

KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 37 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

SG out of funds for campus groups

By Katie Saltz
ksaltz@kykernel.com

Student Government is out of money set aside to fund campus groups after approving eight Senate special projects at last night's meeting.

Three of the projects accepted amendments to lower the amount of the requests, and the Senate approved \$10,608 overall — several hundred more than what the committee had available.

According to a summary by Appropriations and Revenue Chairman Kevin Parrott, there was \$9,995 available for projects, but there is a 90 percent usage rate of the allocated funds, which means there might be some money returned to the fund if it is not used, which would result in more money available for projects.

Amendments lowered the initial funds requested by over \$2,000. Parrott said he thought the Senate did a good job in appropriating the money last night.

"I was worried it would be difficult," Parrott said. "People realized the situation we are in and were accommodating."

After last night's Senate approval of the projects, there is no available money to fund student organizations or special projects. The A&R committee will meet to discuss what to do with new funding applications, Parrott said.

"We have a vision but logistically there are concerns," Parrott said. "I think we will end up having money left, but it's impossible to tell when."

Senate President Tyler Montell said the situation was difficult because it is relatively early in the year to be low on funds for A&R.

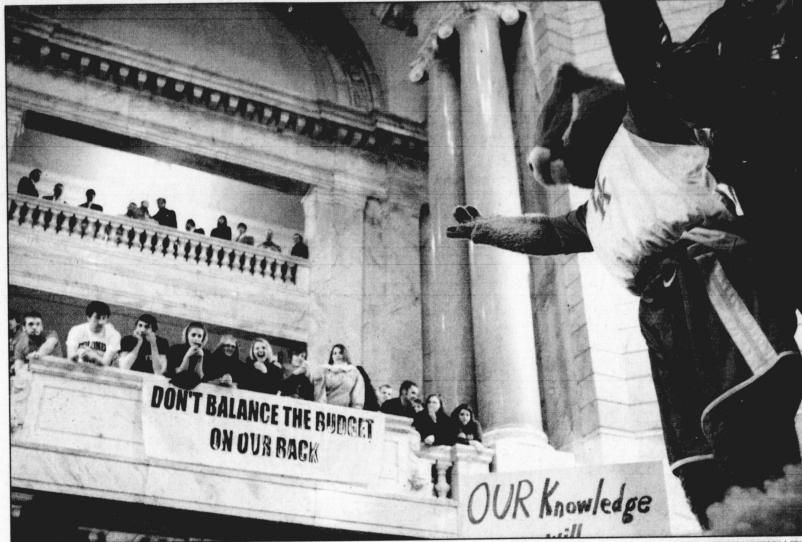
"We had this problem so early because (SG) has been good with communication and good with visibility so more organizations have come to us for money," Montell said.

Although it was difficult for senators to lower the requested funding for their campus projects, Montell said this could be a good opportunity for future A&R members to learn.

"It's frustrating for senators to have to say no (to organizations)," he said. "But it's a good experience for senators who will be back next year to know they have to look closely at every dollar."

The meeting opened with an address from Provost Kumble Subbaswamy. Senators had a question-and-answer session with the provost and discussed the Top 20 Business Plan, state budget cuts and retention initiatives. Subbaswamy encouraged SG members to keep up their efforts of campaigning state legislators to pass as much funding toward higher education as possible.

"People tend to think that by tightening your belt everything's going to be alright," Subbaswamy said. "But as the cuts increase it gets to be absolutely unmanageable. Any kind of campaign (students) can have is going to be effective. It's much more effective coming from voters than it is from university presidents."



PHOTOS BY BRITNEY MCINTOSH | STAFF

UK's mascot stands on a statue and cheers with students from public universities around the state at the Rally for Higher Education in Frankfort yesterday.

Rally round the Capitol

College students from across the state protest proposed cuts to higher ed

By Katie Saltz
ksaltz@kykernel.com

Gov. Steve Beshear told Kentucky college students who were rallying with homemade signs and painted faces in the Capitol yesterday that there is not enough money for higher education in the state budget.

"First, higher education has to be one of the top priorities for the future of the Commonwealth of Kentucky," Beshear said. "Second, the budget does not contain enough money for higher education."

Over 200 people packed into the Capitol building in Frankfort for the annual Rally for Higher Education.

This year's protests focused on proposed budget cuts for public universities.

Students and student organizations from Kentucky public universities, including UK and the University of Louisville, came to express opposition to the cuts in higher education funding — which Beshear warned

could be as high as 12 percent on top of a 3 percent cut already enacted.

Signs that read "Don't Take My KEES Money" and students chanting, "education pays," greeted Secretary of State Trey Grayson, who spoke to the crowd about economic progress and its tie to higher education.

Budget cuts would be a step backward in economic progress, Grayson said.

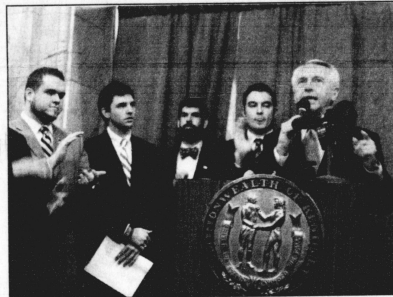
"I'm disturbed that with the Commonwealth again facing tough budgetary times we might revert to the traditional and short-sighted approach to balancing the budget — slashing higher education," Grayson said. "We've turned a corner, and we're not turning back."

Beshear said he was glad students were advocating for their education, but they must talk to legislators about how they can fund higher education in Kentucky.

"We want you to speak very loudly and clearly," Beshear said. "Everybody ought to step up and say where this money

"I agree (with students) that the budget should not be balanced on us. There are other things that could be cut instead of education."

JENNIFER HUNT
Integrated strategic communications sophomore



Gov. Steve Beshear addresses the crowd that gathered in the Capitol building yesterday at the Rally for Higher Education.

ought to come from."

Jennifer Hunt, an integrated strategic communications sophomore, attended the rally because she was concerned about losing her Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship money. There has to be ways to cover the deficit other than cutting higher education funding, Hunt said.

"I agree (with students) that the budget should not be balanced on us," Hunt said. "There are other things that

could be cut instead of education."

Student Government President Nick Phelps helped plan the rally with the Board of Student Body Presidents. Beshear and Grayson both delivered strong messages to students at the rally, Phelps said.

"(The governor) doesn't want to cut our budget, but he is," Phelps said. "What he did assure us of is we are a top priority

See Rally on page 6

Black Panther founder to speak on state of civil rights

By Dwight Lacy
news@kykernel.com

Black Panther Party co-founder Bobby Seale led a group of 30 fully-armed activists into the California General Assembly in May 1967 in opposition of legislation targeting the party that would prohibit the carrying of firearms.

The same man who helped start the controversial group dedicated to advancing black people will be speaking tonight at 7 in the Student Center Grand Ballroom. Seale will share his thoughts on the civil rights movement and where American society stands today, said Valashia Smith, director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center, which is hosting the event.

"Bobby Seale is an icon in the history of the civil rights movement," Smith said. "It's important that students understand who he is, the importance of the Black Panther Party and the impact they have on society today."

Seale was one of the founders of the Black Panther Party in October of 1966 and is one of its last surviving original leaders.

After the assassination of black leader Malcolm X and at the height of the civil rights movement led by Martin Luther King Jr., Seale helped develop an armed organization — separating itself from non-violent efforts of the time — that promoted social change and civil rights for blacks, according to the party Web site (www.blackpanther.org).

Seale, who resigned as chairman of the Black Panther Party in 1974, according to his Web site (www.bobbyseale.com), has served as the community liaison with the Department of African and African-American Studies at Temple University and is the author of three books including two memoirs about his experiences as a Black Panther, "Seize the Time" (1970) and "A Lonely Rage" (1978).

