



campus poll

Survey says

Because of an eight-week tie for most memorable rail, a new one has been created. Select answers are shown below to certain questions contained in a random survey of students on campus yesterday by Norton For humorously Deceptions & Co., a branch of Ducey, Chetham and Howe.

85 percent of respondents admitted to drinking within the last two weeks.

63 percent said they have made funny noises at an animal on or near campus this month.

99 percent of those leaving this summer say they will miss either Tolly-Ho or K-Lair.

45 percent think they will go through symptoms of crossword denial.

67 percent confessed they have drunk or been drunk on campus in the past year. (Note: 85 percent of those 67 percent were under 21.)

1 percent of respondents can not tell the difference between a skirt and shorts.

74 percent have been moderately offended by "Left of Center" at some point this semester. Sorry!

85 percent have been caught staring at a member of the opposite sex.

32 percent admitted to tripping, stumbling or twisting their neck while staring at a member of the opposite sex.

4 percent actually enjoyed being searched while entering Commonwealth Stadium. Don't ask.

34 percent are closet 'N Sync, Hanson or the Backstreet Boys listeners.

84 percent of male respondents felt guilty for lusting over an automobile while dating someone.

8 percent thought my name was an alias because my last name backward says "Not Ron." Thanks mom and dad!

2 percent said their only friends were the people who worked the UK-UP phone lines. Hint: It's a recording!

Thanks for the criticism both constructive and positive. Hope your days were better with a bit of humor and novelty. Thanks for a great year.

- RON NORTON

THE 411

Tomorrow's weather



73 53
Hi Lo
Partly sunny this week.

Kentucky Kernel

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FRIDAY KENTUCKY KERNEL

April 30, 1999



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A few friendly jobs for the campus community | 5

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ACADEMICS

Ambassadors selected for Arts and Sciences

Newly selected eleven excited about helping in the fall orientation, other events to bring students into UK fold

By Chris Pedigo
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The College of Arts and Sciences is preparing for a new level of student leadership by choosing 11 students to represent the school in its new Student Ambassador Program.

"The students will help to represent the College of Arts and Sciences in the community," said Christine Blake, coordinator of the program.

The ambassadors will help in the Student Services office, at fall orientation and on Merit Weekend, by directing people and answering any questions about the college, Blake said.

"It was amazing how many of the students, in their interviews, said they wanted to give back to the college," said Adrienne McMahan, assistant dean of student affairs in the college.

The ambassadors will also represent the college in community service pro-

grams. The program is geared toward promoting a college and community bond by participation at alumni receptions, meetings and other events.

"Ambassadors get to meet and work with other people, develop leadership and communication skills, and gain a better understanding of the College of Arts and Sciences," Blake said.

One of the new ambassadors, Doug Tabelaing, said he wanted to become a student ambassador to represent the college, UK and because he enjoys talking to, working with and helping out other people.

"I am excited about working with the

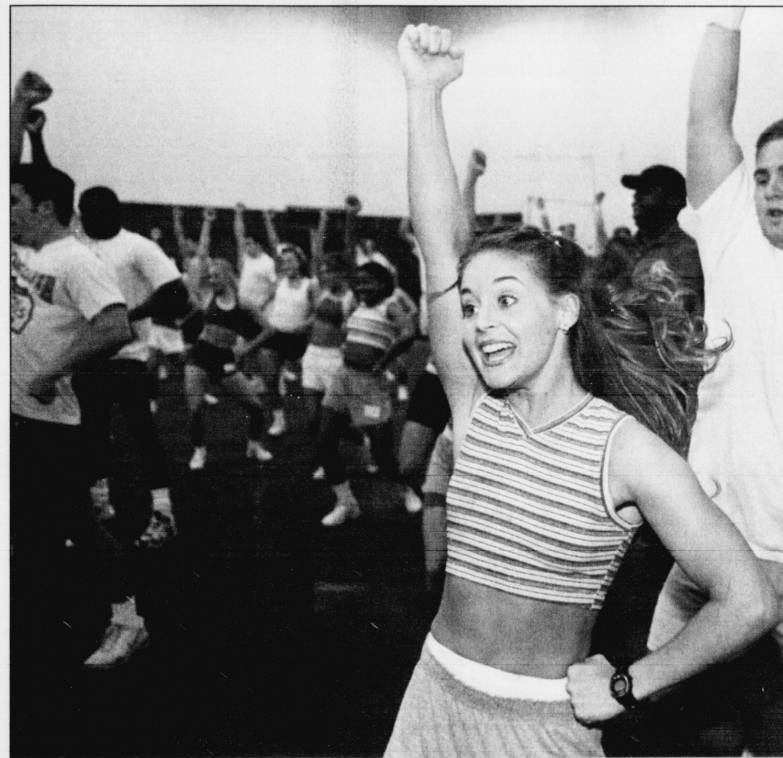
great people throughout the College of Arts and Sciences and the other ambassadors," Tabelaing said.

"We hope the ambassadors will help bring the College of Arts and Sciences and its students closer together," McMahan said.

The 11 ambassadors are Rebecca Brinker, Meghan Chesnut, Morgan Ellis, Mary Greaver, Jason Johnson, Jamie Kemp, Courtney Reynolds, Sarabeth Rodriguez, Julie Sander, Doug Tabelaing and Tina Webb.

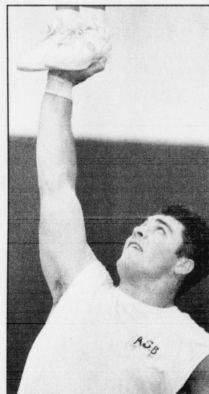
"The excitement of the College of Arts and Sciences has all the ambassadors very excited," Tabelaing said.

RAISE YOUR HANDS



Nursing sophomore Brandy Compton (left) hoped to return to the squad she was forced to leave this year because of stress fractures in each of her legs.

PHOTOS BY JAMES CRISP | KERNEL STAFF



Management freshman Tye Chastain (above), from San Diego, practiced stunts that involved lifting other contestants.

The team

It's harder than you think leading all those cheers at the ball games; just ask the national-champion cheerleaders

By Stefan Hendrickson
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

All guys who want to attend UK athletic events, hang out with cheerleaders, and can lift a small girl above their head with only one arm should check in to the UK cheerleading team and their open tryouts.

With six national championships this decade, including the last five consecutively, the UK cheerleading squad has become one of the dominate athletic programs of the NCAA.

Every year, they regroup in the fall for the first of their biannual tryouts open to the general student population.

Anyone can go through the process of trying out, but rest assured coach Saleem Habash is looking for a few individual characteristics.

"The basic requirements we look for are backgrounds in gymnastics and partner stunting," Habash said.

"We also look for athleticism, appearance, a good all-around appeal, enthusi-

asm, and those who are comfortable in front of a crowd."

It takes more than just athletic skills, though, to get fans into the game and motivate players to play their best.

