

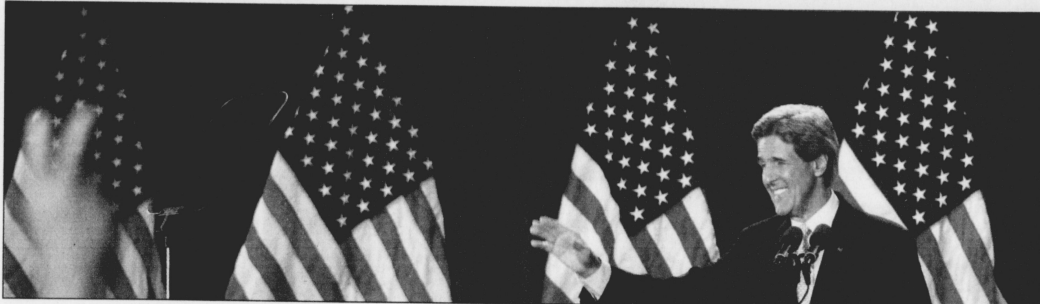
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THE KENTUCKY Kernel

Celebrating 33 years of independence

Opinions columnists debate
Kerry's appearance, campaign
Page 6



Massachusetts senator and Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry visited Cincinnati's Union Terminal yesterday. Kerry told the crowd of about 400 in the battleground state he could revive the struggling economy. **JOHN FOSTER | STAFF**

Kerry promises 'new direction' in crucial Ohio



Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry shakes hands and signs autographs for supporters after a rally in Cincinnati yesterday. His opponent, President Bush, was in Florida yesterday and will make a campaign stop in Huntington, W. Va., Friday. **JOHN FOSTER | STAFF**

By Troy Lyle
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

CINCINNATI — Riding the tails of Hurricane Frances, Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry stormed north yesterday to the battleground state of Ohio to spread his message of "a new direction for America."

Kerry walked on stage at his private campaign rally in Cincinnati's Union Terminal waving to more than 400 supporters and pumping his fists in the air.

The Democrat started his speech with criticism for President Bush's foreign policy and the \$200 billion he has spent to wage the war in Iraq.

Tuesday, the total number of U.S. casualties in Iraq surpassed the 1,000 mark, a figure Kerry described as "an incalculable loss" and "a tragic milestone."

"When it comes to the war in Iraq," Kerry said, "it's not that I would have done one thing differently from the president. I would have done almost everything differently."

Kerry continued by pressing his recent theme — the "W" in the name George W. Bush stands for "wrong."

"(Bush) made the wrong choices in Iraq, he made the wrong choices on education, health care,

Social Security and job creation and he made the wrong choices for this country," Kerry said. "That's the wrong direction; that's the wrong leadership for America," he said, pounding on his lectern.

Kerry promised that, as president, he would set "a new direction for America" and devise a clear-cut plan for reviving its struggling economy.

He also pledged to close corporate tax loopholes and to make health care available to all Americans, "not just the rich and privileged," he said.

"I will not privatize Social Security or raise the retirement age, robbing our retired workers of what they've earned," Kerry said.

"While Bush is spending \$200 billion in Iraq, eight million Americans are looking for work — two million more than when (Bush) took office," he said. "I will not waste American's hard-earned money; instead, I will invest in job training and job creation, making America great again."

After the crowd lauded Kerry with a standing ovation, he hammered home the end of his message.

"When I'm president, we will strengthen our military and stand up to our enemies, we will build a

See Kerry on page 6

Beware of con artists

Campus police warn students of 'aggressive' scam tactics

By Dariush Shafa
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Solicitors and scammers have come to campus, and UK Police are warning students about the dangers of their con games.

UK Police Chief Fred Otto said at least three incidents have been reported, including one where a solicitor became aggressive and physically tried to bully a female student into writing a check for his business.

"They're not a safety threat, mostly," Otto said, but he described the solicitors' selling methods as "aggressive."

The frequency of reported incidents has decreased, and Otto said this group of scammers has probably moved on. But he doesn't want students to let their guard down, as more solicitors might be on the way.

"Once one group comes through, another comes through," Otto said. "They're very organized. They come in, hit an area, and in two weeks they're back."

The solicitors and scammers have no legitimate ties to the companies they claim to represent, which are usually magazine companies, Otto said.

"They're just con artists that go from one community to the next," Otto said.

Solicitors are allowed on campus, but they are required

to obtain a permit from the UK dean of students before they sell their items on campus, Otto said. Under no circumstances are they allowed to be in the residence halls.

