

# KENTUCKY KERNEL

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2008

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## Leaks, heating problems remain in Cooper

By Sarah Eisenmenger  
news@kykernel.com

Leaks in a campus building have destroyed computers and equipment, as well as caused other water damage and falling debris throughout the building, said the chair of the department's safety committee.

Darryl Cremeans, the chair of the safety committee, said leaks in the Thomas Poe Cooper Building have destroyed \$60,000 worth of computers and equipment.

The building now has 12 leaks, both dormant and active, on the first and second floor of the building housing the forestry department.

"This problem has a history of frustration and disappointment," Cremeans said.

The university sent the Physical Plant Division out to fix the leaks with tar last fall, Cremeans said. However, the leaks are still there, he said.

The February after the roof was patched, Cremeans said over six gallons of water leaked through the ceiling of Classroom 120, a room on the first floor.

Once a week, Tom Barnes, an extension professor and wildlife extension specialist, has to brush off a desk full of crumbled ceiling debris that accumulates.

Bob Wiseman, UK's vice president for facilities management, said the university expects to get the budget money for a new sloped roof approved.

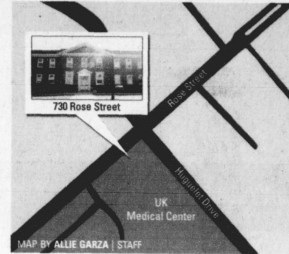
The Physical Plant Division will continue the repair process until a new roof is installed, he said.

Plans for the roof are included in this year's budget request and, if granted, a new urethane foam roof will be installed in the spring of 2009.

Bill Collins, a Physical Plant Division employee who has been helping with repairs to the Cooper Building, said in an e-mail the Physical Plant Division recognizes the roof of the Cooper Building is very old and the repairs they have made can fail anytime.

Any complaints related to the Cooper Building should be sent to Physical Plant Division employee David Tyler or Lmus Walton, an associate dean in the College

See Cooper on page 6



## Sec. of State: Pick pro-life candidates on Nov. 4

By Noha El Maraghi  
news@kykernel.com

Citizens and government leaders must protect the lives of unborn children, said Kentucky's secretary of state Friday.

Republican Secretary of State Trey Grayson spoke Friday in an event sponsored by UK Students for Life. During the speech, titled "Trey Grayson Defends the Unborn," Grayson talked about how he believes abortion is detrimental to women and the community.

"It cheapens respect for a life in general," Grayson said.

In front of about 15 people, Grayson said President Bush's administration has been a strong advocate for pro-life policies for the two terms Bush has served.

"Many of us in the pro-life community have enjoyed the past eight years," Grayson said.

It will be important to vote this election season for a candidate who opposes abortion, Grayson said.

Grayson said he supports Republican candidate John McCain and said Democratic challenger Barack Obama is "the most anti-life candidate in the history of America" because Obama has supported pro-choice policies.

In addition to public officials with pro-life policies, Grayson said he supports pregnancy care centers such as the New Hope Center.

The New Hope Centers in Crestview Hills, Ky., and Latonia, Ky., provide support for women, such as pregnancy testing, ultrasounds and mentoring. The centers also support abstinence before marriage and oppose abortion.

Grayson said pregnancy care centers are vital for helping women make a very difficult decision, especially because the women are mostly young and single with no emotional support.

He said the pro-life community on campus is small, so it is important for students to be able to speak with pro-choice people in a tolerant, kind way.

"It's hard to be conservative and pro-life on campus," Grayson said.

Jennifer Graehler, president of UK Students for Life, said the group was excited to have someone like Grayson speak on campus.

"He's a huge political figure," Graehler said. "We're very happy and excited he's here."

## Costumes may unmask winner of presidential race

By Jennifer Graham  
jgraham@kykernel.com

To see who will win November's presidential race, America



First issue free. Subsequent issues 25 cents.

could look to the polls — or to the Halloween masks.

Dottie Skaggs, who has sold Halloween costumes for 32 years, said sales of Halloween masks that look like the candidates usually reflect which candidate will win.

In 2000, for example, George W. Bush outsold Al Gore by one mask. In 2004, a box of John Kerry masks remained after Bush had sold out.

"Nobody wanted to be him," Skaggs said. "We couldn't get rid of him, even on sale."

Skaggs, who works at Ron's Halloween off Nicholasville Road, said Barack Obama masks sold out Friday night. As of Saturday afternoon, two John McCain masks remained on the shelves.

Presidential masks generally tend to fly off the shelves because it is usually the hottest news of the year, Skaggs said.

"Election years are usually a good year," she said. "Everyone has hope."

Many different measures exist to try and correctly predict who will win the presidency, said Daniel Morey, an assistant political science professor at UK.

"Most of them don't have any validity to them," he said. "It's just random luck."

For a poll to show true representation, conditions must be met, Morey said.

"To assume that the mask poll works, there has to be a random sample of the voting population," said Morey, referring to a Buycostumes.com poll showing Obama leading the number of presidential candidate masks sold on the site with 54 percent.