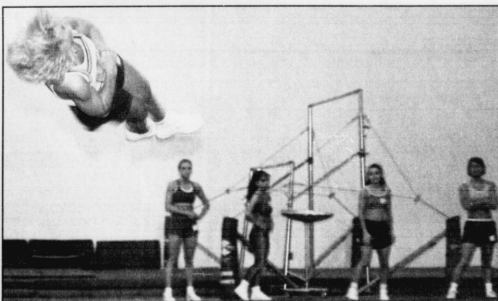
The job requires charisma and sufficient communication skills to interact with the crowd.

"Our cheerleaders are judged on their communication skills," Habash said, "so we make an interview part of the formal tryout process."

"It is simply a test of how well they can get the attention of the fans and communicate with them."

Communication is not the only challenging aspect of being a UK cheerleader. Although no female member of the Blue squad, the varsity squad of the UK team, is taller than 5-foot-2 or weighs more than 115 pounds, do not let that fool you. Their work schedule is no cake walk.

"We usually practice two to three times a week for about two and a half hours per practice," said Habash, who has



Contentants watched as Megan Sarver, of Parkersburg, W.Va., displayed her gymnastic abilities.

coached the last three UK championship teams and was a member of the 1996 squad.

"They are required to work out at least three times a week."

All the effort is to be able to watch the UK squad raise the championship trophy every January. This has become somewhat of a tradition for UK fans, alumni, and to the cheerleaders themselves.

Being the champion means being the hunted.

The cheerleaders must constantly push themselves to keep their skill and performance at the championship level.

"We expect to win the championship again come this January, but we know that there are a lot of people wanting to take our place," UK cheerleader and marketing freshman Carrie Napier said.

"Which is why we have to be willing to give 110 percent all the time."

"Even people on the White squad are ready to take your place if you falter. It's a constant challenge."

So to be the best, you have to beat the best.

And right now, the UK cheerleading team is the best team in the land.

ACADEMICS

Law school tough, bearable

First year is hell, second year much better, third year you wish it wouldn't end

By Sarah Okrzynski

CONTRIBUTING WRITER
For those who are curious about what law school is really like, here's the inside scoop from law students to shed some light on what it's all about. "I thought it'd be like the 'Paper Chase,' very competitive students and tough professors," said Jason Otis, a first-year student.

He found that law school wasn't like that at all. Otis developed a camaraderie with the other students, he said. When someone has a bad experience in class, he said, no one usually says anything except in jest.

"You have to be friends with these people, because you see the same people all the time," Otis said. Law school is similar to high school. The small community, about 150 students per graduating class, can be found every day in the same building. The college runs on a bell system, indicating beginning and end of classes. Before classes, many students can be found at lockers retrieving books for their next class. Law students also have assigned seats and even a formal dance similar to a prom.

"You come full circle from grade school to law school," Otis said. Otis said the hardest adjustment he had to make from undergraduate to law school was having homework every night without fail and having to go to class every day. It is essential for law students to keep up with assigned readings. Students who don't risk being called on and embarrassed in front of classmates.

"You have to read for class," said Laurie Warnecke, a third-year law student. "If you get called on and you are not prepared, you are sunk."

The professors hardly lecture, Otis said. They use the Socratic method, posing questions to students and forcing them to defend their answers.

It is not enough to be physically present, your mind must be there, too. Otis said he learned what becomes of students who "zone out" during class. A professor asked a question that Otis didn't even hear, he said. He was sharply reprimanded and embarrassed when called on and he didn't know the question, much less the answer, he said.

Law professors are people, too, Warnecke said. Professors will help you choose classes, help with job recommendations, and help deal with the stress of law school, she said.

"Professors (William) Fortune and (Allison) Connelly are excellent examples of professors who really care about their students and will go the extra mile to help you," Warnecke said.

Law students spend substantial amounts of time studying.

"For each 50-minute class, expect to do between one and a half to two hours of reading and studying," Warnecke said. While it is important to go to class and be prepared, it does not directly affect your grade. There are no quizzes or midterm exams. Law students have one final exam at the end of the semester that determines their grade.

LEGAL EAGLES

Clinic helping the less fortunate, plans to grow

With millennium closing in, students hoping to expand services to Lexington community

By Sarah Okrzynski

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The College of Law Legal Clinic is wrapping up its second year of operation and is looking to expand its practice in the new millennium.

When the clinic first opened in the fall of 1997, it primarily did legal work for the elderly who could not afford counsel, said professor Allison Connelly, director of the clinic.

Now the clinic serves the elderly, HIV patients and anyone who needs legal representation but can not afford it, except UK students, Connelly said.

UK students pay a \$3.25 fee as part of their tuition each se-

mester to Student Government Association, said Nate Brown, SGA president.

Part of that fee provides student legal services from an outside lawyer, which keeps the clinic from taking students on as clients, Connelly said. She said she would like the clinic to take over providing legal services from SGA.

"I like the idea of students helping students," she said.

SGA is in favor of the change, Brown said, for three reasons. It will give UK law students practical experience, it would free up thousands of dollars for other SGA services because the clinic services are

free, and the clinic office hours offer more flexibility for students to fit appointments into their schedules.

"Apparently, one of the seven justices who must vote on this change says he does not foresee any problem with this going through," Brown said.

In addition to expanding its clientele, the clinic is expanding its office space. Its new address will be three houses up the street at 630 Maxwellton Ave., where it will have more room to spread out, Connelly said.

The clinic is an elective that third-year law students can register for, Connelly said. It allows students to practice law under the supervision of a practicing attorney, she said. The students do everything from drafting wills to litigating in court, all to put what they

have learned in the classroom into practice.

"Professors teach a lot of theory, but never show us where the court house is," said Angie Mullins, a third-year law student. A student working at the clinic will handle an average four to six cases a semester, said Kathy Siler, a third-year law student.

"Working in the clinic gives you a lot of confidence to put what you've learned into practice," Siler said.

The students have found it rewarding to win a case and help those in need, Connelly said. "The work students do for the clinic has put a face to words like fairness and justice," she said.

Through March 5, the clinic has handled 229 cases and plans to forge ahead into the millennium.

LITTLETON TRAGEDY

Authorities interview gun seller

District attorney says man's arrest will be made within the next couple of days

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LITTLETON, Colo. — Authorities interviewed a man who may have sold the semi-automatic handgun to the youths who went on a rampage at Columbine High School, officials said yesterday.

District Attorney David Thomas said an arrest in the case will be made within a day or two. He told NBC's "Yesterday" show that authorities were discussing the man's surrender with his attorney.

Later in the day, however,

Thomas' spokeswoman said more information gathered by police had changed the timeline on an arrest.

"Because this is a quickly developing and very fluid investigation, the way the investigation went through the night, it does not look like there will be an arrest in the next 48 hours," said spokeswoman Pam Russell.

She declined to identify the man, saying, "They are in the process of interviewing or talking with the person."

Thomas said the man would be charged with violating a law against selling handguns to minors. The sale of the semiautomatic TEC-DC-9 was a "private transaction," he said. The transaction was made before the older gunman turned 18 earlier this month.

Asked if the seller could face accessory to murder charges, sheriff's spokesman Steve Davis said it would depend on whether he knew if the killers had planned to use the gun in the attack.

Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, hiding their arsenal under black trench coats, killed 13 people and wounded 23 others at the school April 20

before killing themselves. They had four guns and left more than 50 bombs at the school and in their homes. A diary indicates the plot had been planned for a year.