Otto urged students to contact UK police if they are unsure whether a solicitor is legitimate.

"If any type of solicitor comes on campus, (students) should contact the police and we'll check (the solicitor) out," Otto said.

Otto said that anyone who thinks he has been tricked by a scammer should take measures to prevent any further fraud.

"If anyone has given them money, especially checks or credit cards, they need to stop paying so they don't get ripped off," Otto said.

UK Police have been especially concerned with solicitors gaining entry into the dorms by "piggy-backing" or "tailgating" on students. This occurs when a solicitor follows a student into a dorm.

UK Police and the Student Affairs Office have been working together to notify resident advisers of the potential threat of solicitors gaining entry into a dorm, UK Police said.

Keneland Hall resident adviser Beverly Roe, a chemistry senior, said that in addition to the training the RAs receive at the beginning of each school year, an e-mail was recently

sent out to the RAs as a warning.

"I think RAs and desk workers are pretty clear on procedures," Roe said. "We're trained pretty well on that. We always stop people we don't recognize. If it's someone who refuses to leave, we call UKPD."

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Police release location in rape of UK student

STAFF REPORT

The reported rape of a 19-year-old female UK student last week took place at the victim's residence on Linden Walk, UK Police said in a report released yesterday.

Police said that the date rape occurred Aug. 26 between 3 a.m. and 4 a.m. and involved drugs or alcohol. The report states that a "subject known to her" forced the woman to have sex "by forcible compulsion."

Police are not releasing the exact address of where the rape occurred because it is an ongoing investigation.

A Student Health Services employee reported the rape Aug. 30, and UK Police are investigating the crime as a first-degree rape.



Phantom Planet will perform at the Singletary Center on Friday. Tickets cost \$17 to \$22. **PHOTO FURNISHED**

Phantom Planet ready to rock UK to the core

By Ryan Ebethar
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

If you've seen the popular teen angst drama *The O.C.*, then you've heard Phantom Planet.

But despite what Fox and MTV would have fans believe, there's much more to the band than "California" — their catchy theme song to Ryan and Marissa's constant quarrels and Seth's odd escapades with Captain Oats and neighbor Summer.

Phantom Planet is much deeper — a group that has branched away from the pop rock that brought them initial fame and settled down on a much grittier garage sound.

They've played with the likes of Elvis Costello, Guided by Voic-

es, Incubus, The Vines and the Black Rebel Motorcycle Club. They now liken their music to an odd amalgamation of The Who, Fugazi, the Gang of Four, Bad Brains, The Flaming Lips and Sean Paul.

I chatted on the phone with bassist Sam Farrar and discovered where Phantom Planet came from, where the band is going, and what's in store for Friday's show at the Singletary Center with openers Sahara Hotnights and The Like.

Q: Well, I guess I'll just get this question out of the way since I'm sure you're sick of hearing it, but what happened with your drummer Jason

See Concert on page 4

Kerry backers stand by their man

Kerry

Continued from page 1

By Troy Lyle
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL
 CINCINNATI — At the conclusion of Sen. John Kerry's speech yesterday, his supporters gathered near the front of the stage to voice their support and meet what each hopes will be the next president of the United States.

"I'm a Republican and I support Kerry 100 percent," said Robert Seal, owner of a Cincinnati-area software company. "The GOP needs new leadership that's not right wing. I think the whole country is in for a surprise at how many Republicans will go out and secretly vote for Kerry."

Given that most of the attendees at Kerry's private campaign rally weren't Republicans, all agreed he was

Coming Monday
 See Monday's Kernel for coverage of President Bush's campaign stop in Huntington, W.Va., on Friday.

their man.

Eva Hager, a third-year law student at the University of Cincinnati, said she thought Kerry gave the right speech for the state of America today.

"I thought he did an excellent job tying together the relationship between foreign policy and what happens here in the U.S.," she said.

"What we do in the world today affects our future and the children of tomorrow — that's why we want to make

sure we're doing it right."

Most students at Union Terminal said America needs Kerry's leadership now more than ever before.

"His whole mentality of working together as a team rings true with me," said Betsy Hoover, a political science junior at Xavier University in Cincinnati.

"He offered alternative solutions to Bush's present plan — that's what America needs."

Kira Simmons, a 31-year-old UK alumna and graduate student at Wright State Uni-

versity in Dayton, Ohio, agreed with Hoover.

