

Friday
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THE KENTUCKY Kernel

Celebrating 33 years of independence

Campus pastor praises
Pope John Paul II
Page 4

National Lampoon profiles
partying sides of UK in TV show
Page 3



Barhonda Dickerson, an integrated strategic communication junior, said she sometimes doesn't feel welcome when walking around UK. But through her work as the president of the Black Student Union, she hopes other black students will feel more welcome in the future.

Special Report: Defining Diversity

BATTLING BARRIERS

This student is disappointed by the barriers she found when she arrived at UK and is now working to break down racial misconceptions.

By Danielle Kornis
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

This is the fourth installment in a four-part series examining diversity at UK and the leaders of some student groups who aim to advance diversity on campus.

Barhonda Dickerson admits that she sometimes regrets coming to UK.

White students barely look at her when she walks by on campus, and she is never picked first to be in a group in class, the integrated strategic communication senior said.

But as president of the Black Student Union, Dickerson said she wants to change the negative parts of campus

culture and create a place for students who feel like her to go for support.

"We're the open arms of the university for black students when they come to campus," Dickerson said. "A lot of black students feel like they're not part of the university. It does a lot to you to know that you're not really a part of something."

The Black Student Union is an umbrella organization whose mission is to recruit and retain black students at UK, with a secondary mission of educating other students about the black community. The group receives partial funding from the university. There is no official membership for BSU because there are no dues, but

more than 50 people voted in its last officer election.

While Dickerson, 21, came from a historically black high school in Louisville, she is familiar with the feeling of standing out in a sea of white. In elementary school in Marion County, she was the only black student in the school.

"People really put me in a box," she said.

Returning to a similar situation at UK, Dickerson said, was difficult, especially when old friends rave about the historically black colleges they attend. But Dickerson couldn't pass up coming to UK — she was offered free tuition through the William C. Parker Academic

See Dickerson on page 2

This week:

Tuesday: Diversity means more than numbers to many.

Wednesday: The president of the Latino-American Student Association works for understanding.

Yesterday: The former president of Lambda fights discrimination and works for acceptance.

Go to www.kykernel.com to see past stories.

Modern dance troupe visits campus

By Ashley Graves
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Young, energetic and provocative are words that are often used to describe Nebellen, the dance company that will be performing on campus Saturday.

Nebellen is one of the performing arts events that Student Activities Board has brought to campus.

"Nebellen is lively and energetic — something that students can relate to," said Dayna Moore, director of performing arts for SAB. "The company provides a cutting-edge variety of talents."

The group brings a blend of movement and passion to the stage.

The dancers, whose ages range from 20 to 28, incorpo-

rate moves that combine hip-hop, martial arts, break dancing, glow-sticks and more established dance forms like ballet and tap to create a new dance genre. In order to create something new, Nebellen uses the most current, popular music from electronica to hip-hop and R&B.

"Their style, flavor and at-

See Dance on page 3

Nebellen

The modern dance group Nebellen performs at 8 p.m. Saturday in the Singletary Center for the Arts.

Tickets cost \$7 for students, \$12 for faculty and staff, and \$17 for the general public. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 257-7165.

No turning back for Azubuikwe

By Ben Roberts
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK junior forward Kellenza Azubuikwe announced yesterday that he will submit his name for the NBA Draft and will not return at UK for his senior season.

Azubuikwe informed UK head coach Tubby Smith of his decision to enter his name in the draft before Smith left for Final Four festivities in St. Louis, but he announced yesterday he had hired an agent, eliminating any chance Azubuikwe could return to UK. All NCAA Division I basketball players are allowed to enter their names in the draft once and return to school, as long as they do not hire an agent.

"I have submitted my name into the 2005 NBA Draft, and I have signed with an agent," Azubuikwe

said. "I know all the implications of signing with an agent. I am willing to do whatever it takes to get better before the draft."

Azubuikwe led the Cats in scoring this year with 14.7 points per game, and his 4.7 rebounds per game were second to teammate Chuck Hayes. He earned second team All-Southeastern Conference honors from both the Associated Press and the league's coaches.

The UK forward will be the first Cat to leave school early for a professional career since Nazr Mohammed was drafted by the Utah Jazz in 1998, and only the second player to leave early since Smith became head coach. Former UK players Keith Bogans and Tayshaun Prince entered their names in the draft as underclass-

See Azubuikwe on page 6

Students put 'voice' to rape in new play

By Mary Kate Armstrong
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK Women's Place, a center for violence against women, is seeking student experiences of sexual assault, violence and relationship issues for a new drama production, "In Our Own Voices."