Thomas did not indicate which teen was believed to have bought the gun or how he or they knew the suspect.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents on Tuesday visited the pizza shop where Harris and Klebold worked. Jefferson County Sheriff John Stone said investigators believed someone who worked at that pizza shop acted as a middleman by putting the young men in contact with the weapons seller.



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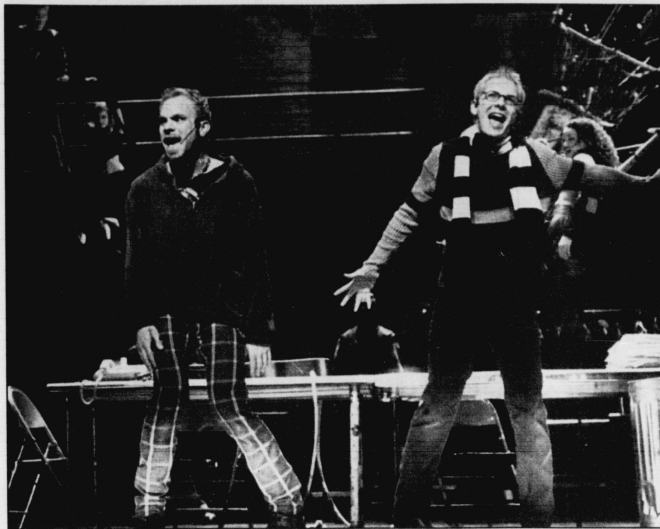


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AT THEATRES SOON

THEATER PREVIEW



Mark (right) and Roger sing a song in the Broadway production of Rent. The show's "Benny" company will make an appearance at Cincinnati's Taft Theatre this week.

PHOTO FURNISHED

'No day but today'

Broadway eviction: Pulitzer Prize-winning musical makes its way to the Queen City

By Matthew T. Patton
STAFF WRITER

How do you measure a year? The answer: 525,000 precious minutes. Or 525,000 seasons of love.

This is the message of *Rent*, the modern day version of Puccini's *La Bohème*. The musical is the winner of a 1996 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the 1996 Tony Award for Best Musical, Best Score and Best Book.

The show is a far cry from the norm, and hits audiences in a uniquely different manner than the typical *Oklahoma!* or *Show Boat*.

Succinctly put, it's the story of New York East Villagers living and struggling at the end of the millennium. But the story is huge.

Next week, the show makes its second appearance in Cincinnati.

The traveling company is the "Benny" company. The second is called "Angel," both named for primary characters in the play.

Danielle Lee Greaves plays Joanne, a lesbian lawyer who continually argues (and ultimately makes up) with her independent-minded girlfriend, Maureen. Greaves, a native New Yorker, joined the company from the "Angel" tour where she performed as a "Seasons of Love" soloist.

"The show," said Greaves in a telephone interview from the show's current stop in Raleigh, N.C., "sucks you in. We have played in cities where we anticipated pretty cold audiences, including Salt Lake City. I should not have judged the city in advance, because it was one of the warmest audiences."

The show is a collaboration of 33 songs, which Greaves said intends to open the mind of audience. "What we are dealing with here is several issues. We sing about homosexuality, AIDS, homelessness, love, life, death and the celebration of life."

She said receiving the casting invitation to perform was "one of the best things that ever

happened."

Greaves said she saw the show several times on Broadway, and always left with something positive. "Now," she said, "I'm the one delivering the positive messages. It's almost like magic." Greaves' Broadway credits include *Show Boat*, *Sunset Boulevard* and *The Wizard of Oz*.

Although she enjoyed the shows and the casts (including Roseanne as the witch in *The Wizard of Oz*), she wanted to perform in a more contemporary show.

Part of the magic, she says, is that once people see the show they might go home empty-handed, but not with an empty mind. "Many of the people that see the show are drawn to write letters, go to AIDS wards and hospitals and give back to the community."

"When I talk to people who see the show and still are not open to the idea of helping people with AIDS, I parallel the disease to cancer."

"It's a disease that kills. AIDS is very much the same. It attacks the body, and it breaks up families."

Though Greaves "would not trade her part for the

world," there is one setback: traveling.

"I love to travel," Greaves said. "Just not this often — it's very fatiguing." Cincinnati will be her 12th city in three months. The "Benny" company, unlike the "Angel" company, which stays in one location for more than a month, travels to a new city every week.

"Every night, no matter how tired you are, you get caught up in the energy. Every night is a blessing," Greaves said. "It's a shame that Jonathan is not around to contribute more theatre."

The creator of the show, Jonathan Larson, died from an aortic aneurysm at the age of 35 on the night of his last dress rehearsal in Manhattan.

The only people who do not enjoy the show, Greaves said, are the ones who are close-minded.

"I think everyone enjoys it — everyone except my dad. He was shocked and disturbed, but that's just how he is," laughed Greaves.

Rent plays next Tuesday at the Taft Theatre in Cincinnati. The show runs from May 4-11. Tickets are available by calling Ticketmaster at 257-TICS.

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UK SGA

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Tommy's calculation: 5,975

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THOUGHT PROVOKING

Sports year offered memories for editor

From the Outback Bowl to New Year's Eve parties, and upset wins to bringin' the house down basketball crowds



Matt May
SPORTSDAILY EDITOR

It's been one hell of a ride. Nine cities, eight states, 12 football games, 19 basketball games (plus a few more without UK), half a dozen baseball games, a women's basketball game, and so many practices and press conferences that I lost track of how many in September.

The whirlwind that has been this school year as Kernel SportsDaily editor has been at times confusing, difficult, challenging and draining, but has always been fun.

Seeing as this is the last Kernel issue, I would like to be selfish with this space and do a little something I have thought about all year.

So here goes, my favorite UK sports moments, in no particular order, from this year. Some are good, some aren't so great, some are just personal memories, some are about UK, some aren't, but all will be remembered.

It was a perfect day for anything outdoors, football included, when UK took the field at the Outback Bowl in Tampa, Fla. on New Year's Day.

What I'll remember most are the 45 to 50,000 blue-clad Cat fans filling Raymond James Stadium and going absolutely nuts. Penn State's contingent, not all that small in reality, seemed minuscule compared to the raucous Cat fans.

Continuing with the Outback Bowl theme, perhaps the biggest shock I had all year while covering the Cats was New Year's Eve in Ybor City, Fla., just outside of Tampa.

In what amounted to a miniature Bourbon Street, Ybor City's strip of clubs, bars and other specialty stores turned into Cat Central, as locals were outnumbered a good 10-to-1 by party-going UK

fans. As the countdown to midnight went down, UK fans spelled out C-A-T-S so many times, I began hearing the chant in my sleep.

Freedom Hall in Louisville: The loudest college basketball arena I have ever been in, with Bud Walton Arena in Arkansas a close second.

UK invaded Freedom Hall twice this season, once for its annual border war with Indiana, the other for its rivalry with U of L, but left both times with ringing ears.

Talk about home-floor advantage, U of L used it to the fullest, riding an emotional wave by fans to upset UK for the second straight season.