"The polls can be inaccurate if the only people that buy the masks are Democrats or only Republicans," he said.

How masks relate to who will win is probably coincidental, said

Halloween Express manager Jonni Parks.

"People from both sides buy masks," Parks said. "Some are to support the candidate, some purchases are just facetious and make fun of the candidate."

According to Parks, all three of Lexington's Halloween Express stores sold out of the 12 McCain and 12 Obama masks each had stocked.

"Obama sold out first," Parks said. "I think if we would have had a Palin mask, she would be our best seller. She is very, very popular. Everyone wants a Palin mask or costume."

People generally buy the masks to coordinate with a funny idea, said Tracy Goins, manager of Ron's Halloween. Jimmy Carter masks may go with a sack of peanuts because he was a peanut farmer, or Ronald Reagan masks with a cowboy costume to fit his Hollywood image.

No matter how easy it is to satirize who runs though, election masks tend to sell.

"In an election year, it's the biggest thing going," Goins said.

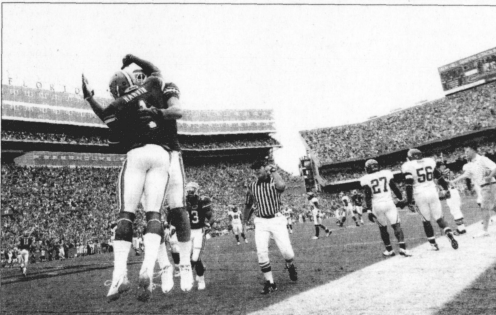
"Obviously I did a very poor job of preparing this team schematically, mentally in every phase," Brooks said. "It was a disaster."

For all the talk leading up to the game about UK's injuries on offense and defense,

beating from a Florida-coached team. The Cats got pummeled like they were a punching bag in the back of the Florida weight room. The Gators are sparing for a possible national title run; the Cats are bruised, beaten and ready to implode.

There's no exaggeration needed in describing just how bad it got inside The Swamp, because it was that ugly. Brooks has talked throughout his UK coaching career about the sleep he's lost over his team. He won't sleep until next weekend after this nightmare.

## FLORIDA 63, UK 5 Romped, chomped and stomped



Florida wide receiver Percy Harvin, left, celebrates his first-quarter touchdown during Florida's 63-5 win on Saturday in Gainesville, Fla.

### Florida hands UK worst loss since 1996

By Kenny Colston  
kcolston@kykernel.com

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — It was as easy as one, two, three.

The three blocked kicks — two punts and one field goal — that Florida (6-1, 4-1 Southeastern Conference) turned into three touchdowns.

Or maybe it was the Gators' own version: Percy Harvin, Jeffery Demps and Chris Rainey.

Harvin (No. 1), Demps (No. 2) and Rainey (No. 3) made things look very easy for the Gators, as they romped, chomped and stomped all over UK (5-3, 1-3 SEC) 63-5 Saturday afternoon in Gainesville, Fla.

"The kicking game was a disaster," UK head coach Rich Brooks said. "The offense was struggling. The defense had a hard time stopping (Florida) after that first series. We had a



Florida's Jeffery Demps blocks Tim Masthay's punt during the first quarter of the UK-Florida game on Saturday. The Gators blocked consecutive punts on UK's first two possessions to start the game.

mental breakdown after two blocked punts. It cascaded after that."

Rainey recovered a blocked punt by Florida freshman defensive end William Green on UK's first possession. Demps blocked another punt on UK's second possession of the game to set up Florida's second touchdown. Minutes later, Harvin ran un-

touched 16-yards for a third touchdown.

"It was poor preparation by us," UK special teams coach Steve Ortmayer said. "Poor play by me. Poor management of the plan by me."

Three plays, three players, three Florida touchdowns. The

See Football on page 3

## Cats must leave this nightmare in the past

GAINESVILLE, Fla. —

Picture a hellacious nightmare filled with life-size Gators and

maniacs clad in blue and orange. The UK players and UK head coach Rich Brooks just lived it.

Not since the days of old Steve Spurrier himself have the Cats suffered such a

heating from a Florida-coached team. The Cats got pummeled like they were a punching bag in the back of the Florida weight room. The Gators are sparing for a possible national title run; the Cats are bruised, beaten and ready to implode.

There's no exaggeration needed in describing just how bad it got inside The Swamp, because it was that ugly. Brooks has talked throughout his UK coaching career about the sleep he's lost over his team. He won't sleep until next weekend after this nightmare.

