAYNE STAYSKAL, Tampa Tribune

After a fruitful year in SG, it's time to say goodbye to UK

They said it would fly, and it surely has. The year has come to an end, and I am signing off. With an enormous amount of pride, I write my final column as Student Government Association president.

I could spend time talking about the standard we have set or all of the things we have accomplished, but instead, I want to take time to recognize those people I've spent time along the way.

To Dad, Mom, Drew and all my friends who have supported me since the first day in Blanding, I thank you. Thanks for the laughs and the motivation. Thanks for understanding that I was busy and for always extending your hand to help. All of the support you provided during elections and the numerous other events is truly the only reason I have succeeded.

To my brothers in Sigma Chi and the fraternity in general: Thank you for the leadership development and the help. Thank you for teaching me how to have fun and how to loosen up. The experiences I have had because of all of you have changed me for the better. I will miss the late nights.

To the Office of Student Involvement: Thanks for being my home. Thank you Rhonda Strouse, Chris

Thüringer, Laura Hatfield, Denise Stephens, Jodee McElfresh and the many others for the support and discipline. It has truly been one of my favorite jobs being your servant, and to thank how far OSI has come in four years only excites me about the future. Your hard work, countless hours and friendships are much appreciated.

To Pat Terrell and Dean Victor Hazard: You both are extremely caring about students and even more about student leaders. All of the time spent with you early on helped me set my goals and see the big picture. Don't ever stop spending the extra time with students and always put forward your best to be honest, and let our students dream big — I am confident you will.

To President Lee Todd and Provost Kumble Subbaswamy: Our conversations were key this year and I hope you will continue to be open. I for one know the hours you both dedicate and the one thing I have continued to learn is in public roles, you will never receive the credit you deserve. The students are lucky to have you both here.

To my friends in the Student Center: John Herbst, you are simply a class act and I look forward to keeping in touch. Thank you for being real. We'll get that new building one day, I promise! All of my friends on staff along with Ray Schmidt and dining services, it was a pleasure getting to know you all.

To those of you who know who you are: friends in Student Activities

Board, Channel 50, Resident Student Association, WRFL, the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center, Kelley Bozeman, The Violence Intervention and Prevention Center, DanceBlue, Maj, Joe Monroe, peer tutoring, the Board of Trustees, Office of the Registrar, the Alumni Association, Office of the Mayor, Town and Gown, Peggy Way and Doug Boyd, and many more. Continue to focus on the great causes you are passionate about and persevere through the budget cuts. All of your endeavors are worthwhile and necessary for this university to continue to rise.

To my staff and Todd: We did it, simple as that. Because of you, SGA is now respected again and back to the service machine it was founded to be. Our crave and focus were instrumental. Thank you for accepting the late nights and the stress. Thank you more than anything for keeping me grounded and for joining me in living the dream. We have left a mark indeed. I love you guys.

Although in the end I have felt abandoned by some, I continue to learn and grow. I have plenty of motivation for my next stage in life, and I am ever grateful for the stories I take with me. I wish UK nothing but the best in the coming year. I will keep in touch and be there if you need me.

Thank you all for everything you have given me; I am the luckiest person in the world.

Nick Phelps is the President of UK Student Government. E-mail nicholasphelps@gmail.com

Compared to plastic bags, paper bags aren't as green as many people think

Starting this Earth Day, the supermarket Whole Foods will no longer offer plastic bags. Ostensibly, the move will help "save the environment," but the alleged benefits of alternative paper bags over plastic are not clear. Plastic has many overlooked benefits — many of them environmental.

For Whole Foods, the switch to paper supposedly meets their customer demands for greener businesses. But why does Whole Foods need to remove the products entirely rather than continue to give consumers a choice at the checkout? Given the option, some of Whole Foods' loyal customers might still chose plastic — and for good reasons.

Plastics are lightweight, durable, reusable, and easier to carry. For those "environmentally" conscious consumers who walk to the grocery, the durability plastic makes even more sense as plastics don't fall apart easily — not even in the rain! Plastic is also much less likely to carry cockroaches into your home, which can be a problem with paper bags. Common to supermarkets, cockroaches feed on the glue in paper bags and easily can hide in the crevices of paper bag. Then there is the issue of energy.

Believe it or not, plastic bags are incredibly energy efficient. This very green attribute is probably the main reason they were winning in the marketplace to begin with — because lower energy costs mean lower costs for supermarkets and everyone else. Studies have shown that paper bags require as much as 40 times more energy to make and transport, which is reflected in their price.

It might be true that paper bags are more recyclable. However, that does not necessarily make them greener. For one thing, recycling doesn't always save resources because it is easy to use more energy and water and produce more pollutants recycling a product than you save recycling. In any case, "recyclable" is not the same thing as "recycled." Many paper bags still end up in the landfill.

In any case, worrying about landfill space isn't worth your time either. Landfill space is plentiful despite what claims have been made to the contrary. In the 1990s, greens said we would run out of landfill space in five years, professor Clark Wiseman of Gonzaga University pointed out that, given projected waste increases, we would still be able to fit the next 1,000 years of trash in a single landfill 120 feet deep, with 44-mile sides.

Wiseman's point is clear: land disposal needs are small compared with the land available in the 3 million square miles of the contiguous United

States. And while there has been some political wrangling over where to place landfills, enough are sited anyway. There is no landfill shortage.