A soldout crowd of nearly 20,000 rocked the Cats early and often as U of L fast-broke and dunked its way to having the fans blow the roof off of Freedom Hall. It was absolutely the loudest and craziest atmosphere I have ever witnessed in college hoops.

The Southeastern Conference Tournament was a classic, as UK won three games in three days to claim yet another title, but it had nothing on the Cats' NCAA Tournament matchup with Kansas.

Two of the winningest programs in history squared off in New Orleans for a heavyweight battle usually reserved for the Final Four. Unlike most games of such high anticipation, this one lived up to its billing, as only a Scott Padgett three and a dominant overtime allowed UK to slip past the Jayhawks and move into the later rounds.

Finally, there was perhaps the biggest UK football win in the last five years, as the Cats entered Death Valley, a.k.a. Baton Rouge, La., and exited with a last-second win on a field goal to upset Louisiana State. That win set the tone for what turned out to be a bowl-earning season.

It has been a great year, thanks for reading and for all the responses throughout the school year.

BASEBALL

Revenue Wrestling

Big-market franchises run smaller teams into ground

Socialism is a good thing. In sports, any-

way. Teams need to be kinder and gentler toward their compatriots.

I'm not referring to on-field competitiveness.

The New York Yankees should try to drive their opponents into the ground every time out, as they did with regularity last year in their championship romp.

Unfortunately, the Bombers and their big-revenue counterparts are in danger of driving their small-time competition into the ground financially as well, all the while showing no apparent remorse for or knowledge of the consequences of their actions.

What the Yankees and the rest of the major-league clubs who do not support revenue sharing fail to realize is that no matter how dominant their teams become, the game of baseball is only as strong as the caliber of the visiting clubs wandering into their

ballparks. George Steinbrenner expressed a "so what?" attitude recently when asked about the plight of small-market clubs, such as Montreal and Minnesota.

He feels his team should be able to keep all of the revenues he and his employees have worked to earn.

In principle, he is right. The Yankees earned their money and should be able to do with it as they please.

In reality, another decade without revenue sharing will reduce those clubs to little more than glorified versions of the Globetrotters' Washington Generals whipping boys.

People will not turn out to watch the Yankees (or whoever) run all over the opposition night after night.

Steinbrenner and the rest of the owners would do well to embrace socialism.

In their league, anyway.

Kernel Columnist John Dobson is a journalism junior.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Healthy adults are needed at the UK Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Spectroscopy Center for functional MRI studies of the human brain. Volunteers will be reimbursed \$15 for participating. For further information, please call 323-3682



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Golden Forks



Years ago, as the legend goes, an embittered Kernel editor came back to the office upset, hurt and insulted. A prominent campus figure unfairly harangued the young reporter for an offense the reporter did not commit. It was at that point, in the heat and sweat and tension, that the young editor vowed revenge. From these feelings of scorn, the Golden Forks were born. As a testament to that young reporter, we take it upon ourselves to strike back with venomous pleasure at those who have wronged us, the mighty Fourth Estate.

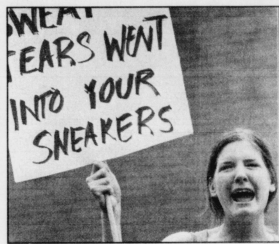
(Editor's note: Yeah, that's the same line of crap we've been feeding this campus for decades. But it's a good enough story to bear repeating. Actually, the Forks are our way of poking fun at the chicanery and buffoonery that take place all year at UK. If you feel you've been unfairly forked, take it up with next year's editors: Pat Clem in the summer and Mark Vanderhoff in the fall. Or write us a letter. Because this is our last regular issue, it won't get published, but at least you'll feel better.)

The "We Told You So" Award

The UK administration for not realizing the consequences of their dry campus policy. Unfortunately, many students now know of the willingness of the Lexington police to ticket students for everything under the sun. Why, with all their degrees and their intelligence, were administrators so short-sighted in this move?

The "No You Didn't - Yes I Did!" Award

To SGA president Nate Brown, for nominating Matt Andersen to the SGA Elections Board without telling him or the Senate. It's too bad Supreme Court nominations don't work the same way. It makes jury duty seem like a good idea.



The "Let's Make-Believe That We're in the 60s" Award

The Leftist Student Union, for its unique perspective on issues that dramatically affect the UK campus, such as sweatshop labor. Um, wait, do they really affect us that much? In any case, it's put Kinko's back in business with the ubiquitous flyers and signage.

The "Amazing Grasp of the Obvious" Award

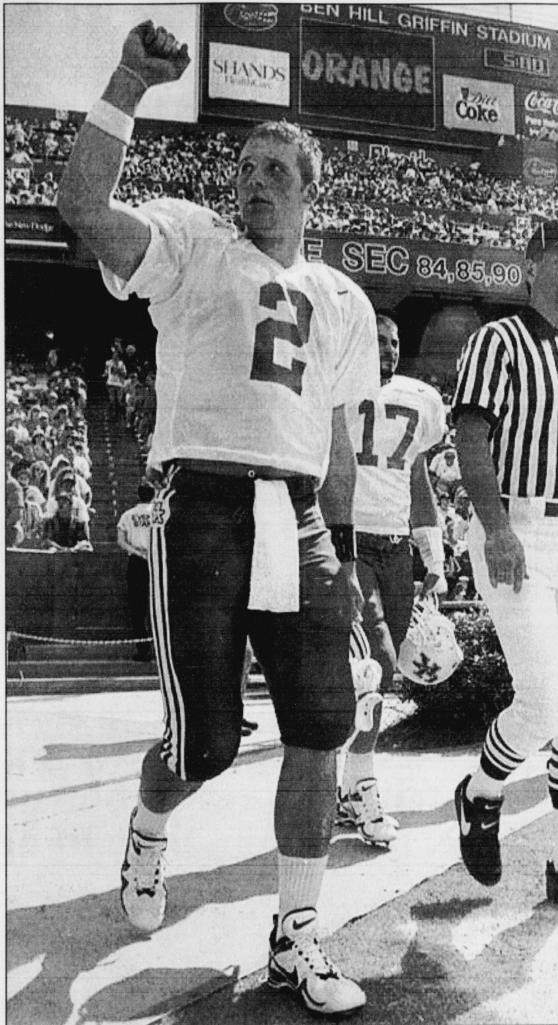
To members of UK's Interfraternity Council who suggested that gays might face trouble being accepted in UK's Greek community. Besides the jumping-through-flaming-hoops selection process required for all new fraternities, and the comments from fraternity members saying they wouldn't go out of their way to associate with them, what else are they basing their statements on?

The "Lexington Is a Library" Award

To the Lexington police department, for their judicious interpretation of the city's noise ordinance. Whether there's 500 or five people gathered on a front porch, any noise louder than a bottle dropping is likely to result in some blue light specials. But these specials (called citations) are more expensive than anything on K-Mart's shelves.

The "Immediate Dividends" Award

To the Council on Postsecondary Education, for their promise that an extreme tuition increase would benefit the UK community. So far, we've seen nothing. But there are plenty of promises of things to come, such as campus construction projects tearing up sidewalks and causing havoc.