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See Lindsey on page 3



ERIC LINDSEY  
UK columnist

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## THE DISH

# Angelina's shocking confession

After years of denial, Jolie admits she and Brad Pitt were "in love" well before his marriage broke up

Angelina Jolie has always been understandably cagey about the start of her romance with Brad Pitt. After all, he was still married to Jennifer Aniston when the two first became close while shooting the action flick *Mr. & Mrs. Smith* in 2004. But with each new film she promotes — and as she becomes known more as a mom than a home-wrecker — Jolie has been more forthcoming. Finally, in an Oct. 19 New York Times interview, the Changeling star, 33, confirmed what everyone always knew. "Not a lot of people get to see a movie where their parents fall in love," she said, referring to wanting their six kids to see the film, which was completed before their dad's January 2005 split with Aniston, 39. "There's a lot we're going to have to explain to them about how public their family is."

The admission is an about-face from Jolie's previous litany of denials. Faced with backlash for her role in the breakup of Hollywood's golden couple, the star responded with statements as moralistic as they were improbable. As eyewitness accounts of PDA on set spread as early as February 2004, the ex-bad girl spoke out against infidelity. "To be intimate with a married man, when my own father cheated on my mother, is not something I could forgive," she told Marie Claire. "I could not, could not, look at myself in the morning if I did that." In November — and less than two months before Pitt's split with Aniston — she again insisted: "I wouldn't sleep with a married man ... I have enough lovers. I don't need Brad."

While promoting *The Good Shepherd* in 2006, Jolie no longer felt compelled to deny the obvious, telling *Vogue* that she and Pitt had a shared attraction on set, but that they had remained friends until "life developed in a way where we could be together." Pitt got in on the act, too, telling *V* magazine last year that he and Aniston had to first decide to end things "before an attraction to Angie could be answered."

As Aniston's pal Kristin Hahn told *Vanity Fair*, at the time of the split, "Brad was saying, 'This is not about another woman.'" (Aniston has said she believed him and was "shocked" when the Jolie-Pitts came out as a couple nearly four months later with a beach photo op in Kenya.) Still, the very day Aniston filed for divorce, Jolie and Pitt shot a racy 60-page portfolio posing as a married couple (with five model kids) for the July 2005 issue of *W* magazine. Asked about the shoot, entitled "Domestic Bliss" and conceptualized by the actor, Aniston at first tried to defend her ex, then remarked, "There's a sensitivity chip that's missing."

Jolie's tendency to tailor her own history to suit her needs extends even to her children. During 2007's *A Mighty Heart* promotion, the actress revealed that she and Pitt had been actively trying to conceive Shiloh before his marriage to Aniston officially ended on Oct. 2, 2005. But that was a flip-flop from her January 2007 statement to *Elle* U.K. "I wasn't planning on getting pregnant," she said. "I'm the one that got knocked up."

And now the couple once tarred as adulterers are mostly talked about as parents juggling the needs of six kids who just know them as Mom and Dad. Pretty fearless, but Jolie cops to one worry: that Maddox will soon be able to look up her name on the Internet "and see some kind of racy pictures or read a story about him that isn't true." Or speculation about how Dad met Mom.

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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 an 8 — Listen, with compassion, to another person's worries. You don't have to try to solve all of their problems. Just tell them to be patient and frugal and everything will turn out well.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** — Today is a 6 — Put in the extra effort now, and get a little bit ahead. You always sleep better when you have a big, cushy safety net.

**Gemini (May 21-June 21)** — Today is a 7 — You don't have a moment to waste, unfortunately. You'd like to relax and have a

long chat with a fascinating person.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22)** — Today is a 7 — Sometimes a conversation can be a lot of work. It's worth it, though, to get the matter settled.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** — Today is a 7 — Conditions are good for asking questions and getting the absolute truth. You might want to think about that, before you get too nosy.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Today is an 8 — Business looks good, so keep cranking out those widgets and raking in the cash. You'll soon be able to get whatever it is you've been dreaming about.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** — Today is a 7 — Verbally, you're sharp as a tack. Does that make any sense at all? Anyway, you can talk people into doing just about anything.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — Today is a 7 — Don't fret about

your situation, take action. You'll feel much better. There's always something you can do. Look around.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — Today is an 8 — Your friends could get caught up in talking about the problem and waste a lot of time.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — Today is a 7 — Again, you'll need to gently push the person who's in charge into doing what you know is right.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** — Today is a 7 — Continue to push back the barriers. Get out and meet new people. You didn't even realize you were in a rut, but you were. Now you're not.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** — Today is a 6 — Sort through the numbers and figure out how much you're actually getting. That stuff can mean a lot to your quality of life.

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<p>Mon. Oct. 27 3rd floor UHS Bldg 7:30 to 10 am</p>	<p>Thurs. Oct. 30 Hall of Fame, KY Clinic 10 am to 3 pm</p>
<p>Tues. Oct. 28 White Hall Outside Room 102 9 am to 3:30 pm</p>	<p>UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY University Health Service</p>

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VOTE NOVEMBER 4

# SPORTS

Bobby Reagan  
Asst. Sports Editor  
Phone: 257-1915  
breagan@kykernel.com

## Hearing delayed for UK athlete

**By Jill Laster**  
jlaster@kykernel.com

Whether a UK athlete charged with stalking, terroristic threatening and harassing communications will go to trial will be re-examined within the month, a Fayette County District Court judge ruled Friday.