The event, "An evening with Bobby Seale," is free and open to the public.

"Come because you don't know," said Valerie Clay, a recent UK graduate and head of public relations at the MLK Cultural Center. "It's a chance for the campus to learn about the true workings of the Black Panther Party, because there are misconceptions of what they stood for."

Campus shooter tried to cover his tracks, according to authorities

By Steve Schmadeke
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — Police are concluding that the former academic star who shot and killed five students last week at Northern Illinois University took steps to thwart investigators trying to figure out why he did it.

In addition to removing the hard drive from his laptop computer, Steven Kazmierczak also removed the SIM card — a key computer chip — from his cell phone, a police source said.

Police also said his former girlfriend's account to CNN of Kazmierczak's final weeks differed from the one she gave to investigators.

The result is that police still do not have a theory as to why Kazmierczak opened fire on the crowded lecture hall.

"That's the one thing I want to know more than anything is motive," Northern Illinois University Police Chief Donald Grady said Tuesday. "We don't have anything to know or even begin to assume a motive yet."

Among the other unanswered questions are why Kazmierczak targeted that particular building and class and why he carried out the massacre on Valentine's Day, Grady said. There were no clues in the note or package he sent his former girlfriend shortly before the attack, he said.

"He didn't tell people what he was going to do," he said. "And he took steps to thwart any investigation."

Investigators have obtained several search warrants, Grady said, including one to search Kazmierczak's Honda. The vehicle was listed in a 2006 traffic ticket as a white 2001 model.

Grady said police still had hundreds of people to interview and toward the top of the list was Kazmierczak's former girlfriend, Jessica Barb, who in the CNN interview contradicted earlier statements to police that her former boyfriend had acted erratically after going off his medication.

"I suppose you could call that be-

ing uncooperative," Grady said.

Police are working to obtain Kazmierczak's full medical records — they do not know yet if he went off his medication on his own or was ordered to do so by a physician — but the priority was to interview people while their memories were still fresh, Grady said.

Grady expected that the investigation will keep going strong for at least three more weeks and he said police will issue a report when it is finished. At this point, he said, the university is not worried about costs.

"We want to know what it is we can do, if anything, to prevent this kind of thing from ever happening again," he said.

Grady met Tuesday with parents of the deceased students and ushered them around campus to view various memorials erected in their children's honor.

He said police also have heard reports that a woman, carrying no books, was at the back of the auditorium when the shooting started and began crying and ran out.

SUDOKU

Go to www.kykernel.com for the solution

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| 8 | 4 | 9 | | | | | | |
| 5 | 6 | | 3 | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | 8 | 9 | | | |
| | | 6 | 7 | 8 | 3 | | | |
| | 1 | 9 | 2 | 6 | | | | |
| 7 | 8 | | | | | | | 3 |
| | | | | 5 | 4 | 1 | | |
| | | | 4 | 2 | 7 | | | |

4puz.com

Autobahn Autobody
Collision Center
Accepting all insurance claims.
170 Dennis Drive (2 miles from campus) 277-1972

Wreck your room...Not your car

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 — The work has been piling up, and there's no way to get around it. Start with a plan, so you can do the most important tasks first. Devise a schedule and stick to it.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is an 8 — You're very attractive now, and very popular, too. This can cause a few problems. Don't think you have to accept every invitation. Exercise discretion.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is a 6 — You can't always have your own way, so don't throw a hissy fit. Do what's best for the whole family, even if it's not much fun. You'll be appreciated.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is an 8 — Finishing an old task may require learning a few new skills. Give yourself time to practice before you attempt the fix. You don't want to break anything.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 6 — There are a few things you need to buy, but you can't quite afford them, yet. What to do? Take on an extra job. That's better than going into debt.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is an 8 — You're gaining confidence, and with good reason. You've been doing the work and doing it well. Be gentle with a critic who doesn't know the whole story.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is a 6 — Be very careful traveling; expect delays and hassles. Watch out for accidents in your workplace, too. Proceed with caution.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is an 8 — You have so many invitations you hardly know which to accept. Take care not to double-book.

That could cost you dearly. Remember, family comes first. **Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)** Today is a 6 — Things are getting a little complicated. You're being asked to comply with rules and regulations that seem unnecessary. Do them anyway, to win the reward.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is an 8 — Not a good time to travel. Haste makes waste, too. Make your life easier by postponing an outing, and a purchasing decision.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 6 — Financial matters deserve your attention. You may feel wealthy, but you won't be if you don't plan ahead. Start by paying off all your debts.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is an 8 — It's going to be difficult to get all sides to agree. Instead of seeking consensus, be a good listener. Let them talk and reserve your decision for a while.

© 2008 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.



MICHELLE'S FINAL GOODBYE

Williams mourns former fiance Heath Ledger at a tear-filled tribute in Australia

By Mara Reinstein

Michelle Williams had to travel nearly 16,000 miles to reach Heath Ledger's favorite surfing spot. But that's where she found something she'd been in search of for almost three weeks: a bit of closure. The moment occurred around 8:15 p.m. on February 9, after an exhausting day of services and tributes in Heath's hometown of Perth, Australia. Once the wake at the Indiana Tea House ended, Williams and about 50 of the actor's other loved ones strolled 150 feet to the picturesque Cottesloe Beach.

"Michelle had red eyes and was having trouble holding it together," an onlooker tells Us. "She didn't even want to go out onto the beach to celebrate with everyone else because she was so sad, but [Heath's dad] Kim managed to persuade her." The group, some stripping down to their skivvies, playfully splashed through the balmy Indian Ocean (temperature outside: 86 degrees Fahrenheit). "Everyone in the water started slapping the water and shouting 'Heath!' like they wanted him to hear them," says an eyewitness, noting, "It was a mass relief that the stress of the occasion was behind them." Even Kim watched from the restaurant's

balcony and gave a thumbs-up sign to the activity, says the onlooker.

After more prodding, Williams, in a simple cream silk shirt and dress, eventually removed her shoes and hesitantly waded in (along with Heath's older sister, Kate) until the water broke over her thighs. As the sun disappeared into the horizon, the group reconvened on the shoreline. Says the eyewitness to Us, "Everyone was hugging Michelle. It was very emotional." Another source says the vibe turned into a "party atmosphere," celebrating the departure of a dear friend who knew how to have a good time. "Everyone started to relax and drink alcohol," says the onlooker.

That's not to say that Williams, 27, isn't still reeling from the January 22 phone call in Sweden, where she learned of the shocking death at age 28 of Heath, her costar, ex-fiance and the father of her 2-year-old daughter, Matilda. (On February 6, toxicologists revealed that the actor accidentally overdosed from a combination of six prescription pills; see box, next page.) "Michelle was always really vulnerable, so this has shaken her quite a bit," a Williams confidant tells Us. But as the family bonding in Australia revealed, she can take some comfort knowing that the Ledger family is still part of hers. "We treasure our beautiful granddaughter, Matilda," said Kim, who also referred to Williams as "our dear Michelle" in a public statement on February 6.

A Time to Grieve

Several hours before Heath's beach tribute, Williams was one of the 500-plus people who paid respects in a heart-wrenching memorial service — the third in two weeks. (Williams, Heath's family and Hollywood friends also saluted the actor in L.A. ceremonies; she and Matilda flew to Australia on February 5.) Among the fellow Aussies who trickled into nearby Penrith College (Kate's alma mater); model Gemma Ward (who had been dating Heath); Cate Blanchett, actress Rose Byrne and former hockey teammates, members of local rock bands, Australian Rules footballers and politicians, Williams, who left Matilda at Heath's mother's house with a nanny, arrived with Kate just before services began and gripped Kate's hand while walking into the school.