The "He Could Buy His Own Hometown" Award

The Deuce, Tim Couch, who shattered every Kentucky passing record ever created. He's now so wealthy that he could buy everyone in his hometown of Hyden (pop. 350) their own sport-utility vehicle, just like the one Tim toolled around campus in.

The "Person I'd Want On My Side in a Dark Alley" Award

Jamaal Magloire. In addition to being 6-10 and 299 pounds, he has a mean streak in him. Anyone who gets technical fouls called on him for snarling at an opponent is someone we'd want fighting for us. And Jamaal, please stay in school and kick ass for the team next year. Somehow, Saul Smith doesn't seem like the intimidator type.

The "Let's Not Waste Useless Paper" Award

To Nate Brown for not submitting his required memos to the SGA Senate. Hey Nate, credibility is important in most elected offices.



Brown

The "Let's Not Read Useless Paper" Award

To the Senate for not reading the memos that Nate Brown did put out. Hey senators, reading material from your president is pretty important in most elected offices.

The "Least Likely to Marry a Sorority Girl" Award

To Kernel columnist Manish Bhatia, who emerged from a small pack of individuals to claim sole possession of this not-so-coveted prize. And for those who never bothered asking him, yes, he is from India, and no, he doesn't have immediate plans of returning there anytime soon.

The "You Can Run, But You'll Probably Trip and Fall" Award

To UK freshman guard J.P. Blevins, who following UK's glorious win over Maryland, attempted to flee from police investigating a complaint of a loud party. Hey J.P., everyone knows who you are, and you were intoxicated. What do you think your chances of not getting caught were?

The "Maybe We Should Have Gone With Plan B" Award

To Cartwright Stephens and Joe Schmeggenburger, for their refusal to publicly state their stance on any issues during the SGA elections. Maybe a dramatic revelation of one issue per day leading up to the elections would have been a better strategy. Or possibly some people on unicycles and furry animal mascots jumping around. Hey, didn't somebody try something like that last year?



Stephens

The "Oops! I Must Have Forgotten My Cause" Award

To all the people who cried out following the death of disabled student Stanley McGowan for all of one week. Hey people, real causes don't get forgotten by their supporters when the person is laid to rest. Did you do these things for your consciences only?

The "Don't Touch Me There Award"

To the security guards at Commonwealth Stadium during the first half of the football season. You know, there are people other than students who drink at football games, and they're all sitting on the other side. Besides, how much vodka can one sneak under a spaghetti-tank top and short shorts? Thankfully, the searches stopped in mid-season after a retired police officer questioned the legality of the random searches. Do you think any administrators had to lift up their shirts?

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6 | FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1999 | KENTUCKY KERNEL

On the record

Surveys, surveys

WASHINGTON - Sexual satisfaction is more important than job satisfaction, but less important than family, money and religion, according to a survey of adult Americans to be released today. The survey, designed to assess the attitudes of Americans toward sexual health, found that 82 percent of 500 adults ranked a satisfying sex life as important or very important. "Loving family relationships" was ranked as important or very important by 99 percent of those surveyed, while financial security was a point behind at 98 percent. In third place was religion and spiritual life at 86 percent. Job satisfaction was rated as important or very important by only 79 percent.

94

Percentage of respondents who agreed with the statement, "Enjoyable sexual relations add to a person's quality of life, even when they grow older."

46

Percentage of respondents who said they have never had sexual problems.

71

Percentage of respondents afraid of being told by a doctor a sexual problem was in their head.

57

Percentage of women in the survey who said they thought women were blamed more often for sexual problems.

47

Percentage of men in the survey who said they thought women were blamed more often for sexual problems.

5

Percentage of respondents who said they wouldn't discuss their sexual problems with anyone, even doctors or close friends.

Associated Press

Chain reaction

Readers are encouraged to submit letters to the editor and guest opinions to the Dialogue page. Address comments to: "Letters to the Editor," Kentucky Kernel 25 Cnoch J. Grehan Journalism Building Lexington, Ky. 40506-0042

Send electronic mail to kernelpop.uky.edu.

Letters should be about 200 words; guest opinions should be no longer than 600 words. All material should be typewritten and double-spaced.

Include your name and major classification (for publication), as well as your address and telephone number, which will be kept confidential, for verification.

The Kernel reserves the right to edit all material received.



READERS' FORUM

Expressions

A Manish face-off!

To the editor:

I am a woman, not just a woman, but a strong proud African-American woman. I believe in equal and fair opportunities for women of all races, religions and political agendas.

I was not offended by Manish's column. I am a realist. I know women's history and the struggles by something that I am not, and the lyrics can sometimes be less than desirable, but if I don't share those traits, then I am not moved.

Some women are just as Manish described them in his piece. I don't understand why the subject of women sleeping with men for money is so hush-hush. It happens every day. Anyone male or female

could not comprehend what Manish was trying to accomplish needs to check themselves! Instead of worrying about what one man said in a college paper, worry about what you are doing or not doing. I do not believe his piece (that was supposed to be a fluke) has been detrimental to the women's rights movement. I think women need to unite in the way that we carry ourselves in public — and private. Even though Manish was not recommending that men should treat women as prostitutes, he was showing the flip side to the "all men are dogs" theory. All men are not dogs, because I have met a wonderful man who would never treat me or another woman as less than a queen.

There is some truth in his piece about the attitudes of males and females when it comes to money, sex and dating. Some women have sex with men who give them

money and expensive gifts, just like some men treat women as sex objects and/or prostitutes.

I spoke with Manish, and he seemed like a good guy, so it really doesn't matter who is offended by my defense of Manish. If you are going to get mad at him, then you might as well go to a secluded island to live in a perfect world where stereotypes don't exist.

So my question now is: Now that we know that nobody is perfect, where do you live from here?

SHULEISA STEWART
 JOURNALISM SENIOR

To the editor:

As an employee of UK, I was appalled at the article by Manish Bhatia in last Thursday's Kernel. "A user's guide to purchasing women." Who approved this article to be published?

Maybe you should get a true American to do this column from now on.

PENNY DAVIS
 KENTUCKY CLINIC EMPLOYEE

Check out www.kykernel.com for more letters to the editor.

Have a beef with the Kernel? Let's do lunch



Clark Case
 ASSISTANT DIALOGUE EDITOR

Farewells? Cue the tears. Cue the sad music. Cue the memories. CUT! It's not over for me, my friends. Who knows what I'll be doing, but I have another year remaining at UK — a year which will, hopefully, see a few of my remarks published on the Dialogue page.

Yet, my future is not what this gig's about. It's about my year at the Kernel. Here's what I've learned in a bombshell: The Kernel is the best student organization on campus. That's all there is. Do I need to repeat it?

The Kernel is the best student organization on campus. Some of you are laughing right now. Some of you are furious. I've got 10 words for you: The Kernel is the best student organization on campus — period.

Now you're either in stitches or smoke is issuing from your ears. Or, perhaps some of you are wondering if I'm right. Regardless of what you think, I am right, and tell you why I shall. First of all, I sent a column to the Kernel in December of 1997, because I enjoy writing and thought it best to exercise that ambition in a public arena. A healthy handful of columns later, my friend Matt Ellison asked if I'd like to help out this year on the Dialogue page, an invitation I adventurously accepted.