UK junior strong safety Ashton Cobb's case has been delayed until Nov. 21, Judge Julie Goodman said.

Cobb pleaded not guilty to all three charges Oct. 1 in Fayette

County District Court. He was arrested on Sept. 26 for allegedly sending about 15 text messages and making 19 phone calls to his ex-girlfriend, according to Lexington Police. During one voicemail, he threatened to kill and rape the woman, police said.

He was subsequently suspended from the university, UK head coach Rich Brooks said during a news conference the day after Cobb's arrest. Cobb is no longer suspended and has returned to play on the football team.



Cobb

## FOOTBALL

Continued from page 1

Gators never looked back.

"They are very talented," UK defensive coordinator Steve Brown said. "Lots of different ways to get those guys the ball, they are able to attack in a lot of different ways. We knew it would be a challenge."

After dealing with nagging defensive injuries all week and constant questions about the offense, it was UK's special teams that dug the Cats a hole and buried their chances of back-to-back conference wins. In addition to the blocked punts, which allowed Florida to start drives at the UK 3- and 1-yard lines, the Gators also blocked UK's first scoring attempt — a 32-yard field goal attempt by junior Lones Seiber.

"They came off a corner," Ort-mayer said about the blocked field goal. "The same way they got us against Middle Tennessee. It should never happen. Just should never happen."

UK showed signs of offensive life in the first half when freshman Randall Cobb, who started the game at wide receiver, went under center for the Cats. Cobb led UK deep into Florida territory twice, but could only come up with three points — a 27-yard field goal by Seiber in the second quarter.

"That gave us a chance to keep our defense off the field longer," UK offensive coordinator Joker Phillips said. "We didn't get anything that first time because of a blocked field goal. But it helped our defense."

With defensive starters Micah Johnson, Braxton Kelley, Marcus McClinton and David Jones all play-

ing with injuries, Brooks said that made things even tougher for UK. It limited UK's normal attacking defense as well.

Fresh off a relieving victory over Arkansas, the Cats were baited into Gainesville with hopes of staying close to a well-rested and healthy Florida team. Those hopes were dashed early as Florida scored on four straight possessions in the first quarter.

"Obviously they made a statement against what was the No. 1 scoring defense in the SEC," Brooks said. "We're not as bad as we looked out there."

The loss is UK's worst since 1996, when Florida trounced UK 65-0 in Gainesville. The Gators have now won 22 straight against the Cats.

"I never thought we'd be beaten this badly," Brooks said. "I had some pretty sick feelings when I saw them drop 51 points on LSU two weeks ago."

But after two emotionally different games, a last minute win against Arkansas and a crushing defeat against Florida, many UK players aren't sure what lies ahead.

"When you see what happened today, you start to question how you can move on from this," sophomore quarterback Mike Hartline said. "You look at yourself and realize there's more to getting better in football than athletic ability in practice."

Having lost three of their last four games, the Cats will hit the road again when they head to Starkville, Miss., to face Mississippi State next week.

"You have to give yourself to this game and this team," Hartline said. "Lots of guys are in a crossroads with that right now."

## LINDSEY

Continued from page 1

it was special teams play that decided the outcome early on. Florida blocked two Tim Mashay punts on UK's first two drives. On both occasions, a Florida player got through the Cats' offensive line untouched, and both times it resulted in Gator scores.

Then Florida scored on a 16-yard Percy Harvin touchdown run untouched again, if I might add — followed by a 33-yard touchdown toss from Tim Tebow to Harvin. That put the Gators up 28-0 with 1:43 to go in the first quarter. At that point, UK had more quarterback changes (Randall Cobb replaced Mike Hartline in the first quarter) than first downs.

Stephen King couldn't have scripted a more horrific start for UK. It truly was a nightmare from hell.

"Lots of nightmares," UK defensive coordinator Steve Brown said. "When it's 63-5, you wake up and say 'Holy hell, what happened?'"

According to UK leader and defensive end Jeremy Jarmon, what happened was a lack of execution by the UK players.

Brooks was quick to take the blame following the slaughtering in The Swamp, but Jarmon said they were prepared for what Florida was about to bring; they just didn't execute.

"We came out and made the same damn mistakes that we made last week and the week before that," Jarmon said. "Florida had two weeks to prepare for us. They came out and they schemed us well and took advantage of the mistakes we're making — not our coaches."

But ultimately, the pressure of the next few weeks will fall squarely on the shoulders of the coaches. They have to determine how to pick up the pieces of the egg — or egg shells — the Cats laid on Saturday.

Is it a changing of the quarterback that's needed? New schemes? Or do the Cats just need to get healthy? Whatever the answer is, the Cats need to find it quick.

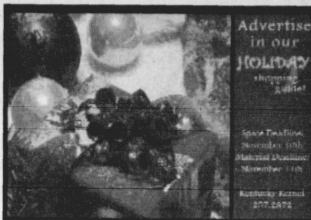
Unlike two years ago when UK got blitzed by Louisiana State, the Cats won't have two weeks to regroup heading into the Mississippi State game. They have to find answers quickly or the nightmare on Saturday could turn into a season-long nightmare.