But — you may still ask — isn't paper better because it decomposes in landfill? Nope. Nothing really decomposes in a modern sanitary landfill because air and light are kept out. In a hundred years, we could probably mine the old waste if we needed it!

What about the risks of chemicals leaching out of landfills? Doesn't paper leach less dangerous substances than plastic bags? Nope. Since most things don't decay much, there isn't much leaching. In fact, the risk of landfills causing health problems is slim to none.

According to one study conducted by academic researchers Kenneth Clinton and Jennifer Chilton modern sanitary landfills pose a theoretical one in 10 billion risk of cancer for someone exposed to the chemicals for 70 years. This risk levels is so low it is unfathomable, especially when you compare it to the much higher risks associated with things we consider relatively safe every day life.

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Angela Logomasini is director of risk and environmental policy at the Competitive Enterprise Institute. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

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SPORTS

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BASEBALL NOTEBOOK

By Matthew George
mgeorge@kykarnel.com

Green adjusts to new role

UK pitcher Scott Green, who has spent the majority of the season as the Cats' (30-9, 9-9 Southeastern Conference) Saturday starter, was moved to the bullpen after giving up nine runs (five earned) in just two innings in a 13-4 loss at Georgia on April 12.

Through eight starts, Green boasts a 4-2 record with 44 strikeouts, but those numbers have been tainted by a 5.44 earned run average.

"Putting Scott in the bullpen, (UK pitching coach Gary Henderson and I) kind of sat down and said, 'Hey here's our options; let's do this,'" UK head coach John Cohen said. "And we were both in absolute agreement about that."

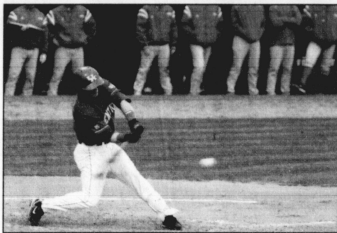
Green said because he is coming out of the pen, he does not have to pace himself and can just let loose and throw.

"It's easier to do that because you're not thinking about going deep in a game," Green said. "I don't think, confidence-wise, it's changed my approach either way. I'm still trying to get ahead. But it's easier to cut loose on a fastball knowing you're only going an inning or two."

That mentality has proven successful for Green so far.

His fourth win of the season came after he shut out No. 24 Florida in the final 1.2 innings of Sunday's game. The Louisville native earned a save in his only other relief appearance, a 6-5 win over Morehead State on Wednesday.

Cohen said that he has seen a huge difference in Green's control as a late-inning reliever



ELLIOTT MESS | STAFF
Junior center fielder Collin Cowgill was named a National Strength and Conditioning Association All-American yesterday.

compared to the control he exhibited as a starter.

Cohen admitted he did not know what the end result of the move will be and is not sure whether Green will be moved back to the weekend rotation this year.

"What we do know is the last two times we have sent him out there to win the game for us in the eighth or ninth inning, he has been spectacular not only with quality of his stuff but the quality of his command," Cohen said. "He's just been off the charts."

"Because he's been successful in that way, we wouldn't want to mess with it right now. But it is possible we could put him back in a starting role."

Cowgill showered with awards

Junior center fielder Collin Cowgill was recognized for his effort both on the field and off yesterday. Just hours after being named a National Strength and

Conditioning Association All-American, Cowgill was named SEC Player of the Week after reaching base safely in 16-of-21 at bats and leading the Cats to a 4-1 record including a series win over No. 24 Florida.

The Lexington native batted .600 (9-for-15) on the week, scored a team-high 11 times and belted three home runs. He became the second UK player to receive SEC Player of the Week honors this season. Sawyer Carroll received the award earlier this season.

On the year, Cowgill ranks third in the league in batting average (.399), second in runs scored (57), third in slugging percentage (.818), third in on-base percentage (.524), 10th in hits (57), second in home runs (15), fourth in RBI (45) and fifth in stolen bases (16).

Two weeks ago, Cowgill was named the National Player of the Week by the Collegiate Baseball Newspaper.

His success on the field can be traced to his work ethic off the field, said Daniel Riney, UK strength and conditioning coach.

"Collin is an extremely hard worker, who is very dedicated and self motivated," Riney said in a news release yesterday. "It has made him pound for pound the strongest guy on the team. He gives his best effort at everything he does and has gotten the most out of his athletic ability with his efforts."

22 and counting

Having won its last 22 consecutive non-conference games, a streak dating back to May of 2007, the Cats travel to Louisville today to take on the in-state rival Cardinals.

When the two teams met in Lexington earlier this month, sophomore outfielder Keenan Wiley delivered a 12th-inning walk-off home run, his first career homer, to secure a 7-6 UK victory in front of a record-breaking crowd of 4,009 fans at Cliff Hagan Stadium.

The Cats split two games with U of L last year, but lost 8-1 at Jim Patterson Stadium in Louisville.

A season ago, the Cards notched a school-record 47 wins, climbed as high as No. 6 in the national rankings and advanced to the 2007 College World Series in Omaha, Neb.

After graduating a number of key players from that veteran-laden team, U of L sputtered to a 15-12 (4-5 Big East) start before its first games against UK.

But since the Wiley walk-off, the Cards have rebounded to win seven of their last nine games.

Today's first pitch is scheduled for 6 p.m.



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