Why does this matter? I am not a journalism major. Working for a newspaper is not something I had ever considered doing, either now or later. Finally, I knew nothing about filling a position in the ranks which put out a daily newspaper.

Thereby, the Kernel is not — contrary to popular belief — wholly a place for future journalists to gain experience. It is an inclusive student organization run by students who take the same number of classes as you and juggle the same responsibilities as any other college student.

The difference in the Kernel is simple: The Kernel produces a tangible product, day in and day out, which is read by an incredible number of people on campus.

Sometimes, there might be errors in the stories. Sometimes, coverage might

miss an event. Sometimes, columns might take an overly-offensive stand.

But keep in mind that you, by nature, only remember the bad things — primarily because you never stopped to marvel at the things that were good and the fact that those things were produced by students after a long day of class while you were drinking, watching television or the like. I'm not saying the Kernel is the only student organization at UK that does anything. I'm simply reminding you the Kernel does the most and has the most impact.

Still, some of you think you are too smart to work at the Kernel, or your writing is too good to be subjected to the Kernel's editorial staff, or your academic standards are too high to annihilate your grade-point average by spending the time it takes to work at the Kernel.

If you fit any or all of the above criteria, I want to buy your lunch. During our meal, you and I can compare our transcripts, samples of our writing and various other indicators of academic prowess. Then, when you see there are people from the Kernel who can make you feel academically inadequate, I'll tell you the Kernel doesn't need any résumé supermodels who would prefer to commit a few days to a food drive and spend a few hours in meetings. You'd quit after putting a few days of real thought into a real product, anyway.

Even the best can be better, and the Kernel does not deny its imperfections. It just works to improve them. Moreover, everyone down here brings something different to this paper, and great kids are always coming and going. If you want to come, dig your way over here. If you care and think you'd like to experience this phenomenon, you can work your way in.

If you, for whatever reason, cannot or do not want to work for the Kernel but nevertheless respect it, we appreciate your support and respect what you prefer to do. The rest of you who are still sitting out there laughing or snarling, quit reading the paper and hide behind your ego, reassuring yourself regularly that you are too good or the Kernel is too bad.

The Kernel doesn't care. I don't care. Nobody cares. Just remember: If you care to debate your point, look me up for lunch. I'm buying.

Shootings leave much left to accomplish



Matt Ellison
 DIALOGUE EDITOR

the most important read about it.

Now, having set myself up for imminent failure, I'll proceed.

Don't kill. Treat others the way you'd want to be treated. Don't lie. Don't steal.

Do these rules sound familiar? They might or might not, depending upon what sort of moral standards you observe. They're familiar to me, having grown up in a stable, affluent, two-parent, God-fearing household. They're familiar to others who have grown up in similar environments, and even to some who have grown up in unstable, poor, single-parent households. But chances are that these households are guided by the principles of Christianity, like mine.

It took me a couple of near-coma drinking experiences and almost getting arrested before I realized that alcohol probably wasn't healthy for me. Why? Because it did nothing but temporarily fill a void in my life. Once I lost my buzz and moved into a full-blown drunken stupor, the void was empty once again.

I filled that void in my life with a relationship with Jesus Christ. Now I realize I've just lost about half of you when I mentioned the words "Jesus Christ." You've got to hear me out on this one, unless you see nothing wrong with living a life of lies and deception, not to mention pain and suffering not only to you, but to those around you.

People have a misconception that one becomes a Christian by following a bunch of rules. That's a little off the mark. You become one by admitting that you don't have all the answers, that you don't profess to know all the answers, and you'd rather rely on an expert than your own pitiful knowledge.

These undue burdens, as some believe them to be, are merely there to help

your life be easier. Need some proof? Not killing people means you won't go to jail or be compelled to take your own life as Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold did. They knew what they did was wrong, but they didn't want to suffer the consequences, so they took their own lives. If they hadn't killed people in the first place, they wouldn't have felt compelled to kill themselves.

If Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold had been treated with some respect by their peers, they wouldn't have been driven to kill these people. Instead, the absence of love from others made them feel alienated and ashamed. If they'd been treated with respect from others, 15 people might not be six feet under right now.

If Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold hadn't lied repeatedly to their parents about what they were looking at on the internet or what materials they were storing in their garage, or to their probation officer about how sorry they really were for getting in trouble with the law, then someone might have caught them before it was too late.

If they hadn't illegally obtained the firearms they used to blow people's brains out, maybe they wouldn't have pulled off the siege with such ease.

If Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold had committed their lives to Christ, then none of this would ever have happened. That's the bottom line. If we want to end violence like this, we must turn to someone else who has all the answers for our confused lives.

The past year has been an opportunity for me to reach the UK community via the Dialogue page. Hopefully I've reached some, and I know I've alienated others.

But the shootings in Littleton, Colo., make me realize just how far I have to go. I don't have all the answers, but I know the person who does.

That's the first step to finding fulfillment in your life. Check your ego at the door, and realize that there are some things that you just can't be better than.

Are you willing to surrender your life to someone who knows more than you? Or are you content to fall miserably due to your own shortcomings? The choice is yours. Make the right one.

Goodbye, campus



Mat Herron
 EDITOR IN CHIEF

So if our readership will indulge me, I'm going to drop some names. William "Phone home" and Kathleen "It's a mom thing," Herron, Carrie "I thought about you the other day" Morrison, Brett "Geez" Dawson, Buck "Yeah" Ryan, Scoobie "I have a real problem with authority" Ryan, Michael "Hey guys" Agin, Patsy "Just damn do it" Martin, Ty "Ace" Halpin, Scott "Irregardless" Drake, Ben "The" Abes, Jason "Bud" Dattilo, Tracie "I've got a fever!" Purdon, Tiffany "Flo" Gilmartin, Kim "Keen" Cullen, Jeff "Rabin" Vinson, Molly "The Queen" Crawford, Gregory A. "You weren't there" and Phyllis "How's your family?" Hall, Kelley "Little Mister" Bozeman, Chris "Man, do we got any late news tonight?" Rosenthal, Mike "You should hear me when I get excited" Heppermann, Eric "Garbage" Schoenborn, Brian "No way" Bennett, Brian "Fool" Jent, and Jen "Where're you going wit dat?" Smith.