Everybody was so quick to point to the Arkansas win as a season-turning game, but this is the game that will inevitably determine where the Cats go for the rest of the year. What UK learns from this game and what it does from here will determine the heart, grit and fortune of this team.

"Today we took a step back," Jarmon said.

Now, somehow, the Cats have to put this nightmare behind them and move forward.

Eric Lindsey is a journalism senior. E-mail: elindsey@kykernel.com.



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The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement. Registered Student Orgs and UK Digits can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information is to appear. Call 257-8867 for more information.

Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League</li> <li>Solar Car Team Meeting, 7:00 PM, DV Terrell Engineering Building (Behind Funkhouser)</li> <li>80's Trivia, 8:00 PM, UK Student Center Cats Den</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Honors Program Student Council Meeting, 7:30 PM, Student Center 231</li> <li>UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League</li> <li>Comedy Caravan, UK Student Center Cats Den</li> <li>Networking Strategies, 3:00 PM, Raymond Bid, Room 112</li> <li>Fellowship of Christian Athletes, 8:00 PM, Room 211 of the Student Center</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anatomy of Self Defense, 7:00 PM, Living Building Room 201</li> <li>Screening Documentary Movie of "Unreasonable Man", 6:00 PM, Theater Center (Student Center)</li> <li>(Free Movie) "RINGU", 10:00 PM, Worsham Theater</li> <li>Campus Crusade for Christ, 7:30 PM, Center Theatre in the Student Center</li> <li>Klimate, 9:00 PM, UK Student Center Cats Den</li> <li>Interviewing 202, 3:30 PM, Career Center</li> <li>UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Screening Documentary movie of "Unreasonable Man", 6:00 PM, Theater Center (Student Center)</li> <li>Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum</li> <li>Screening Documentary Movie of "Unreasonable Man", 6:00 PM, Theater Center (Student Center)</li> <li>UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League</li> <li>Picturing Kentucky Photography Workshop at the Woodford, 9:00 AM, Woodford Reserve Distillery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum</li> <li>Screening Documentary Movie of "Unreasonable Man", 6:00 PM, Theater Center (Student Center)</li> <li>UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League</li> </ul>



# 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 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

### New online schedule still has problems

Change of any kind requires critical thinking and weighing pros and cons before making a choice one way or another. As reported in Thursday's Kernel, UK's Office of the Registrar believes paperless course schedule books and class bulletins are the right direction for the university to take. The change will begin for the spring 2009 semester.

In addition to saving a huge amount of paper and being environmentally friendly, the change represents fiscal responsibility, saving \$80,000 a year for the university's already tight budget, according to the Thursday article. Such reasoning is commendable and shows that those in power are making a conscious first step to providing students with a green campus that is forward-thinking and looking to make positive steps in the right direction. The university as a whole is better off for this decision; however, this is just the first of many needed steps to make sustainability a real goal on campus.

Bruce Manley, associate registrar, said the schedule book was referred to as the "Book of Lies" in his office, and most students would agree that the schedule book too frequently has inaccuracies that cause students more trouble than they need when completing the already difficult task of scheduling classes. The ability to update the schedule, and within 30 to 45 minutes have it available to students is also a nice perk because it provides students with a real-time representation of the class schedule.

The Office of the Registrar will offer PDF versions of the schedule for students to print out, which gives students the option of the old way of doing things. This change looks good on the surface. But considering that at all locations on campus, printing is 12 cents per page, the cost of printing the whole schedule book becomes relatively expensive, and it is a hassle to print that much from a PDF file. Furthermore, after the PDF is printed, it is immediately out of date, which somewhat defeats the purpose of the live updates.

Incoming and undecided students who may want to review the course offerings will have the same option to be able to turn to a hard copy for this information since they are new and may not be familiar with where to find the information. For the most part, courses offered do not change, and once a student gets the course bulletin, it remains useful for the entire time they are at UK, save for new courses that receive advertising when created.

Some students do not always have access to the Internet, and the schedule book is a way to plan and schedule in a low-tech way. Often it is easier to map out things on paper and be able to return to something palpable to ensure that all options undergo thorough examination.

The pros may outweigh the cons, but there still is more consideration to be done in regards to the schedule books and course bulletins. Perhaps limited availability of paper course schedules and bulletins would be a solution. That way those who want them could find them without absorbing the cost to print, and those who do not could just use the Internet. It is nice to have the technology to make the conversion from paper to paperless, but it's also nice to have the option to do things the old-fashioned way sometimes.

## ■ LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Rescue companies need more experienced pilots

I wish to take nothing away from the sacrifice made by any and all pilots and crewmembers who have died in rescue-related crashes. I've talked about this situation several times with my family and friends, and it happens that my brother's girlfriend's father was a helicopter pilot in the Gulf War. He has applied to pilot positions in Medivac programs in Kentucky and Tennessee and was disappointed to find that the pay they offered was not nearly competitive enough to attract experienced pilots (or anyone with a family to support).