According to one attendee, guests were handed a program that featured a photo of a grinning, casually dressed Heath sitting on an NYC park bench. A selection of Heath's favorite songs — music was one of his greatest passions — played throughout the service, including the Pink Floyd classic "Wish You Were Here"; Stevie Wonder's "Superstition"; "The Times They Are A-Changin'" by Bob Dylan (whom Heath portrayed in "I'm Not There"); and The White Stripes' "7 Nation Army." "It was the most moving thing I've ever seen," says the guest.

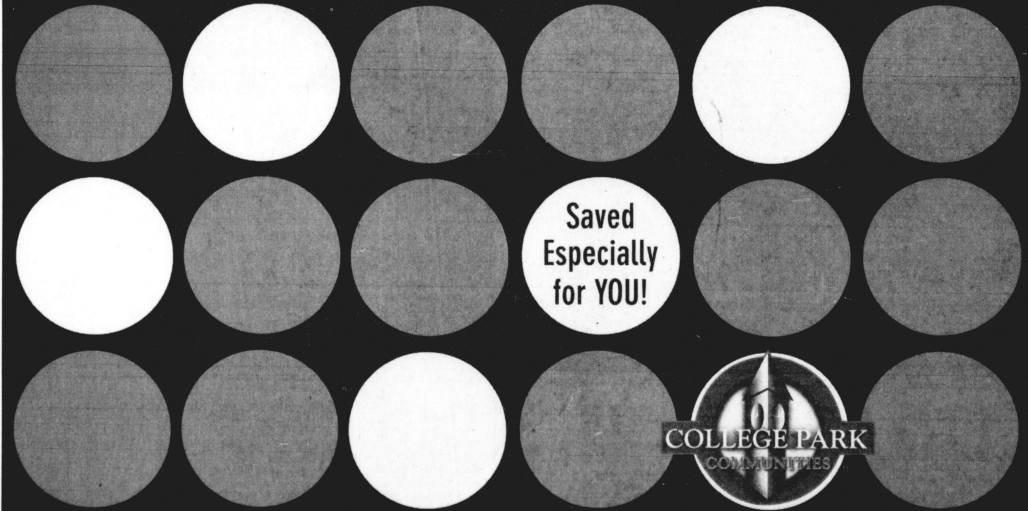
COPYRIGHT 2008 US WEEKLY

Today's Horoscopes Sponsored By: **CHARLIE BROWN'S** Restaurant and Lounge 816 Euclid Ave. 269-5701

WARM FIREPLACES, SOFAS and LOVESEATS

University of Kentucky Bands see blue. *see yourself in UK Bands!

SPOTS ARE FILLING UP FAST!



Saved Especially for YOU!



THE COURTYARDS

Rates as low as \$399

845 Red Mile Road • Lexington, KY, 40504

859-258-2039

collegeparkweb.com



THE
Fe
E
F
ECCO
O
TON
Back
9 p.m.
Citez
Alqui
bado
9 p.m.
port.
FRID
"Art
Cross
9 p.m.
tion r
Josh
Dust
Sling
Heal
9:30
New
SAT
80s
9 p.m.
Los
10 p
New
MA
1. M
of the
Arts
way
p.m.
2. S
for
ty"
are
\$12
(ww
3. P
The
and
Jon
sign
Co
mo

THURSDAY,
February 21,
2008

PAGE 3

Emily Coovert
Features Editor
Phone: 257-1915
ecoovert@kykernel.com

kernel POP

“ You want to hear my new career and dating philosophy? When I find someone who fascinates me as much as my career, I'm gonna go for it.”

— Taylor Swift, singer

ontap | For the week of Feb. 21 – Feb. 27

TONIGHT

Backyard Tire Fire
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$7.

Citizen Civilian w/ The Beau Alquiola Band, The Last Troubador and The Walk Off
9 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$5 to \$8.

FRIDAY, Feb. 22

“Art in Motion” Benefit w/ Born Cross Eye
9 p.m., The Dame. \$5 to \$10 donation requested.

Joshua Scutella and the Dusters w/ Jenny Ward & The Slingerlands and The Low Land Healers
9:30 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets cost \$3 to \$6.

SATURDAY, Feb. 23

'80s Prom
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$4.

Los Honchos

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

COMPILED BY FEATURES EDITOR EMILY COOVERT

SUNDAY, Feb. 24

Battle of the Bands
4 p.m., Headliners, Louisville. Tickets cost \$8.

Hoots & Hellmouth w/ Giant Bear and Warm In The Wake
8 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$5.

MONDAY, Feb. 25

ChurchillJax w/ Tim Kreckel Orchestra
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$5.

Open Mic Night w/ Mike Kurtz
9 p.m., The Southgate House, Newport. Tickets are free.

TUESDAY, Feb. 26

Baby Dee w/ Attempt and NoisyCrane
8 p.m., The Niles Gallery, UK. Tickets cost \$5.

Dead City Shakers

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

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 27

Da Novo Dahl w/ Morning State
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$7.



PHOTOS BY SABRINA HOUNSHELL | STAFF
The cast of “for colored girls who had considered suicide when the rainbow is enuf” takes the stage during their dress rehearsal on Monday night at the Guignol Theater in the Fine Arts Building.

MAKE YOUR

WEEKEND PLANS

1. Merry musicals

Head on out to Danville this Friday for a chance to be a part of one of the biggest musical parties of the year. The Norton Center for the Arts will host a parade of your favorite songs, including “On Broadway,” “This Magic Moment” and “Only You.” Showtimes are at 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. For more information, call (877) 448-7469.

2. Sleeping beauty

Don't sleep away your weekend! Instead, let this ballet classic do it for you. The Kentucky Ballet Theatre will present “Sleeping Beauty” with live music performed by the KBT Orchestra. Performances are Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 to \$25. For more information, visit the ballet's Web site (www.kyballet.com) or call (859) 252-5245.

3. Flower power

The Fayette County Extension Office will be hosting “Food, Flower and Fun” on Saturday featuring popular yard designer and author Jon Carlottis, local food expert Tootsie Nelson and expert floral designer Sharon Bale. The event costs \$25 and includes lunch. Fayette County Extension Services is located at 1140 Red Mile Place. For more information, call (859) 257-5582.

BOUTIQUE OF THE WEEK



CHRISTINA LAYTON | STAFF

The Black Market offers a wide variety of clothes, from jackets and T-shirts to shoes and jewelry.

Name: The Black Market

Location: 516 E. High Street

Hours: Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Why it's cool: Owner Melanie Williams, originally from Paducah, Ky., has been in business for seven years and is a UK alumna. Most of the items in her boutique are ready-to-wear and trend-setting attire. The Black Market has a wide variety of eccentric clothing, shoes, accessories, baby tees and home or dorm decor styles to choose from, and all of it stays within a reasonable price range. Williams said she specializes in taking vintage jewelry and re-designing its look. She has silver jewelry with stones like moonstones and amber. This boutique also features local artists' work, as well as tapestries, candles and incense.

COMPILED BY ANA CLEGG

PUTTING IT ALL IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Plays bring racial issues to the stage

By Casey Kurkowski
features@kykernel.com

Put down those textbooks and spend the weekend with two plays: one that confronts American society's history of prejudice and one that provides a hip-hop view on what it means to be a black woman today.

The two plays, “A Soldier's Play” and “for colored girls who have considered suicide when the rainbow is enuf,” are being produced simultaneously and will be performed at Guignol Theatre. “A Soldier's Play” will have its first performance tonight at 7:30, and “for colored girls...” will begin tomorrow night at 7:30.

“A Soldier's Play,” which was written by Charles Fuller, explores the harsh realities of racism that still occur today, said Herman Daniel Farrell III, director of the production.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning play takes place on an army

base in Louisiana in the 1940s, when the Army was racially segregated. The play begins with the shooting of a black sergeant and then develops into a murder mystery.

The performance has gotten some help from a group not normally associated with theater — the ROTC.