For the production, which will debut next semester during freshman orientation, Women's Place is also asking UK students to submit suggestions of how to make campus safer. Male and female students affected by these issues, either directly or indirectly, are urged to submit their stories and experiences.

English sophomore Ashley Rouser, a student advocate for UK Women's Place, said students should come forward for this production.

"Student voices are strong, and it is time they are heard," Rouser said.

"In Our Own Voices"

will incorporate these stories and experiences into a multi-media production that will be performed, directed and produced by students, Rouser said. The production will also present positive solutions for the future of UK and help change other people's lives, she said.

In previous years, a production of "The Date" was performed during Welcome Week for incoming freshmen to address the issue of rape on campus.

Dorothy Edwards, the director of UK Women's Place, said the problem with "The Date" was that the focus was too narrow and it didn't incorporate student voices. "In Our Own Voices" addresses these issues by creating a broader focus and including both male and female accounts, she said.

"It is one thing to talk about a broad, national is-

See Play on page 3

Undefeated in SEC, Cats face road test

By Adam Sichko
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

A few days ago, the Intercollegiate Tennis Association released its newest rankings for women's tennis. According to the ITA's formula, Georgia is the No. 4 team in the nation; UK is one spot behind.

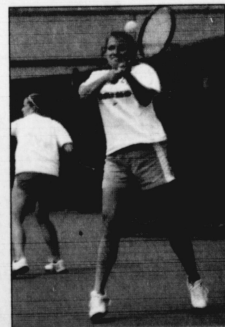
But the Cats — who put their undefeated Southeastern Conference record on the line today against the

Bulldogs — had two words in reply to those rankings: Advantage, Kentucky.

"It does seem a little that way," said sophomore Sarah Foster when asked if the rankings were unfair. "But that can only give us even more incentive to get out there and beat them. It can almost work in our favor, actually."

Sophomore Kim Coven-

See Tennis on page 6



UK junior Danielle Petrisko practices with the women's tennis team Wednesday. No. 5 UK (19-3, 8-0 Southeastern Conference) faces No. 4 Georgia (13-3, 7-1 SEC) today at 2 p.m. at the Dan Majeski Tennis Complex in Athens, Ga.

ROBIN BAKER | STAFF

Dickerson

Continued from page 1

Scholarship, an academic scholarship awarded to promising in-state, first-year, first-time black students.

"A lot of people can't get by in this situation," she said. "You have to have thick skin."

To reach out to black students, the Black Student Union meets every other Wednesday in the Student Center to talk about topics like the effect of the presidential election, tuition issues and the education gap in the black community.

Many activities throughout the year are also sponsored by the organization. The group holds a Spring Fest every year for all students on South Campus, with food, games, inflatable and music. One of its biggest events and fundraisers is the annual Apollo Show, a talent showcase modeled after the original Apollo Theatre in New York City.

Dickerson said that she would like to see UK's quest for diversity be more hands-on.

"It'd be nice to go down to the cultural center and see administrators down there," she said, referring to the MLK Cultural Center.

One administrator consistently shows interest in black students, she said.

Pat Terrell, vice president of student affairs, comes to every BSU meeting and really listens to the students, Dickerson said.

"People like that make you

think this university can spark a change," she said.

And changes are necessary, Dickerson said, especially a change in attitudes toward black students in the classroom.

"You accept me only after I prove myself," she said. "People are amazed by talented black students."

While most other students will simply throw on jeans, a t-shirt and running shoes for a presentation, Dickerson always dresses in a suit. Dressing professionally helps overcome the stereotypes, she said.

"You have to put yourself out there," she said. "You have to be 10 to 12 times better."

Socially, black students must constantly fight negative stereotypes too.

Historically-black fraternities usually hold their events and parties on campus because many businesses do not want to rent to black students, Dickerson said, even though black students tend to be more "socially responsible" than white students.

This comes from the intense pressure to succeed, she said. Many black students are first-generation college students.

"We came up here with the fear of God in us that we weren't going to make it," she said. "We have a lot of weight on our shoulders to prove that we're here for a reason."

Yet she says this pressure is largely internal.