In my opinion, companies like PHI and Air Evac Lifeteam need to find more experienced pilots who are used to landing and taking off from dangerous areas. My father was a pilot in Vietnam and had to land and take off from hot landing zones. If medical evacuation companies will pay for experience, they would have pilots who know the risks involved in the most extreme conditions, so making a cliff-side rescue would be like child's play.

**Jacob Rexroat**  
secondary math education senior

### Cartoonists Needed

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

E-mail [opinions@kykernel.com](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com)

### Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Brad Bowling. Please limit letters to 350 words or fewer. Be sure to include your full name, class and major with all submissions.

E-mail [opinions@kykernel.com](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com)



BRADLEY STURGEON, Kernel cartoonist

## Today's political campaigns don't focus on what's really important

As the U.S. presidential election cycle draws to a close, it is clear the future of this country means a great deal to many people. Thousands are volunteering their time by making phone calls



**TIM RILEY**  
Contributing columnist

or going door-to-door to tell others why they should vote for their candidate. In the last few weeks though, the final campaign push has resulted in some new means of spreading a candidate's message.

Chief among those practicing a new methodology is Ashley Todd, a John McCain campaign volunteer, who claimed a Barack Obama supporter carved the letter "B" into her face. She has now admitted the tale was fabricated, but this story simply lends more evidence to the fact that a modern presidential campaign cannot be controlled by anyone, much less by the candidate.

In today's society, information spreads rapidly. If a news item appears in Oregon that may be of interest to someone in Maine, the modern news system will make sure it gets there. Couple that with the fact that anyone can create a video or Web site that, if funny, offensive or insightful enough, will receive national news coverage.

And a campaign environment has been created in which nearly every inch of ground is covered with invisible political landmines. Every small mistake for a presiden-

tial candidate at a local campaign stop is now a national issue. A word mis-spoken in California will be a national story by the end of the day. This type of issue is at least somewhat in control of the candidate though. No one can make McCain or Obama say the wrong thing; however, they have no hope of controlling the Internet campaign carried out on their behalf.

Obama initially received an attention boost on the Internet from videos by people such as the Obama Girl, but it was not long until there was a backlash. Over the last year, there has been a pandemic of false information spread about Obama through e-mail and Web sites. McCain was not the culprit behind these attacks, but being the rival candidate, he became associated with the attacks because they likely came from his political party members. Neither candidate had any hope of controlling what should have been a non-story, but it caused a real effect on both.

Because candidates in a modern presidential election have to spend such an inordinate amount of time dealing with such things, the entire election process suffers. In particular, the media, with a glut of stories such as a woman carrying up her own face and funny Internet videos to report, has no reason to bother with the real issues. The news is a business, and economic policy debate does not pay the bills.

Only a fraction of the U.S. population will bother to vote, and of that portion, an even smaller fraction will have a well thought-out opinion on the candidates and the issues. With that in mind, why would the media waste its time attempting to appeal to the consci-

entious voter? It is only logical for the media to seek the largest audience to increase its profits, and that larger audience is more enthralled by the cost of Sarah Palin's wardrobe than by her foreign policy.

Far too many of today's campaigns are simply candidates dealing with false or irrelevant stories created by the media or by those with extreme ulterior motives. Instead of focusing on the important issues, today's elections are made into "Real World: White House." The powers of the president have continued to expand simultaneously with the increase in meaningless campaigning. That is a dangerous trend to have when so much is on the line.

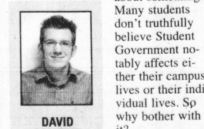
Unfortunately, the chances of this situation ever changing for the better are almost nonexistent. The demands of the modern news system and the ease of information travel all but ensure that this problem will only grow worse. The entire history of the world suggests that things such as this never spiral back in a positive direction.

In the end though, it is difficult to place the blame for this problem on the media or the people who accept this slanted, pointless coverage. Even when given the chance, the candidates seem so disinclined to discuss the issues in-depth that they encourage a focus on fluff. Maybe it is simply easier for everyone involved to worry about the cost of a candidate's haircut than concern themselves with a war or a failing economy. It's just too bad that the easy way is rarely the right way.

Tim Riley is a mechanical engineering senior. E-mail [opinions@kykernel.com](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com).

## SG's influence not prevalent to most

For a brief moment in time, allow me to lay aside any politically correct necessities so that I may, with humility and honesty, be abundantly clear about something:



**DAVID REMPPER**  
Contributing columnist

Many students don't truthfully believe Student Government notably affects either their campus lives or their individual lives. So why bother with it? To some, that may come across as a cold-hearted statement of disregard for the freedoms of student democracy. So before "fire-breathers" on either side of the political spectrum incorrectly bring the claymore of justice crashing down upon my head with accusations of being undemocratic, allow me to explain the reasoning behind my doubts.