“I was never in the military, so I knew that I would need some help,” Farrell said. “I decided to contact the UK ROTC to see if they would be willing to help in the rehearsal process.”

Lt. Colonel Dotson, UK ROTC's commanding officer, read the script and set up a training session for the entire cast, Farrell said.

“We were drilled in army positions and taught how to correctly salute,” said Alex Klutemper, a theater junior.

Dotson and Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Stoker taught the students about the military's procedures and hierarchy, and the



SABRINA HOUNSHELL | STAFF

Accounting and Spanish senior Keisha Hilton sings during the dress rehearsal of “for colored girls...” on Monday night.

This weekend's other play, “for colored girls...” by Ntozake Shange, is a series of poems that blends music and dance. The play is based around hip-hop music and explores issues including abortion and rape.

Each of the play's characters is identified simply by the color she wears, said director Elizabeth A. Herron.

“This is a play that's not really character-driven — it's more story-driven,” Herron said.

See Plays on page 4

Fast food: not always hard to eat healthy

With a busy class schedule and a part-time job, it can sometimes be difficult to find time to eat. Fast food restaurants thrive on this common student dilemma, and it seems as if new places pop up every couple of months.

Restaurants offer quick-fix solutions to students on the go. But at

many of these stores, one meal packs in more than a day's worth of calories. So when you have to eat out and you're staring up at the glowing drive-thru menu, what should you choose to fill you up without expanding your waistline?

McDonald's

When many people roll up to the McDonald's drive-through, the first thing they check out is the dollar menu. Double cheeseburger, fries and a Coke for \$3? That sounds like an easy deal to

me. But it's not hard to find a healthy alternative that's equally easy on your wallet.

McDonald's salads are one of the healthier options on the menu. The Caesar Salad with Grilled Chicken has only 220 calories and six grams of fat, according to the restaurant's Web site (www.mcdonalds.com). But you don't have to seek out a salad to cut calories.

McDonald's hamburgers contain 250 calories and nine grams of fat, a small order of french fries has 250 calories and 13 grams of fat and a six-piece order of

See Coovert on page 4

GET SAUCED!

LATE NIGHT

AT CANE'S!

Raising Cane's
CHICKEN FINGERS

Open till 3am Thurs - Sat
Uk Campus • 544 S Upper St
raisingcane.com

PLAYS

Continued from page 3

Herron, a guest director from New York, said the series of 20 poems explores the everyday realities of black women. Although "for colored girls..." was originally performed in the 1970s, Herron said she tried to make the set, costumes and lighting younger and more contemporary so audiences today could better relate to it.

"I grew up with this material as a backdrop to my life. My mother owned the album, and I was fortunate enough to hear it several times during my development," said La'Shelle Allen, a vocal performance freshman.

"It is an honor to present this work at UK," Allen said. "I hope that after people see this piece, they are opened to the ob-



SABRINA HOUNSHELL STAFF

Journalism junior Genna-Gabrielle Cobb performs a solo during the dress rehearsal of "for colored girls..." on Monday night.

stacles of others. We all walk different paths to enlightenment. I would hope that compassion for others in their journey is always present in our hearts." Tickets are \$5 for students, \$10 for seniors and UK faculty and staff, and \$15 for general admission. For additional show-times and ticket information, contact the Singletary Center for the Arts at (859) 257-4929.

COOVERT

Continued from page 3

chicken nuggets has 250 calories and 15 grams of fat.

Chick-fil-A

This on-campus favorite offers a surprisingly large number of lower-calorie options. The salads are one healthy option, with the Char-grilled Chicken Garden Salad containing only 180 calories and six grams of fat, and the Southwest Char-grilled Chicken Salad containing 240 calories and eight grams of fat, according to Chick-fil-A's Web site (www.chickfila.com). The eight-count order of chicken nuggets has 260 calories and 13 grams of fat and the Char-grilled Chicken Sandwich has 270 calories and 3.5 grams of fat.

A good way to avoid racking up calories at Chick-fil-A, too, is to avoid the fries and opt for a healthier side. Chick-fil-A offers a fruit cup for only 60 calories with no fat and a chicken soup with only 140 calories and 3.5 grams of fat per serving.

Arby's

Arby's can be a tough place to find good food, with most of its options soaring up into the 350- to 500-calorie range per item. Like the other two chains mentioned above, one of the healthiest options is a salad. The Martha's Vineyard Salad contains 276 calories and eight grams of fat, according to Arby's Web site (www.arbys.com). The

next best option is the Jr. Roast Beef sandwich, which contains 273 calories and 10 grams of fat. If you absolutely must indulge in an order of Arby's curly fries, keep in mind that even the small serving has 338 calories and 20 grams of fat.

Jimmy John's

Jimmy John's offers one thing that many other restaurants don't: a fully customizable menu. You can pick and choose what you want on your sandwich, which can ultimately save you hundreds of calories. For example, stay away from their mayonnaise at all costs. It adds at least a hundred calories, if not more, to your sandwich, and often isn't worth the extra fat, either. They offer Dijon mustard as a tasty alternative. Try making your sandwich an "Unwich," too, to save calories on bread. An "Unwich" replaces the French bread sub with a lettuce wrap. The Turkey Tom sub as an "Unwich" with mustard instead of mayonnaise is only 101 calories with approximately 2 grams of fat.

Fast Food Shockers

- Be wary of these sky-high choices:
- McDonald's Strawberry Triple Thick Shake (32 oz.): 1,110 calories, 26 grams of fat.
- Arby's Roast Turkey Ranch and Bacon Marbled Fresh Sandwich: 817 calories, 37 grams of fat.
- Chick-fil-A Cookies & Cream Milkshake: 790 calories, 33 grams of fat.
- Jimmy John's J.J. Gargantuan Unwich: 769 calories, 54 grams of fat.

WHY CHOOSE ANYPLACE ELSE?

OPENING FALL '08!

the best features

All units have private bedrooms with attached private bathrooms and 9 foot ceilings *

Hardwood floors*

Stainless steel appliances

Walk-in closets *

Washer and dryer in each unit

Basic cable and high-speed internet in each bedroom and living room

Entry locks on all bedrooms

Furnished units available

Panic alarms in each bedroom

Private decks

Clubhouse with group study and social interaction area

Indoor basketball court, state-of-the-art fitness center and tanning bed

Resort style pool and beach volleyball

*available option

the most convenient

Short walk to classes

On-site parking

Lease by the bed or unit



CAMPUS COURT
AT RED MILE

951 RED MILE COURT

859-255-5454

WWW.CAMPUSCOURTUK.COM

www.kernelmixedmedia.com

Student Government UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

CENTENNIAL PALOOZA

college of arts & sciences

GEEK WEEK

february 18-22

WWW.AS.UKY.EDU

GEEK WEEK

AGS Ambassadors present

"bleed blue"

10:00am - 3:00pm

Quell Armory & Central KY Blood Center

Free AGS Geek Week t-shirts and refreshments

Thursday February 21st

7:00pm

Lexmark Room 209, Main Building

"Radical Autobiography: A Reading"

Professor Norman will present autobiographical stories and anecdotes that touch on several themes including space, place, time, memory, communities of memory and the underarching forces that reconcile oral traditions with postmodernism.

t-shirts and signed copies of Gurney Norman's book, "Geek Talk from Nepal: A Confronting Stereotype" will be given away in a drawing.

UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY



it's
time
to
play



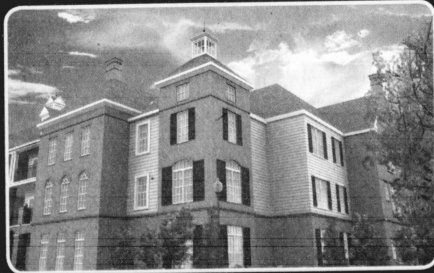
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

- GREAT LOCATION—WALK TO CLASS
- PRIVATE BEDROOMS & PRIVATE BATHROOMS
- SOCIAL LOUNGE WITH BILLIARDS
- 24-HR FITNESS CENTER
- RESORT-STYLE SWIMMING POOL
- TANNING BEDS
- THEATER ROOM
- LIGHTED BASKETBALL & SAND VOLLEYBALL COURT
- HIGH-SPEED INTERNET & CABLE TELEVISION INCLUDED
- FULL-SIZE WASHER & DRYER IN EACH UNIT

advance of college enrollment



NEWTOWN
CROSSING



859.226.5600 | 351 Foreman Ave.

kentuckystudenthousing.com

OWNED AND PROFESSIONALLY MANAGED BY  AMERICAN CAMPUS COMMUNITIES

RALLY

Continued from page 1

for any new money." Jessica Stevens, an arts administration and marketing sophomore, said she was encouraged by Beshear's comments and felt that the high turnout of students made a positive difference.

"We might not have done much, but just as being here shows how much we care," Stevens said. "We're showing (the legislators) this is not something we will stand for." Phelps said he was incredibly pleased with the turnout. More than 70 UK students were at the rally, more than the 35 who attended last year and the

five that went two years ago. The SG president said he hopes the General Assembly will consider the students' voices when discussing the budget. "I think if the legislature works together and works hard like they need to, and drop a little bit of the politics, then we can definitely find the funds available to take care of most of the losses," he said.

UK Graduation Portrait Sessions

10am-6pm
Tuesday, Feb 26- Friday Feb. 29
 On the second floor of the King Alumni House, corner of Rose Street and Euclid Ave.



NEWS BRIEF

UK author, Geek Week keynote speaker to read tonight

UK English professor and author Gurney Norman will give the keynote address for the fourth annual College of Arts and Sciences Geek Week tonight at 7 in room 209 of the Main Building.

Norman's talk, titled "Radical Autobiography: A Reading," will focus on bringing together oral traditions and postmodernism using autobiographical stories and anecdotes centered on space, time,

memory, community of memory and other themes. He will also show clips from the video portion of his autobiography, which is still in progress. Attendees can pick up Geek Week T-shirts and can win signed copies of Norman's book "Back Talk from Appalachia: Confronting Stereotypes."

Doctors: Prozac, violence rarely linked

By **Jeremy Manier**
 Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — In the wake of Steven Kazmierczak's murderous shooting spree at Northern Illinois University, law enforcement officials noted he had begun to behave erratically after he recently stopped taking psychiatric medication.

That fact might seem to offer a tidy explanation for his rampage, or at least some insight into his troubled mind. But psychiatrists say suspending a patient's use of antidepressants — Prozac, in Kazmierczak's case — is rarely linked to violence toward others.

When used under a therapist's supervision, they stress, such medication can help people overcome depression and other mental ailments. And while the source of Kazmierczak's state of mind remains a mystery, experts said it's unlikely that halting his Prozac therapy would have led directly to his shooting plot.

At the same time, psychiatrists say, his case may help reinforce a key lesson: Stopping antidepressant therapy suddenly can be risky if patients do not follow a doctor's instructions and don't report any negative effects.

About one-fifth of people who halt a course of Prozac-like drugs report symptoms associated with a condition known as discontinuation syndrome, which can include abdominal pain, dizziness, crying spells, irritability and even a sensation similar to an electrical shock in the patient's arms or legs.

Kazmierczak's former girlfriend, Jessica Baty, told CNN on Sunday that he had stopped taking Prozac because "he said it made him feel like a zombie." One crucial detail left un-

stated is whether Kazmierczak stopped the medication under the advice of a doctor or if he did it on his own.

Several experts said that because of discontinuation syndrome, they advise patients who stop to do so gradually and to call if they experience worrisome symptoms. With most patients, that's enough to forestall any serious adverse effects.

"Your body has to adjust to being off the medication," said Dr. Joan Anzia, an associate professor of psychiatry at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine. "Some people are more sensitive to it than others."

For some people, stopping antidepressants abruptly may leave them briefly worse off than they were before they took the medication. That's because of the effect that Prozac and similar drugs have on serotonin, a chemical messenger in the brain that plays a key role in depression, obsessive/compulsive disorder and other psychological conditions.

Serotonin carries signals among brain cells that affect mood, appetite and sexuality, among other brain functions. Although the biological roots of depression are a source of controversy, some research suggests it may stem in part from low levels of serotonin.

The Prozac class of antidepressants, also called SSRIs, works by producing a surplus of serotonin in the brain. The excess serotonin can ease anxiety, curb unwanted impulses and relieve depression. It can also lead to diverse side effects, including the zombie-like lack of motivation that Kazmierczak's former girlfriend described. But other patients experience virtually the opposite problem in the form of

akathisia, a state of extreme restlessness.

The added serotonin may also change how some brain cells function, by decreasing their normal response to the chemical. That may worsen the effects of low serotonin levels when patients abruptly stop taking antidepressants.

"The issue is how fast you reduce the serotonin activity," said Dr. William Scheffner, chair of psychiatry at Rush University Medical Center. "If the drug dosage is lowered gradually you have the opportunity to make adjustments."

It's rare for patients who are stopping antidepressants to report severe psychological effects, but such reports do exist. Last month, doctors from Stanford University published a case study of a woman who began having symptoms of delusion within days of halting her Prozac therapy. The patient imagined hearing her son's voice even though he wasn't there, had uncontrollable crying spells and at one point said, "I am Jesus."

In one other case of multiple homicides, the Columbine school shootings, assailant Eric Harris had been taking the antidepressant Luvox before the murders. Harris claimed on a videotaped message that he stopped taking the pills in order to let his anger grow without the restraint of the medication.

It's true that antidepressants such as Prozac can reduce impulsive aggression in patients who are prone to such problems, said Dr. Emil Coccaro, chair of psychiatry at the University of Chicago Medical Center. For such patients, going off the drug may lead to loss of impulse control and more aggressiveness, he said.

Game For Life Give Blood!

WEDNESDAY

Complex Commons, Commons Room 307
 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Ralph G. Anderson Bldg., Student Commons
 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Blazer Express
 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

ROTC Barker Hall
 noon to 5 p.m.

All registered donors will receive:

- Free T-shirt
 - Chance to win 2 tickets to UK-Arkansas game
 - Chance to win package for 2 to the SEC tournament in Atlanta
- www.kybloodcenter.org
 (800) 775-2522

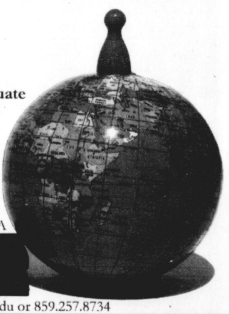
Do something different this summer. The world is waiting. What are you waiting for?

Apply for a 2008 Summer Undergraduate Research & Creativity Grant

15 grants up to \$2,000 each
 All disciplines
 Single & Group projects

Download an application at uky.edu/EUREKA or pick it up in the eUreKa! Office.
 Deadline: Feb. 28, 2008.

Contact eUreKa! for more info: eureka@uky.edu or 859.257.8734



STUDENT LIVING
 DONE RIGHT

GREAT LOCATION—WALK TO CLASS

RESORT-STYLE SWIMMING POOL

NEW GAME ROOM WITH XBOX 360 & LCD TELEVISIONS

PRIVATE BEDROOMS

NEW TANNING BEDS

HIGH-SPEED INTERNET & CABLE TELEVISION

UPDATED FITNESS CENTER

FULL-SIZE WASHER & DRYER INCLUDED

INDIVIDUAL LEASES



ROYAL LEXINGTON

859.226.9068 | 695 WINNIE STREET | ROYALLEXINGTON.COM

DICK'S SPORTING GOODS

2008 National Anthem Auditions

The Horsemen arena football II team will have open National Anthem Auditions at Dick's Sporting Goods in the Fayette Mall this Saturday, February 23rd at 12PM. Registration begins at 11AM and forms can be found at: www.lexingtonhorsemen.com

Winners will perform at Rupp Arena for the Horsemen's 8 home games for the 2008 af2 season March-July. Come be a part of Lexington's new Professional Arena Football team.