"A lot of people could care less whether we win or lose," she said.

Dickerson's motivation has led to academic and career suc-

cess. Between her duties as Black Student Union president and working 20 hours per week for the university, she is also member of UK's National Student Advertising Team and was recently chosen as one of 15 students nationwide to travel to New York City to accept a scholarship from the Advertising Women of New York, a women's communications association.

Dickerson plans to move to Chicago after graduation, where she already has a job.

Being in larger cities like New York or Chicago is a welcome change from Lexington, Dickerson said, because the population is so much more diverse.

"Our world is so much bigger than Kentucky, and people don't know that," Dickerson said. "We are so limited here, and I feel for everyone who has not had a worldly experience."

To promote understanding and new perspectives, UK should require a cultural diversity class, Dickerson said, as well as offer more travel opportunities for students.

Yet all these small changes made by separate groups will not be enough, Dickerson said. A sweeping change organized by the administration, rather than just the Black Student Union, will be necessary to make UK feel like home for current and future black students.

"I'm not trying to start somebody's revolution," she said. "I'm just trying to make people more conscious of themselves."

E-mail dkomis@kykernel.com



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CORRECTION

The "On Tap" section in Wednesday's *Kernel* incorrectly listed the venue of John Melencamp's upcoming concert. Melencamp performs at 8 p.m. on April 17 at Freedom Hall in Louisville. Tickets cost \$34 to \$44.



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IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE APRIL 8

'Lampoon' lauds UK

By Tyler Montgomery
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK has never been known as a party school; however, when National Lampoon rolled into town in early February, UK let out its wild side and redefined "animal house."

During the week of Feb. 9, National Lampoon's "College Town USA" came to document the way college students at UK actually live.

"College Town USA" is the unofficial college handbook," said National Lampoon host Chris Underwood. "We tell you the fun stuff at school."

Underwood and his crew began their "documentary" by filming UK's Trap and Skeeet team.

"We let him (Underwood) shoot, and he was actually pretty good," said team member Jon Burba.

After filming the Trap and Skeeet team, Underwood and his crew began their journey through the UK nightlife. During the next five days they filmed students at Kitty O'Sheas, Two Keys Tavern, Gambino's and even ate at Joe Bologna's.

Underwood said Lexington had "one of the best bar scenes ever."

For the Georgia vs. UK basketball game on Feb. 12, Underwood got in touch with Burba to film their house for a party.

"They called me up for the basketball game and wanted to see how we party in Kentucky," Burba said.

The house party began an hour before the game with some of UK's students on hand to be filmed. Underwood's crew filmed the entire house with a walk-through by Burba. The crew then proceeded to the top floor, where about 20 UK students were screaming for the Cats.

They filmed students playing pool, foosball and having a great time.

"We wanted to represent and show them how we party it up in Lexington," said Burba's roommate Andrew Heckaman.

"I had a blast at that house party," Underwood said.

"They filmed the house for about four hours with the final shot of everyone at the party screaming "C-A-T-S" on the second-story balcony.

"I told my parents we were being filmed, but afterward I told them they couldn't see it," said Burba after the party died out. "They filmed college the way it really is."

After the house party, National Lampoon made their way down to film at a crowded Gambino's. The bar was packed with students and basketball players trying to have a good time with National Lampoon.

"The bars are so good and loving the fact that they are on camera," Underwood said. "They weren't acting stupid."

They filmed Gambino's for about two hours then went back to their hotels where an attempt to recover from the days partying was out of the

'Collegietown USA'

National Lampoon Networks will broadcast the UK edition of "College Town USA" today, and the episode can be seen through April 21. Visit www.nationallampoonnetworks.com for local listings and for more information about the series, or contact your cable service provider.

question. "I was so wired from all the excitement, I couldn't sleep for days," Underwood said.

On Sunday, Feb. 13, the crew switched to coffee with a trip to Common Grounds to film a Poetry Slam.

Underwood emphasized how much he truly enjoyed being at UK.

"I love the University of Kentucky," he said. "It was the most hospitable."

He also said that it reminded him of his hometown in Oklahoma.

"Girls, girls and hospitality are the key to the University of Kentucky," said Underwood when asked to describe the school.

Underwood said "College Town USA" has been filming universities since 2003, and they love shooting schools that are supported by the community around them.

Before he left Lexington, Underwood said, "I accomplished some things at that party that I wanted to accomplish before I died."