I am presently enrolled as a fourth-year student here at UK, and I have neither been sent to nor needed to go through SG for any cause in that duration of enrollment here.

For the record, I have participated in activities at Greek houses, campus ministries, intramurals and student organizations. I have spent time with

friends who live in dorms and apartments all across around campus. I have studied in numerous libraries and computer labs, and I have helped host an outdoor event that stretched for 168 hours nonstop.

Despite all this involvement on campus, and despite the fact that I have voted in SG elections before, I have yet to ever be sent through SG for anything. I present this to ask the following question with a sincerity of concern: If it is our Student Government, why is there a vast composition of student body activities and lifestyles that it neither governs nor affects?

Maybe I am a freak social instance that SG doesn't affect. Maybe it could be true that I really have been around campus life for four years, have known people in just about every major here at UK and have participated all over the place, and yet have somehow eluded the social sinews and tendons of SG's governing interactions. Then again, maybe that's not the case.

Before a single person writes in a response to challenge me, I challenge you to risk doing the following: Take a random survey of the student body here at UK and ask them to name, on the spot, the SG representative from their college and one way that their college representative has impacted their student life here at UK. If you want to be

riskier still, add to the survey a knowledge inquiry requesting the names of the current SG president & vice president. I doubt you want to consider how many students would only know their names because of an e-mail announcing RUCKUS, or how many students simply would not know.

My tragic but likely verifiable hypothesis is that I think we would find fair justification for my allegation that I am not alone in wondering what SG really does and whom it really impacts. Perhaps SG throws its name on banners at a few social gatherings and helps host a forum in states of student emergency (such as with the library hours this year), but on the whole, does it really make any enduring difference in many of our lives - other than on the resumes of a few political science students? I don't feel like it does.

So, in truth, if SG doesn't affect many students' lives - beyond quiddling their feet for not voting, spending some of their increased tuition fees to put a live webcam of the Johnson Center on their Web site and earnestly giving SG funding to the Greek system that annually drives the SG president into office with its support - can you really blame them for not wanting to affect it in return?

David Rempper is a computer science junior. E-mail [opinions@kykernel.com](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com).





## Hip-hop needs to look back to '96 for lessons in greatness

Throughout the semester, Landon Antonetti will highlight the best in hip-hop music and culture from 1996 as part of the series, "In RETROSPECT: '96 Edition."



**LANDON ANTONETTI**  
Kernel columnist

The year was 1996. My best friend who lived down the street was the only one I knew with a Playstation, Bill Clinton was president again, the Cowboys won the Super Bowl... again and hip-hop ruled the world. 1996 still fell within the constraints of hip-hop's golden age, an age ripe with talent and a great time to be a hip-hop fan.

In 1996, Pete Rock and DJ Premier were still the hottest producers in the game, and lyricism and fresh content were still on the top of hip-hop's list of important things, easily trumping rims, cocaine and anything gold or platinum.

Recapping the year that was, Nas proved that not only was his lyrical power felt on wax, but "It Was Written" as well. Meanwhile, across town in the borough of Brooklyn, his soon-to-be arch-nemesis, Jay-Z, proved he was deep beyond a "Reasonable Doubt," and New York, in general, proved it was still hip-hop's Mecca.

In films, The Fresh Prince flexed his acting muscle in the highest grossing film of the year, "Independence Day." "Twister" also came out that year, replacing my fear of doorstops with a stern fear of tornados. Regardless, "Stakes is High" so De La Soul hit fans with yet another classic release to vibe to, while another Staten Island resident, Ghostface Killah, finally revealed his face and greeted the world as "Insane." hip-hop's Wallabee-wearing superhero and slang expert.

In politics, Bob Dole may have lost the

White House, but Viagra kept him in business and in the public eye for now. Meanwhile, in other hip-hop news, MC Hammer filed for bankruptcy, they repossessed his house, cars and hopefully his parachute pants. The West Coast's most controversial socially conscious gangster and poet Tupac Shakur was tragically gunned down in Los Angeles, his murder is still unsolved. However, with one end comes another beginning as a meteorite from Mars reveals potential life on the red planet. ATLiens sighted over the Atlanta area also alert us to hip-hop life forms dwelling in the dirty South, giving us a glimpse at hip-hop's future headquarters.

So, looking back at 1996 we can conclude that hip-hop definitely had a strong pulse, more so than now. Some of hip-hop's biggest stars of today were young, hungry kids rhyming their hearts out to achieve success, blind to the fact that their efforts would soon make them wealthy. It was politics as usual in the White House as a Democrat took the presidency, but we haven't seen another since. Video games were still games, not yet a lifestyle, and toys were still toys, not technologically advanced gadgets that require an owners manual. I was rolling a Huffly instead of a vehicle and was still down with the occasional Mondo instead of the occasional beer.