You can send forms prior to the event to the Horsemen office at 410 West Vine Street, Suite 103 Lexington, KY 40507 Fax 422.7276

SPORTS

Matthew George
Asst. Sports Editor
Phone: 252-1915
mgeorge@kykernel.com

Cats hope Ormerod's presence leads to different results at LSU

By James Pennington
jpennington@kykernel.com

The last time the women's basketball team won consecutive games, its streak was halted by then-No. 9 Louisiana State, who beat the Cats 72-46 at Rupp Arena on Jan. 27.

Now the Cats (13-12, 7-4 Southeastern Conference), who defeated Alabama 64-44 in their last outing Sunday, are looking to 'put together their first win streak since that loss.

Including the LSU game, UK has compiled a 3-3 record in its last six games, alternating wins and losses during that stretch.

But to string together their first consecutive wins since Jan. 24, the Cats must travel down to Baton Rouge for a rematch against the No. 6 Lady Tigers.

"We're going to play the team that's probably playing the best basketball in the country right now," head coach Matthew Mitchell said. "Our team had a tough time with them last time."

A tough time indeed. The last time these two teams faced off, LSU (22-3, 11-0 SEC) took control in the opening seconds of the contest. The Tigers scored their first basket just 14 seconds into the game and never relinquished their lead. LSU tallied 12 points before the Cats scored their first, and Mitchell's squad never recovered.

But one thing makes tonight's game different than the first: UK has junior guard Carly



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF
Carly Ormerod muscles around her defender against the Ohio Legends on Nov. 5. The junior guard had not played since Dec. 20, but returned to action Sunday against Alabama.

Ormerod back. Ormerod, who has not logged a single minute since Dec. 20 due to turf toe and sesamoiditis, scored 8 points and dished out 2 assists in 17 minutes of play in the Cats' 20-point thrashing of Alabama on Sunday.

Although Mitchell said she seemed to do well in her return, the coaching staff is still being cautious with her ailing foot.

"This time of year, we generally have two practices for each game," Mitchell said. "She'll sit out the first practice, practice the day before the game and play on game day. She seems to be doing well, but we're still going to practice her

one practice."

Ormerod's return will help the Cats' defend the Tigers' potent offense. For the Cats to pull the upset, Mitchell said a lot of things would have to go right on defense to prevent another Tiger mauling.

UK must get off to a better start in the rematch, Mitchell said.

"For us to have any chance to be competitive, we have to find some way to prevent those big runs from 'happening,'" Mitchell said. "That means taking better care of the basketball and better shot selection. It's a tall task, but our team is ready to go down there and give it our best shot. We'll see how it works out, because I don't feel like we played our best basketball when we faced them last time."

The Cats shot a meager 26.8 percent from the field and hit only 1-of-8 from beyond the 3-point line in their first game against LSU.

Mitchell said UK's defense has to improve just as much as the offense to play with LSU, which remains unbeaten in conference play.

"The problem last time was LSU had a good game from the outside, and (LSU senior center) Sylvia Fowles had a big game," Mitchell said. "We can't beat them if that happens, they're just too powerful. If we can make it a lot tougher on Fowles and try to encourage them to shoot outside and we can get them off-balance, then we'll have a chance."

Retrum's silver medal performance leads women to fourth place in SEC

By Leila Kalegi
lkalegi@kykernel.com

The UK swimming and diving team started off the Southeastern Championships with a podium finish, an NCAA qualification and a school record yesterday in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Senior diver Kari Retrum placed second amongst SEC divers on the one-meter board with a score of 313.95. Her silver-medal performance was an improvement over last season's fourth-place finish and marked her third straight medal in the SEC Championships.

"This is so much more than I could have imagined," Retrum said. "I set my goals high but this is better than I ever expected."

Retrum's performance helped lead the women's team

to a fourth-place overall finish on the night.

Retrum described the event as a godsend, but success on the one-meter board is nothing new to her. She has finished in first or second place in six out of seven dual meets this season.

Assistant diving coach Taryn Ignacio expected Retrum to do well throughout the competition.

"I knew she'd do well," she said. "Kari's a competitor."

Retrum's teammate, freshman diver Jessie Snowden, followed her, finishing fourth in the conference finals after placing third in preliminaries.

"As a freshman, making it to finals is great," Ignacio said. "She's worked so hard in practice, all she had to do was relax."

On the men's side, junior

Stephen Andrews finished 10th in the three-meter while freshman Justin Smith placed 13th.

The women's 200-medley relay team, made up of seniors Jill Southerlan, Lindsay Myhre, Heather Bradford and Jenny Bradford, took fifth.

"I'm not really happy with getting fifth since we medaled in the event the last two years," Jenny Bradford said.

Though the team failed to medal, their time of 1:39.33, its season-best, was good enough to automatically qualify them for the NCAA Championships.

The men walked away from the meet with a few victories as well.

The 200-medley relay set a new school record with a time of 1:27.14 and placed fourth. The men are in fifth place after three events.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Mills no longer member of the basketball team

UK freshman walk-on Dusty Mills is no longer with the basketball team, head coach Billy Gillispie said after the Cats' win over Georgia on Tuesday.

Mills, a Noblesville, Ind., native, told a Lexington Herald-Leader reporter that he was kicked off the team following an incident during UK's game at Georgia on Feb. 2, and that he did not

have a chance to plead his case to Gillispie.

"They all have a chance," Gillispie said after Tuesday's game. "Dusty was a great member of our team, but he's no longer on the team."

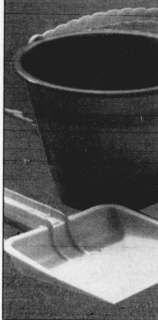
Mills appeared in four games this season, averaging 1.3 minutes. He has not played since UK's win over Florida International on Dec. 31.



Mills

Spring Break Count Down

18 days



NO GREASE JUST LIGHTNING!

FREAKY FAST! FREAKY GOOD!

TIMMY JOHN'S SINCE 1983 GOURMET SANDWICHES

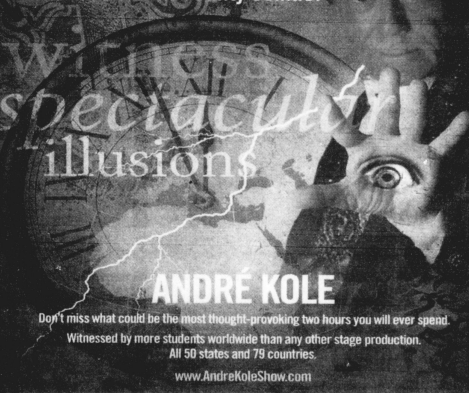
AMERICA'S #1 SANDWICH DELIVERY!

3130 MAPLELEAF DR. - 859.543.1666
130 W. TIVERTON - 859.271.0555
385 S. LIMESTONE - 859.231.8989
399 WALLER AVE. - 859.231.0083

JIMMYJOHNS.COM

MAGIC, MIRACLES and the SUPERNATURAL

A spectacular stage production where illusion and reality collide!