E-mail
features@kykernel.com

MTVU spotlights charity tourney

By Andrea Diebold
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK will receive national exposure as MTVU comes to Lexington on Sunday to film and promote a basketball tournament hosted by Sigma Phi Epsilon.

The fraternity is hosting a three-on-three basketball tournament that runs from Sunday to Tuesday to raise money for the Youth AIDS organization.

"The headquarters of our fraternity contacted MTVU to tell them about the tournament, and they wanted to come and help support the cause," said John Gillispie, president of the fraternity.

More than 700 campuses nationwide are tuned in to MTVU, which is featured on campus at the Student Center. Students participating in

the tournament will compete for the chance to win \$500 and appear on MTVU. The Final Four and championship on Tuesday will be filmed and televised nationally.

"The network is running a series on fraternities and wants to show footage of frats doing beneficial things for their community," Gillispie said. "They want to break into the whole frat scene and bust some of the stereotypes of fraternity life."

Sigma Phi Epsilon hopes to raise \$10,000 for Youth AIDS, whose national spokesperson is UK alumna Ashley Judd. Reporters for MTVU will be on campus Monday to interview students and publicize the event.

"I think it is cool that MTVU is promoting UK and showing fraternity life for

Registration

Students wishing to register can do so online at www.youthaids.org/SigEpsi/uk.htm. The registration fee is \$50. Those who come to support the event get in free Sunday to watch the games. The championship on Tuesday will begin at 7 p.m. in Memorial Coliseum and will be followed by a concert featuring DJ Scribba. All proceeds from the event will go to Youth AIDS.

what it really is," said Tyler Hinton, a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

E-mail
features@kykernel.com

Play

Continued from page 1

sue," Edwards said. "It is something completely different to say 'This is happening here, on our campus, to me.'"

UK Women's Place, established in January 2005, focuses on ending violence through intervention and prevention ef-

orts. Because of increasing student interest, a UK Women's Place Student Group is forming, Edwards said.

"We are greatly appreciative and inspired by the student involvement and look forward to their guidance and in-

'In Our Own Voice'

Stories can be e-mailed confidentially to dedwa3@emil.uky.edu or anonymously by addressing mail to Dorothy Edwards, UK Women's Place, 153 Bowman Hall, Lexington, Ky. 40506. Call the Women's Place at 257-3564 or 257-3574 for more information.

put as UK Women's Place continues to take shape," she said.

All submissions are confidential, and the deadline for this year's production is April 15.

E-mail
news@kykernel.com

Dance

Continued from page 1

titude grab the audience's attention in an entertaining, refreshing way," Moore said.

The dancers involve the audience not only by their high-

energy performance, but also with audience participation.

Each performance includes improvisations by the dancers and a live DJ set.

"It is a unique event," said Tyler Works, assistant director of performing arts for SAB.

"The group is fresh and entertaining. Their style is not stereotypical dance."

"We have provided the stu-

dents and community with the opportunity to see how dance styles can be interwoven with familiar music," said Megan Powell, director of quality control for SAB. "It is culturally enriching and entertaining at the same time."

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IN OUR OPINION

Diversity drive doesn't stop at admissions

In 2004, a survey showed what everyone knew — UK students struggle to reach out across racial and ethnic groups.

Conducted by the Office of Institutional Research, the Campus Climate Survey asked 6,500 students if their "interactions on campus are largely with students of my race/ethnicity."

Thirty-eight percent of black students, 63 percent of white students and 36 percent of "other" minorities said their interactions stay within their group.

It's a difficult problem with no easy answers, but it's a problem UK must do more to address.

Goal No. 5 of UK's 2003-06 Strategic Plan states: "We must foster a creative, supportive

environment that will nurture diversity of thought, culture, gender and ethnicity."

Unfortunately, administrators often use statistics to measure the school's progress — diversity, however, is much more than raw data.

"We spend a lot of time looking at numbers, and we don't look at the environment where we get those numbers, and so the institution becomes a revolving door," said Denese Jones, chair of the President's Commission on Diversity, an advisory group to President Lee Todd established in 2002.

"We do a lot of good things, but it's scattered across campus, and there's no one umbrella that pulls all this together," she said.

To reach its goal, UK must do more than just look at the headcounts of minorities on

campus. When the students reach campus is when the real work begins.