So, as we close the book on 1996, we remember the good times and the bad, the dope albums and the duds. Hip-hop has survived across time and space to become one of the world's biggest cash cows, and it would help the artists of today to look back and see what the heavy hitters of '96 were doing so right, so that maybe they can teach the kids and make the hip-hop world a better place to live for all of us.

Landon Antonetti is a journalism junior and the production director for WRFL. E-mail lantonetti@kykernel.com.

## Book gives the skinny on diets

It's tempting, as my friend waves her Jr. Bacon Cheeseburger from Wendy's in front of my face. About a year ago, I ordered every item off the wonderful dollar menu in one pass through the drive through, from five-piece chicken nuggets, to the "J.B.C." and chicken sandwiches.



**KYLIE BURNESS**  
Kernel columnist

But last March my life was severely altered. My freshman-year roommate introduced me to a book that would forever change my appetite.

The New York Times best-seller, "Skinny Bitch," is changing the way women eat around the country. Written by two ladies, Rory Freedman and Kim Barnouin, the book expresses a message to get healthy and stay away from meat.

The title reads, "A no-nonsense, tough-love guide for savvy girls who want to stop eating crap and start looking fabulous!" Though it should have a warning label on the

front for meat lovers like myself.

It was a short read that transformed my eating in a matter of hours. Flipping through each chapter my face began to fill with disgust. These ladies described every food once adored by me using vivid details of what I was really consuming. I no longer was dying for a Jr. Bacon Cheeseburger or five-piece nugget.

The book not only struck my fancy, but it was also a hit among those at the New York Times. The book has even been seen in the hands of many celebrities, like Victoria Beckham — the skinny bitch herself.

This is a good book for any woman who wants to live a healthier lifestyle. Not only has my eating habits improved, but it has made me a healthier, happier person overall.

I won't lie, I do get jealous from time to time seeing my friends consuming their Wendy's or McDonald's, but then those two savvy ladies in the back of my head start screaming at me, "You are what you eat!" And in a matter of seconds the decomposing, rotting animal carcasses don't look so tasty anymore.

Kylie Burness is a journalism sophomore. E-mail features@kykernel.com.

## COOPER

Continued from page 1

of Agriculture, Collins said in the e-mail.

Leaks are not the only problem the building faces. Creameans said. The building uses window air conditioners and 10 percent of the units, which is about five, quit working every year, he said.

The department has to spend money for the repairs, which runs about \$1,000 a unit, despite attempts made by Mike Mullen, associate dean of academic programs in the College of Agriculture, to get an alternative way of cooling the building, he said.

The building often becomes too hot during warm weather, said undeclared sophomore Sam Skees.

"There has been several days when we get out of class early because the building is just too hot, it's miserable," Skees said.

The majority of the windows in the building are unable to open and allow air in because they have been painted shut, Barnes said. The sealed windows counteract the problems caused in the winter by the old, faulty heating devices.

"They don't even make parts for these anymore," Barnes said, pointing to his thermostat.

Wiseman said heating and cooling have not been brought to his attention, but if they were, they will be addressed.

## Bluegrass 'bad boys' alter scene, sound with new album

Wayward bad boys of bluegrass Old Crow Medicine Show leave the street



**POLLY RADFORD**  
Kernel columnist

singing scene behind in favor of the pitch-perfect technology of the recording studio on their third album "Tennessee Pusher." While this makes for clearer recording and CD quality, some listeners may think the recording has taken away from the authenticity and charm of the band.

"Tennessee Pusher" got off to the same start as the two previous albums "O.C.M.C." in 2004 and "Big Iron World" in 2006, with a hillbilly drug-induced anthem called "Alabama High-Tech." Lines like "65 southbound, cruising with a half pound..." makes me recall the other cocaine addicted songs such as "Tell It To Me" and "Cocaine

Habit" on the previous two records.

Although "Tennessee Pusher" got off to a slow start, the same lyrical genius, haunting harmonies and fancy pickin' are present in this album. Produced by Don Was, the group has tried to stick to their bluegrass roots yet tried to progress as artists in making more Southern ballads.

"Motel in Memphis" is probably one of the best ballads on the album. The song is about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s murder at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tenn. "... Oh muddy water, rollin' to Memphis, if you were there you'd swear, it was more than a man who died," is the chorus, and it will stick with you even after you have finished listening.

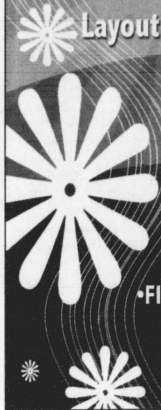
Willie Watson, Ketch Secor, Critter Fuqua, Kevin Hayes, Morgan Jahnig and Gill Landry have put out another great album sure to please fans of the band.

Polly Radford is a journalism junior. E-mail features@kykernel.com.

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## Gospel Meeting

November 2-7, 2008

University Heights Church of Christ  
445 Columbia Avenue, Lexington, Kentucky

Speaker:

**Frank Walton**

Topic:

**Faith in Action**

**The Practical Epistle of James**

Sunday 9:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
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