ANDRE KOLE

Don't miss what could be the most thought-provoking two hours you will ever spend. Witnessed by more students worldwide than any other stage production. All 50 states and 79 countries.

www.AndreKoleShow.com

Thursday, February 21st - 8:30pm
Memorial Hall at UK - Tickets \$5

Tickets available at UK Student Center Ticket Office and at the door

Sponsored by Campus Crusade or Christ

Look What's On Tap At

Pazzo's & Pazzo's Pub

Over 150 Bottled Beers! Plus... 38 Beers on Tap!

Catch the Cats vs. Arkansas this Sat. on Pazzo's 16 TVs!

Daily Pint Specials
Thursday - Blue Moon \$2.50 Pints
Friday - Kronenbourg 1664 & Stella Artois \$2.95 Pints
Saturday - Kentucky Ale \$2.50 Pints
Sunday - Newcastle \$2.95 Pints

Pazzo's Pub - Open at 5 pm Daily!
255-5125 Corner of South Lime & Euclid

jump

on the opportunity to see the world from a unique perspective

If you're curious and adventurous then pack your bags and say goodbye to the status quo.

Study abroad to earn college credit, experience a different culture, learn a foreign language, discover who you are and much more.

USAC, your gateway to the world.™

1.866.404.USAC usac.unr.edu

UNIVERSITY STUDIES ABROAD CONSORTIUM

OPINIONS

KERNEL EDITORIAL BOARD

Keith Smiley, editor in chief
Breton Kunkel, managing editor
Eric Lindsey, sports editor
Sean Rose, managing editor

Linsen Li, opinions editor
Carrie Bass, columnist

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

Ky. voters deserve honest wording in casino proposal

We support the general spirit of Gov. Steve Beshear's casino proposal, and that is to generate revenue to fund education and health care.

On Feb. 14, Beshear released his plan for a constitutional amendment that calls for up to 12 casinos in Kentucky. The proposal would allocate 50 percent of casino revenue to education at all levels and 20 percent to health care.

In a time when the state's budgetary outlook is grim, Beshear's plan seems to promise a much-needed boost for the state economy. The plan would raise \$800 million in revenue between July 2008 and June 2009 from application and license fees, and after the casinos are up and running, the gaming would bring in \$600 million per year, Beshear said.

However, Beshear's plan is still a work in progress. Certain details of the plan need improvement, and it is our hope that members of the General Assembly work together and present a final bill that would accomplish what it intended.

First and foremost, the amendment that goes before Kentucky voters should not use misleading language to inflate support for the proposal. That means the proposed ballot question needs to change.

It currently reads: "Are you in favor of increasing state financial support for elementary and secondary education; expanding health care for senior citizens, children, and others; local governments; combating drug and alcohol abuse; and other important programs, by permitting the General Assembly to authorize up to five casinos, subject to approval of the voters in the city or county where the casino is located, and up to seven casino licenses

for existing horse racing associations, all of which will be subject to the approval of a state agency created to oversee casino gaming?"

Following a list of policy goals that almost anyone would support, the first mention of casinos arrives halfway through the 90-word question. An inattentive voter could mistake the proposal for a relatively uncontroversial levy for greater social spending.

To ensure that the voters' opinions are accurately reflected in the vote, the question presented to them must be worded fairly, objectively and without misleading wording. The proposed question as it stands, however, is anything but fair and objective.

Voters should be asked whether they support the establishment of casinos in the state granted that the revenue raised would be used toward funding education, health care and other programs, not whether they want to solve all the state's social problems by passing the amendment. The word "casino" should appear less than 10 words into the question, not 45.

Opening casinos in the state may help alleviate the state's budget woes, but it is up to the people of Kentucky to weigh the pros and cons of such a move. Trying to hide the real issue behind gaudy and misleading language, as Beshear's proposed question to the voters does, is an act of dishonesty and should not be allowed by the state legislators.

Casinos could change the economic and social landscape of this state, and Kentucky citizens deserve to have the final say over whether they're comfortable with that change. But their choice will not be legitimate unless the question posed to them is forthright.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Monologues' critic should give Enslar credit

Although the diatribe about "The Vagina Monologues" that appeared in the Kernel on Monday was undoubtedly well-articulated, despite my recognizing a laundry list of palpable objections that have long been associated with the controversial play, it was short-sighted in that it undermined the countless contributions both the play and its author have made to raising consciousness about the diversity and complexity of women's experiences and lives.

Unbeknownst to Natalie Glover, resistance to the play is in keeping with V-Day's mission as noted on its Web site (www.vday.org): "V-Day benefits that are attacked, whether for religious, social or political reasons ... succeed in (the) mission" of creating "the awareness that V-Day strives for with every production." This awareness focuses not on debating the depth or substantive merits of the play (or lack thereof), but on the fact that a third of women in the United States and the world are affected by violence.

While it is Glover's prerogative not to like the play, may I suggest that rather than criticize, she give credit where credit is due — to Eve Ensler who spanned a movement the likes of which this country has not witnessed

since the advent of second-wave feminism. Contrary to Glover's opinion, Ensler has empowered women of all persuasions across the globe by reclaiming the word "vagina" and creating a culture where women can openly share their unique experiences related to all the pain and pleasure that comes along with not just having but embracing "one of the most celebrated parts of the female anatomy" — which, let's be honest, isn't very celebrated!

One final point: it takes a lot less ingenuity to write a criticism of someone else's work than it does to write a body of original work that is representative of the experiences Glover would like to see portrayed. Anyone can be a cynic; not everyone can translate cynicism into action by getting off their soapbox and doing something comparable to — or better than — what someone else is actively trying to do or has done. Like it or not, Eve Ensler's play has succeeded in creating meaningful social change. Which begs the question: What, besides criticize and thereby advance Ensler's mission, has Natalie Glover done for women lately?

Karen Lightbourne
English and women's studies senior

Help us restore citizens' voting rights

I was pleased to see an excellent job of covering Tuesday's great restoration event on campus, because it was such a success. So many people and groups came together to make that event so successful, and all deserve credit.

That event relied on the prestige and personnel from groups as diverse as the Black Student Union, the Newman Center, the Latino American Student Organization, Amnesty International, UK College Democrats, Alpha Kappa Alpha, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Delta Sigma Theta and Kentuckians For The Commonwealth. Without any of these groups, Tuesday's event could not have happened.

However, as each speaker and organization said, it cannot end with just having this event. Action is needed — each person who attended signed a

postcard, letter or petition (or a combination of the three), has volunteered to call the legislature and will be coming to Frankfort to help work on this important issue on Feb. 28.

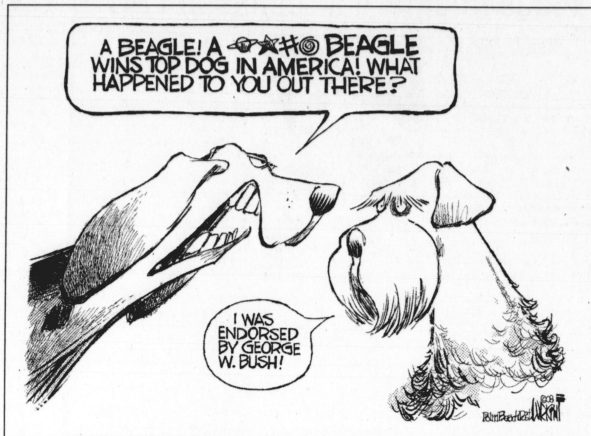
For those of you who love democracy and want to see it both expanded and protected, we encourage you to come out and help. Go to Frankfort with us on Feb. 28, and tell your legislators about how many people you see around campus who cannot vote. Tell them how in your community there is always at least one person who is without their rights due to a mistake they made in their past. Help make a difference, and help make Kentucky better. Restore voting rights to Kentuckians who have served their time.

Joe Gallenstein
Political science senior

Submissions

Send a 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



DON WRIGHT, The Palm Beach Post

As style dominates substance, politics is another round of 'Idol'

When Billie Joe Armstrong belts out the lyrics to "American Idiot," I wonder if he's mocking the spectacle that is "American Idol." Ratings were down last season, but 33.2 million viewers tuned into Season 7's premiere.