"It's one thing to talk about valuing diversity as a general social good," said William Turner, associate provost for multicultural affairs. "But it's another to do specific things so that the place will be diverse."

Those efforts should begin when the students first reach campus.

At orientations, UK should work to bring students out of their comfort zones. Since so many Kentucky students come to UK with established circles of friends, it is vital that the school develop ways to encourage branching out.

The university-wide Diversity Plan Task Force — comprised of 40 deans, department

heads and other unit head representatives — was formed to find indicators of diversity beyond numbers.

The task force expects to complete a comprehensive diversity plan in early April.

This is a step in the right direction, and it is a positive sign UK recognizes its shortcomings.

Still, change will require more than reports and committees. Everyone must take part in the process.

"It really does come down to the individual making that extra step," said graduate student Venu Yenuga.

That's simple, but it is so much easier said than done. Hopefully, UK will help give students a reason to take that first step.



JONATHAN PALMER | STAFF

This picture of Pope John Paul II hangs in the Catholic Newman Center's foyer before the 5 p.m. Sunday Mass. About 300 people attended that night's service. The pope died Saturday afternoon.

Reflections on the death of the pope

In the 24 hours that followed the death of Pope John Paul II, I heard a UK student comment that he felt as if he had lost a grandfather.

I read the comment of a New Jersey professor and rabbi who said he felt as if he had lost a brother and I listened to the interviews with former Secretary of State Colin Powell and UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, in which they acknowledged John Paul's impact on world affairs.

Truly, I thought, we were graced with a charismatic and capable leader as pope, one who managed to connect with all kinds of people on a personal level, even people he never met, and at the same time he was able to wield great influence in the public and political realm and on the world stage. It was a wonderful balancing act, a service rendered in love that we are just beginning to appreciate and a source of ongoing reflection.

In the course of the past week, I have found myself reflecting in gratitude on the gifts of John Paul and how he used them in the service of the church and the world. He was an anchor of stability in a turbulent sea, and at the same time a catalyst for social progress, revolution and change

(I think of the role he played in the downfall of Communism in Eastern Europe).

He was a Renaissance man (given the range of his interests and pursuits), the most influential religious voice in the last 100 years (that from Billy Graham) and the most widely traveled evangelist the world has ever known (He ended up speaking, in person, to more people than anyone else in human history).

He was an advocate of human rights, an agent of reconciliation (Think of the official apology for the sins of the church against the Jewish people) and a prophetic voice in the wilderness, crying out for the cessation of war and the cultivation of peace (He opposed the war in Iraq and tried to dissuade the United States from initiating it).

He was an icon of Jesus Christ (Think of the love he expressed for the crowds he often addressed and the outreach to particular individuals in the crowd, especially children) and a model of Christ-like love (He sought out his would-be assassin in prison and offered him forgiveness).

He was a friend and father figure to the world's youth (hosting, every other year, World Youth Day in some major urban center) and a pioneer in interfaith dialogue and outreach to major world religions (Think of the interfaith forum he hosted in Assisi in 1986).

He was a proponent of human dig-

nity and a champion of the right to life (holding firm on opposition to abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide and capital punishment).

He denounced the sexual exploitation of women, upheld the basic rights of women in developing nations and called for recognition of women's gifts (Though he opposed women's ordination, he did open significant leadership roles to women in church administration).

Finally, he served as a mystic, a man deeply rooted in prayer and a reminder of the need to integrate and balance the contemplative with the active life.

Truly, John Paul was an extraordinary pope. With his death, many of us feel not only a sense of personal loss but also a new awareness of his influence and far-reaching impact. With countless others throughout the world, we grieve his loss today; we give thanks for the gift of his life; we commend him to God's everlasting care, and we trust that he has heard already the words of the Gospel that we, by God's grace and favor, hope to hear ourselves one day: "Well done, good and faithful servant. Come to the feast; come to the banquet; come to the place prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

May John Paul II rest in peace.

Father Tom Farrell is a pastor at the UK Catholic Newman Center.
E-mail: opinions@kykernel.com



Fr. Tom Farrell
GUEST COLUMNIST

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Watts united students as SG prez

Wednesday's editorial referring to Rachel Watts as an effective Student Government leader should have come with an apology. Throughout her tenure, The Kernel repeatedly criticized her actions as president and used her status in a sorority to promote its vendetta against UK's Greek community.