Then there's Chris "Quality" Campbell, Dan "... 'n' shit" O'Neill, Brenna "capo" Ohlson, Boston, New York City, Orlando, James "Your ass is impeding my progress" Ritchie, Chicago, Samuel Adams, Jason "Foster's" — Australian for Beah? Kuhlman, Deanna "We'll make it work" Masden, David "Who's your daddy?" Gorman, David "I'm not at liberty to say" Stockham, Brian "Carlylyle" Dunn, James "I remember when ..." Crisp, Matt "Did she set you up?" Barton, Julie "Smart ass" Herron, Aaron "Well, on dad's team ..." Sanderford, Tony "Moderation is best" Lococo, Cait "Dude" Herron, Steve "Twin-Kles" Dorsey, Gerry "Drink like the journalists we are" Doyle, Joel "Thanks for throwin' this" Odum, Aretha "What side you represent?" Frison, Karla "I need to go home" Dooley, Pat "Can you roll down the window?" Clem, Luke "Can I just leave you my budget?" Saladin, Clark "Hey man, why do we (insert Kernel policy question here)" Case, Mark "Triple shot of Wild Turkey" Vanderhoff, Robert "Can I have one inch?" Quan, Brenna "Y'all" Reilly, Ellen "You've got a big package here" Lord, Alison "I'm such a pushover" Knight, Matt "Will you read my story so I can go home?" May, Kim "I love Eddie Vedder" Petty, Tony "Are you naked?" Benningfield, John "I'm getting married" Stamper, Julie "And DiFranco" Peña, Ron "That just sounds bad" Norton, Jay "Can I have a little boarder president indulgence?" Blanton, Jay "Macho man" Tate, Eric "Wanna scoop the Herald?" Gregory, Matt "You forgot me in this column!" Ellison, Jill "Say cantalope" Erwin, Marissa "What did I do now?" Fugate, Lance "Aww man!" Williams, David Hwap, Liz Petrus, Tom Caudill, and on and on and on.

Inevitably I will have forgotten someone in all this, but for those of you that didn't make it in here, your guidance and friendship are golden.

Katy Crossen
KERNEL COLUMNIST

I'm coming home ... but 'll definitely be back

In a Steely Dan song, the chorus says, "I'm never going back to my old school."

I did some thinking about those words. "Never going back." That's powerful stuff. I'm sure I've threatened never to come back to UK before. Perhaps it was in a moment of University gridlock, but more likely, it happened when I was looking for a parking spot on campus. I'm sure I defiantly shook my fist at the sky, taunting the gods by saying, "I'm never coming back here, dammit!"

In reality, I cannot imagine a life without UK.

I am leaving UK next week with the hopes this school has given me all I need to make it in the big, bad world. If there's one thing I have become pretty comfortable with, it's stepping on other people's toes, and I owe all the cred-

it to this school.

For the last four years, the end of March has ushered in some pretty awesome displays of unity; you might know them as block parties. Remember Woodland and Euclid? That's where I got in all of my toe-stepping practice. There was no invitation required; you came as you were. It was an event for all people of all kinds: male and female, black and white, Greek and independent, gay and straight, young and old.

The students at this University have so much spirit, and it's evident in everything we do. From shouting in the student section at sporting events to writing passionate letters to the Kernel, we have a love for life that is second to no other. We stage protests to voice our opinions against city ordinances and University policy, and we camp out for hours and sometimes

days to get tickets to sporting events.

Do not let go of this spirit. Let it guide you through life, and use this passion to your advantage. Whether you are a lobbyist in D.C. or a trader on Wall Street, if you're anchoring the news in L.A. or growing tobacco in Barren County, let your fever for life continue to burn in all of your actions. Without this passion, we will become disenchanted, apathetic and more importantly, we will be content with the state of the world. Without spirit, our world will continue to degenerate to something we are not prepared for.

But UK has given me so much more than spirit. From lifelong friendships and treasured memories to a few experiences I'd rather forget, I have lived so much life here at UK. All of these memories will make me want to come back to my old school.

I will never want to relive the many fire alarms at Blanding Tower, and I do not look back fondly on those freshman English research papers. But smiles cross my face when I think about the late night runs to Denny's during finals, and the first time a friend was called a "Ho Virgin." It's here to think the wild and crazy moments I've had here will some time be referred to as "back in the day."

I can see a quickly approaching world of rent and car payments. I realize it's not going to be as easy to skip work as it has been to skip class. I'm getting ready to enter a world where insurance plans matter (Do you have dental?), and vacation is two weeks out of 52.

I'm from out of state, and some day I'm going to want to make a visit to come back to my old school. I'll come back to watch Tim Couch Jr.

play in Lexington. It's the season after their Fiesta Bowl appearance, and everybody will be trying to get in the newly named Hal Mumme Stadium.

I am testament to the fact that not just the superstars can have a great experience here at UK. My grades have been less than stellar, but my time here has been just as memorable as anybody else's. I am so glad UK picked me for the Class of '99, and I'm glad I picked UK. There might have been a semester or two when my parents were reluctant to write out the tuition check, but I'm glad they did.

Thank you, mom and dad, for sacrificing for me. Thanks for encouraging me to make each semester better than the last, and thanks for picking me up at the airport every time I came home. But be forewarned, you're going to have to take me back ... I've got a plane to catch.

READERS' FORUM

Expressions

Social ridicule best explains Littleton tragedy

To the editor:

I know it's hard to say what exactly drove those kids over the edge in Colorado, but I'm tired of listening to people try to explain what happened instead of asking what the real problem might be.

Obviously, it takes a person who is not entirely acting in a normal state of mind to commit such an act. Don't try to single these kids out for doing this because of the music they listen to or the ways in which they dress. In all honesty, these young men had some level of intelligence because they obtained or made the weapons they used, and they planned the act extensively.

Here's why these guys went AWOL. The hardest pressures in high school or to a teen-ager in the 1990s is some sort of acceptance in a social sense. I can't believe no one has actually considered this possibility. These two guys were outcasts, ridiculed by the jocks and preps of their school, and it might have been time for a little revenge for being left out of the social loop.

How else can you explain a dozen kids wearing black trench coats, other than trying to get attention? Everyone wants to be a part of the "in" crowd at their school.

That's why I joined a fraternity in college, and why so many people do the same thing at UK. I had a hard time initially making friends and was certainly upset about being left out of the social loop. It was frustrating, but I have a good enough head on my shoulders not to kill anyone.

Some people might see that as the way to get even or finally to be noticed. If I had I wanted to kill people in my high school, I could have obtained any of the materials to make bombs. Handguns and sawed-off shotguns would have cost a couple hundred bucks, and let's face it, with most kids working, this is not that expensive.

The point is: Ask those of us who know what might be going on with the problems are and you might get the right answers.

JAMES HENSELEY
PHYSICS AND EDUCATION FRESHMAN

Nobody to blame for tragedy except shooters

To the editor:

The incident that happened at that high school in Colorado was nobody's fault except the kids who did it. I hate how everybody tries to play it off on somebody or something else. It's not the violence on television or the video games.

I grew up watching violence on TV and playing violent video games, but do you see me out there killing every single person who makes fun of me? No.

It's not a gun issue, either. Guns

have been around homes for years, and until recently, it has been no big deal. It should matter if the parents of those boys knew what they were going to do and didn't alert the cops, but it's not their fault unless they egged it on.

Nobody is to blame except for the deranged people who committed the crime. Kids pick on one another in high school and sometimes in college, but doesn't mean they are to blame. These deranged kids should be shot, and they were, by their own hands. If they can't handle the pressure of life and go out killing people, we don't need them!

CORY SOWARDS
UNDEclared FRESHMAN

Do we need to be pointing fingers?

To the editor:

Who's to blame?