DUKE GATSONS
Guest columnist

Similarly, "fans" are turning out in record numbers for the presidential election primaries — which is becoming the newest reality show — for two main reasons: the poor presidency of George W. Bush and the novelty of the candidates who are running.

"Idol" proves that the whims of the people are easily guided by the spectacular, and apparently so do the primaries. Our election is spectacular in that this year we have the surprising novelty of a woman and an African-American leading the way in the popularity contest for the person who will replace the much-maligned Bush.

Moreover, the advertisers have made in simple with labels for each of our candidates: Barack Obama, the African-American; Hillary Clinton, the woman; and Mike Huckabee, the evangelical. Labels seem to fall off the slippery John McCain, so we'll call him Mr. Generic.

The scary reality is that we are now embarking on a reality-show election. Since "record numbers" are turning into our campaign, I fear it's the same people who tune into

"American Idol." It makes profound sense to elect our next president in the same way we crown a new Idol. William Hung notwithstanding, they've done a pretty good job, haven't they?

Wouldn't you just love to see Simon sit behind his table and rake Mrs. Clinton over the coals about her appearance? Is she unfairly being held to a higher appearance standard? Or maybe he can interview Mrs. McCain — why do we care about her all of a sudden? Of course, then Paula would have to run up and give out hugs in tears for a touching "moment." What does Randy do anyway?

Fans will tune in to see the newest, weirdest, stupidest person to show up at the local "Idol" audition. Many voters only watch this first show in the Idol-trek-to-glory just to see the oddballs who think they can make it. Where does the drive come from that makes someone think they can sing when they really can't? Surely someone is telling them: maybe their high-pitched-squealing-monotone-inner-voice is drowning out the criticism.

Do you remember these guys: Dennis Kucinich, Mike Gravel, Ron Paul, Rudy Giuliani and Fred Thompson? Maybe there's something to this "Idol" idea that the early auditions weed out the freaks. If so, what sets McCain, Huckabee, Obama and Clinton apart? Are they in to continue the freak show or because they can really "sing"?

This election, we are going to have to work really hard to cut

through the extra funk the media is showering on these people. Don't let media face time be a motivation for your vote.

Take stock, look inside yourself and think about the issues. Dig past the show that's drawing you in. It's not the cute teenie-bopper smile of Carrie Underwood that makes her special. It's her voice — a voice trained to hit notes in perfect pitch and perfect timing. What none of us saw was the tremendous amount of voice work she put in to become so good.

What notes are these candidates hitting? What is it about their makeup (not their makeup) — their blackness, femininity or faith (what does McCain have?) — that makes them uniquely qualified to be commander-in-chief? Remember, the goal is not blindness; it's embracing the otherness in people that makes them valuable.

I'm interested to watch how this "Donkey and Elephant Show" plays out in the media. Will anyone else ask this question about the sensational, or are they just too afraid to lose ratings?

Please challenge and be challenged to look into the people on stage, through the lens they project and into their uniqueness. As they show up at these auditions, let's hope that at least one of them can truly sing! And that we, as Simon, pick the one with the best voice rather than the one with the best act.

Duke Gatsons is an English education major. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

'Juno' peddles a bunch of junk about realities of teenage pregnancy

"Juno," which is up for several Academy Awards this weekend, just might make history as the first Oscar-winning teen fantasy film. Of course, "Juno" hasn't been marketed as a teen fantasy flick. But I don't know what else you call it when a pregnant 16-year-old blithely gives up her baby and ends up a month later with her boyfriend, smiling and strumming a guitar in their wholesome suburban neighborhood as though nothing had happened.

That's about as close as you can get to an "immaculate" adoption, and heaven knows that's not the way it works in real life.

Still, there are moments of realism in the film, such as when Juno's bulging belly becomes the hot topic of conversation in the high school hallways while the boy who fathered her child is basically given a free pass. For all her smart-chick bravado, Juno looks pretty clueless. And lost.

This reminded me of a group of four I met in the fall who came to the annual meeting of Girls for a Change,

an organization that helps girls launch social-change projects in their neighborhoods. Unlike Juno, most of these girls were from low-income families, but they seemed to share that same sense of bewilderment shielded by a shell of cool.

Judging by the questions some of them asked, they were familiar with Juno-like situations that didn't end up with happy guitar-strumming. Even with teen pregnancy rates declining nationally, there still are too many girls having unintended pregnancies. And, as any pregnant teen will tell you, it's no jamboree.

Niko Everett, co-CEO of Girls for a Change, finds it discouraging that young girls are sent so many mixed messages about how they should view their own sexuality.

"They're told by media images every day that they are sex objects, and that identity is something that can be put on a product and sold," Everett said. "Then they're told that they're bad if they act on their sexuality."

"And they have so little support," she said. "Most of the girls in our groups say that they don't feel they have one single adult they can trust to talk to about these things."

Terrie Lind, associate vice president for teen programs at a Planned Parenthood chapter in California, said she was astonished by how many of

her kids' friends called her for advice when they were teenagers. They knew she had the answers to questions about contraception and even basic sexual health that they wouldn't dare discuss with their parents. Lind supervises a program called Teen Success that works with teen mothers to stay in school, and she knows only too well what can happen to kids who act like they know everything.

With all the focus on empowering girls and giving them choices, are we drowning out the questions they have about themselves?

Everett told me she often thinks about a teen mother whom one of her colleagues met during a counseling session in juvenile hall. "She was talking about a pregnancy prevention class that had been taught there," Everett said. "And she said, 'No one ever asked me why I was pregnant.'"

The implication was that the reason was more emotional than physical: "We still need to do a better job of listening to girls and talking to them about sex and love before they take it all on their slender shoulders. That will make it easier to avoid the Juno-trap, especially when they know that in real life that kind of story is unlikely to have a happy ending."

She Hutchison is a columnist for the San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Dance Blue



University of Kentucky
Dance Marathon

www.danceblue.org

*This
Weekend!*

Alpha Delta Pi
Alpha Gamma Delta
Alpha Kappa Alpha
Alpha Omicron Pi
Alpha Phi Omega
Alpha Tau Omega
Beta Beta Beta
Blazer Hall
Blue Believers
Chi Omega
Christian Student Fellowship
College of Agriculture Ambassadors
College of Nursing UNAAC
Delta Delta Delta
Delta Epsilon Iota
Delta Gamma
Delta Sigma Phi
Delta Tau Delta
Delta Zeta
Farmhouse
Freshman Leadership
Development Program

Gatton Ambassadors
Golden Key International Honor
Society
Habitat for Humanity
Honors Program
Kappa Alpha Order
Kappa Alpha Theta
Kappa Delta
Kappa Kappa Gamma
Kappa Sigma
Lamda Chi Alpha
LASO
PEPP
Phi Delta Theta
Phi Eta Sigma
Phi Gamma Delta
Phi Kappa Tau
Pi Beta Phi
Project Health
Robinson Scholars
Sigma Alpha Iota
Sigma Chi
Sigma Kappa

Sigma Nu
Sigma Phi Epsilon
Sigma Pi
Staff Team
STAT
Student Activities Board
Student Development Council
Team Swarnastie
The CAUSE
The Great Outdoors
Triangle Fraternity
UK CCO
UK College Democrats
UK College of Pharmacy
UK Com Peds - College of
Medicine
UK HealthCare Executives -
Martin School
UK Rugby
UK Women's Club Lacrosse
YoungLife

**we support
our dance teams**

24-hour Dance Marathon

FEB. 22-23
7pm-7pm

MEMORIAL COLISEUM

Ad sponsored by:

ifc Interfraternity Council



University of Kentucky
Panhellenic Council