These criticisms came despite Watts' sincere approaches to unite the student body for efforts such as campaigning against tuition hikes and her effective diplomatic approaches to dealing with the administration.

Additionally, under her guidance, SG regained much of the support and trust from the students that had been lost before she took over. Watts undoubtedly had the interests of the students at heart.

I wish to publicly applaud her for those efforts and thank her for helping to create a more efficient, successful SG. It is my sincere hope that the next SG president will be as skillful and valuable to this university as Rachel Watts certainly proved to be.

TONY COLYER
political science senior

More practical alternatives exist to fixing Social Security problem

We've heard a lot of rhetoric about private accounts to replace Social Security as we know it.

However, private accounts are already available. They are called Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) and they have been available for years. IRAs are offered to most wage earners, and with one version (Roth), all earnings are tax free when withdrawn at retirement.

If you still want to contribute to an IRA for 2004, you have until April 15 to do this. Most people can contribute up to \$3,000 a year, but you can start with \$100 or less. Go to your bank or a broker for more information.

What's important is to get in the habit of saving for retirement. Young people especially can benefit from starting an IRA because the compounding of interest allows your savings to grow the longer you have the money invested.

Why not have the best of both worlds? Let Social Security continue to serve the purpose it was designed for — social insurance and annuity. Then, use IRAs as supplemental private accounts.

And when it comes to shoring up the existing Social Security system, why are we talking about reducing benefits when there's a fairer approach? Right now Social Security (FICA) deductions aren't taken out of salaries beyond \$90,000. Why not extend FICA deductions to large salaries?

JEANETTE COUFAL, Ph.D.
DEPARTMENT of Family Studies

Schiavo case misrepresented

Brenton Kenkel's April 5 column is, at best, grossly misguided and, at worst, blatantly erroneous.

Kenkel makes the claim that the goal of the Christian Right is "to revert the United States to a time before the sexual revolution and women's rights."

To the first charge, I plead guilty with a smile. The "sexual revolution" of which Kenkel speaks is a contradiction in terms. I would avoid calling the widespread sexual immorality of our culture a "revolution." The animistic activities portrayed in the media are just side effects of this "revolution," I suppose. It is no secret that many Christians, including myself, are proponents of abstinence — the only effective method of birth control, bar none. Unlike many liberals such as Kenkel, I consider the suppression of human animistic sexual desires until marriage a virtue rather than a flaw.

In addition, Kenkel slaps us conservatives with the title "anti-women." I would like for him to reinforce this claim, without clamoring to the already-refuted abortion debate. If anything, I am pro-women; I want to save newborn baby girls (and boys) from the murder called abortion.

I cite another example: Kenkel hails polls from late March that showed a majority of Americans opposed congressional intervention to reinstate Schiavo's feeding tube. First of all, the poll was conducted by CBS — hardly a paragon of virtue when it comes to objectivity. Secondly, if one looks at the questions on the poll, they are clearly worded to favor the position of removing the feeding tube.

Finally, a recent, more objective Zogby poll showed a majority of Americans actually sympathized with Terri's cause. Wow, who saw that one coming? Americans want to protect one of their own? How revolutionary.

I sincerely hope the lies of the liberal minority do not sway those with clear moral convictions in this country. After all, the United States was founded upon these convictions, whether the Left likes it or not. We're a Christian nation, and we stand by our principles.

DAVID HICKS
history sophomore

Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Andrew Martin or Assistant Opinions Editor Ben Roberts. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Be sure to include your full name, class and major with all submissions.

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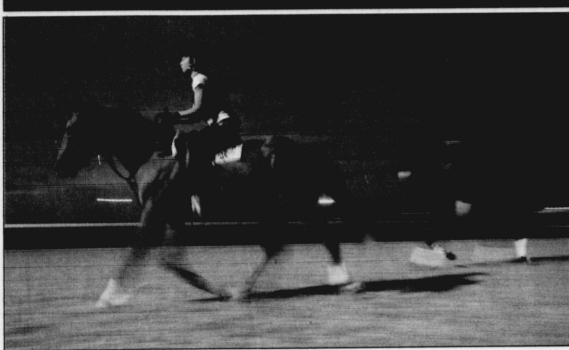
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Horses and riders get an early morning workout at Keeneland yesterday morning. Keeneland's spring meet begins today, with post time at 1 p.m. Today is also College Day. The meet runs through April 29, with racing everyday except on Mondays and Tuesdays.