Everyone seems to have an opinion as to who is at fault in the terrible shootings at Columbine High School. I, for one, am sick and tired of hearing the "experts" on every news program and talk show blame gun control, video games or movies, or say the parents did not raise the children correctly. Bullshit! Why don't we ask the people who are involved what they think? Or is the media too caught up in getting the latest expert opinion to notice the high school kids of today have the answer?

On the news the other night, a student from Littleton correctly identified what happened: The shooters had been ridiculed all through high school for being different than the popular clique. The ridicule finally got the best of them, and they struck back violently.

End of story.

The news reporter dismissed her statement and went on to ask about what role video games played in the shooting.

The sad part is this could happen in any high school in America. I challenge you to find a school that does not have outcasts whom the "jocks" and "popular crowd" ridicule.

It happened at my high school, and I bet it happened at yours. There is a general feeling among teens today that ridiculing people is cool and funny.

I am not saying what happened in Colorado is just. Quite the opposite, it's a tragedy that has changed the lives of thousands of innocent individuals.

You want to blame someone? Look at the facts about ridiculing people who are different in schools. It happens every day. We've all been to schools where this kind of ridicule happens every day.

Until today's teens realize the importance of treating all individuals with respect whether you like their style or issues, massacres like the one at Columbine will continue to occur.

Fifteen lives were lost, because we have lost respect for fellow human beings.

BRYAN KRAEMER
MARKETING SENIOR



Manish revisited

To the editor:

Well, I guess I should start off by male-bashing or saying how pig headed all males are, but that is not what I am going to do. It is not the truth. To say all men are anything is stupid. That is why I do not generalize men, and it should go both ways. There are plenty of different types of people out there and to say that everyone is the same is ignorant.

I am appalled at what Manish Bhatia had to say in his recent column. Labeling women in the four categories of slut, ugly, freak and chick, it is no wonder why he isn't getting laid! What happened to manners? A man should want to pay for his date's dinner without expecting anything, it is only right.

What I think Manish needs to realize is that men's needs are a little different from women's, and it is not always the man that picks up the check or pays for child support. I can count plenty of women that have done both, and it doesn't just take my 10 fingers.

MEGAN O'MALLEY
UNDEclared FRESHMAN

Column was not funny at all

To the editor:

The Bhatia column printed in your paper last week offends me in more ways than I am going to be able to document in this letter. If it was meant to be humorous, it was in poor taste. In fact, the only humor I can locate in the column are the ideas that this boy thinks \$40 is an expensive dinner for two, and he seems to believe he is a nice guy. I have found no one who recognizes the article as satirical.

Bhatia is displaying attitudes that are dangerous not only to women, but also to our entire society. In essence, he is advocating a male's right to take whatever he wants from a woman if he is willing to pay a little money.

A woman or man should choose to engage in sexual intercourse because they want to share that special moment with a partner, not because they feel obligated to someone who spent a little money to be with them.

JIM WHITE
ANTHROPOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENT

Jay Blanton

PRESIDENT, KERNEL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bhatia column is not what the Kernel's about

Words are important. They have meaning. They are powerful.

Ironically, sometimes the people who should hold those thoughts most sacred are the ones who forget them most often.

A case in point, in my judgment, was the recent column by Manish Bhatia, which ostensibly was designed to satirize stereotypes that society holds about men and women. To accomplish that objective, it drew some outlandish analogies and used intentional provocation to make a point. It missed.

The column failed on a number of important levels.

In so doing, it threatened the credibility of the Kernel as a place where the ideas and practices of inclusiveness and tolerance are to be celebrated, not trampled.

Moreover, the column should remind us that words and ideas can profoundly impact people. In this case, words hurt and offended people deeply. That shouldn't have happened.

I've been associated with the Kernel for 15 years, as a writer, editor and current president of the Kernel board of directors. This incident is not the first time the paper has stepped over the line in those years. I know. I've been a participant in such crossings myself. It probably won't be the last. That's what happens when you use words as tools to impart information and provoke dialogue and discussion.

But I hope this column will be an important reminder for the board — and for the entire institution — about the need to balance free expression and dialogue with responsibility, discernment and common sense.

Among other things, the newspaper's adviser, Mike Agin, and I are committed to introducing sensitivity and diversity training at the beginning of each school year as a way of examining a newspaper's role in promoting and protecting these important ideas on campus.

We also will be bringing in more professionals — people who confront tough issues on a daily basis — to conduct seminars so that our student editors and writers intensify their education about what constitutes good journalism and what does not.

The Kernel is a business like any other newspaper. But most importantly, it is a living, learning — and I hope — vibrant laboratory. At its best, the Kernel should be a place where ideas are discussed and where some measure of truth is sought. That's what newspapers, particularly student newspapers, are supposed to do.

In the case of Mr. Bhatia's column, we failed those goals on two important levels.

First, Mr. Bhatia was presumably attempting satire, a particularly difficult art to pull off in writing. For the sake of argument, I will take Mr. Bhatia and his defenders at their word that honorable satire was his intent.

Satire, when done well, uses outlandish circumstances, and even parody, to point out a greater truth. The movie "Dr. Strangelove" used outlandish satire, for instance, to point out the insanity of war. In the context

of its times, the infamy of the Vietnam War, it was a powerful indictment of our country's policies.

Similarly, the more recent movie, "Bob Roberts," satirically examined the sometimes inherent corruption of politics and the way the masses can be manipulated by that process.

Both examples worked because they were clearly satire. Both examples worked because they clearly pointed to an important, although perhaps unsettling, truth.

Mr. Bhatia didn't accomplish those lofty objectives. He didn't even come close. No context existed for his remarks. And his point about stereotypes was completely lost on virtually everyone who read the column.

One wonders if a similar column invoking racial stereotypes would have so readily found its way into the paper. I doubt it. We quickly and correctly draw the line on racially charged words. Why isn't the same consideration given to sexually charged words?

It should have been.

The second failure involves the age-old discussion of free speech liberties vs. responsibility. The argument is that anything that discourages free expression and dialogue is, by definition, censorship. The fact remains that journalists and newspapers engage in similar forms of censorship every day. They practice self-censorship in an attempt to balance liberty with compassion.

The vast majority of newspapers today still decline to print the names of rape victims. They censor their liberties and their rights to publish victims' names, because most newspaper executives acknowledge the fact that rape is still a highly stigmatized crime in this country.

As such, compassion trumps liberty when it comes to the victims of such a heinous and tragic crime.

The great thing about liberty and freedom is knowing when to exercise them and knowing when to practice restraint.

I wish I had known that lesson 10 years ago when I was editor of the Kernel. Back then, I allowed a similar column that poked fun at sororities to be published. I, too, argued that the column was an example of free expression and satire.

It was wrong. The column only served to maliciously malign a bunch of young people who didn't deserve it. I found that out when a number of sororities invited me to their Monday night dinners to give me a piece of their minds.

Instead of the stereotypes lampooned in the column, I found intelligent and compassionate young women who were outraged at what the Kernel had printed. To this day, I wish I had practiced a little restraint on my liberty and freedom. I wish that I had remembered that words are important.

They have meaning.

And they are powerful.

It is my pledge as president of the Kernel's board that we will work harder to take heed of that lesson in the future.

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