JONATHAN PALMER
STAFF

A guide to Keeneland's Opening Day races

Top choices for today's races:

Race 1
1. 5 Chicken Soup Kid (2-1): This horse takes a drop in class after showing nice early speed last time out. He returns to a level at which he won back on March 11. His trainer is four of seven in the last two weeks. 2. 2 El Prado Rob (7-5)



J.J. Knader
KERNEL COLUMNIST

with a trainer who wins at 20 percent with first time starters. 2. 5 King Shooting Star (8-5)

Azubuiké

Continued from page 1

men, but both returned to exhaust their eligibility at UK. Smith said Azubuiké would be missed by his coaches and teammates.

"Kelema has been a model student-athlete and will be sorely missed," Smith said. "He's done everything we've asked him to do since he's been at UK, and we'll do everything we can to help him achieve his goals and dreams."

The NBA Draft is June 28.
E-mail: broberts@kykernel.com

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Race 2
1. 7 Yaddo Cat (2-1): In a field of unraced two year olds, this horse shows a nice workout pattern with a trainer who wins at 20 percent with first time starters. 2. 5 King Shooting Star (8-5)

Race 3
1. 2 Unbridled Appeal (7-2): In a field dominated with early speed, I think this closer comes in to pick up the pieces. She broke her maiden last out and stays with Prado. 2. 6 Bush's Song (4-1)

Race 4
1. 4 Beach Plum (2-1): This horse seems to be an obvious selection as she won by over two lengths last time out and drops in class today. 2. 3 Tornado Warning (6-1)

Race 5
1. 2 Up Like Thunder (7-2): This horse exits a grade 2 in which he finished 6th to the best sprinter in the country. Since then it looks like Nick Zito has him ready to repeat his Oct. 3 win at seven furlongs. 2. 5 Miracle Man (4-1)

Race 6
1. 5 Kristen Kristen (6-1): This filly comes off a poor first effort on the grass.

but her maiden breaking effort showed nice speed. 2. 6 Landmark (5-1)

Race 7
1. 9 Grin and Frown (8-1): In a race with little speed, this horse has plenty of consistent speed. He has hit the board his last eight times. 2. 6 Big Bold Sweep (4-1)

Race 8
1. 7 Dubleo (7-5): This horse lost the Bourbon County here last year by a neck and has not lost since. 2. 4 Rey de Cafe (8-2)

Race 9
1. 4 Minister's Joy (9-2): Horse hit the gate on his way out last time. Gets jockey Jerry Bailey, has a trainer with a 20 percent for second-time starters and posts decent workouts. 2. 11 Cryptical (20-1)
Day's Best Bet: Dubleo (Race 8)
Day's Longshot Special: Grin and Frown (Race 7)

Tennis

Continued from page 1

try said she doesn't take much stock in the rankings. "At the end of the day it's just a number," Coventry said. "But it is good to have that reward."

Head coach Mark Guilbeau wants his team to look beyond the rankings, which he thought were accurate. "A lot of this comes down to the heart of this team," Guilbeau said. "You can't worry too much about the rankings."

"On the road is a little bit of a challenge, but I think we'll handle that well," he

said. "It comes down to who sticks with it longer. Coventry said the Cats (19-3, 8-0 SBC) intend to do just that against the Bulldogs (13-3, 7-1).

"We stack up very well" with Georgia, Coventry said. "Even if you take the point of view that we don't, we compete a lot harder than they do — that's what it comes down to."

Senior Aibika Kalsariva — the first UK women's tennis player to earn a top-5 ranking — will battle Georgia's Shadisha Robinson, ranked No. 7. The top doubles match will pair the No. 7 tandem of Kalsariva and Sarah Foster against the No. 3 duo of Robinson and Carolina Basu for the Bulldogs. "I put a lot of pressure on

myself — I want to get that one point for the team," Kalsariva said. "But that's gone as soon as I step on the court. When we start play, I focus."

Her attitude is just what Guilbeau wants to see. "The girls have been very good when you prepare them with the little specifics; they take advantage of those real well," he said.

Foster mixed confidence with reality when sizing up the match. "You have to be realistic," Foster said. "There's a lot at stake. But Mark's prepared us. We might not have been this confident one year ago or even a few months ago."

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