"Kerry's entire message was right on. He brought out all the things Bush promised he would do while in office but never did," she said. "He promised a new direction for America, and I believe he will deliver."

Kerry's stance in the science field resonated with Meghana Kamath, a first-year graduate student studying molecular genetics at UC.

"Bush is running all the great doctors in this cutting-

edge field out of the country," Kamath said. "I'm young, and I know how costly health insurance can be. Kerry wants to make it available to everyone, and it should be. We are the only world power to not have a standardized health care program for its people."

The president of UC's College Democrats Club, Erich Streckfuss, encouraged all college students to vote for the Kerry/Edwards ticket.

"Any college student should support them because they are behind education and plan to offer tax breaks to students," said Streckfuss, a history junior.

"Bush has done nothing for education in four years."

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stronger America with good jobs, better wages and health care for all," he said.

Union Terminal's cathedral-like ceiling and old train station provided Kerry with a final moment of repose.

"Half a century ago, right here in Union Terminal, thousands of soldiers waved one last goodbye to their families before heading off to the Second World War," Kerry said. "In that war, their bravery, and leaders who made the right choices, brought victory over tyranny and prosperity here at home."

"We too can make a difference. We too can once again make America great!"

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"Bush has done nothing for education in four years."

Erich Streckfuss
University of Cincinnati history junior

Students can soon chill out in Reynolds Building's A/C

By Chris Miles
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Reynolds Building No. 1 is turning up the dial of comfort for the students and teachers who work and learn in its sweltering temperatures.

A new ventilation and air conditioning system is being installed to aid the art students and professors who have previously spent their time sweating while they work.

"It's going to be a great improvement compared to what we have now," said Lindsey Kraemer, an art studio sophomore, who pointed out box fans and cracked windows that swirl a musky breeze throughout the building. "And it's about time."

The staff and students of the Reynolds warehouse have had to fight to get air conditioning.

Lynn Sweet, facility supervisor of the Reynolds Building, said improving the environment of classes at the Reynolds Building has been a goal for five years.

"(UK President Lee Todd) has been working hard over the years to improve things here," Sweet says. "But the administration has been slow in acting."

Robert Shaw, dean of the College of Fine Arts, said he wants the building to become "suitable" for classes.

"It's just not a good place to teach or learn in," Shaw said. "It gets hot in there. These new renovations will bring things at Reynolds from bad to better."

Several students agreed the conditions in the Reynolds Building classrooms are difficult to bear.

"Learning in this environment is a challenge," said Brian Leinenbach, an art studio sophomore who has two classes in the Reynolds Building this semester.

"The hot rooms are a killer to sit in," Leinenbach said, but he said the walk to class is the worst part.

The Reynolds classroom building is one of the farthest points from campus proper, almost a mile from the doors of the Whitehall Classroom Building to the doorstep of the warehouses.

"Air conditioning is a lovely thing when you have to walk that far in the hotter months," Leinenbach said. "And the A/C

makes class a whole lot better. It's hard to work when you're sweating."

The installation of the air conditioning system is almost completed, said Bob Wiseman, associate vice president for facilities. The project, which costs \$245,000, is mainly servicing the photo and screen print rooms. The rest of the building won't necessarily receive any cool air flow, Wiseman said.

Until that happens, box fans will remain a staple of the Reynolds Building.

But students prefer to try and look on the brighter side of the scenario, especially when working in one of the classrooms with air conditioning.

"It's better than nothing," Kraemer said.

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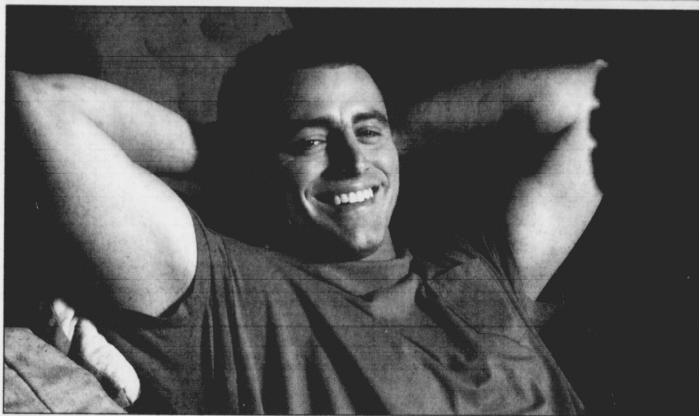
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"My job is to make the show as funny as I can," Matt LeBlanc, 37, says of his new sitcom, *Joey*. "I know I'll be as good in it as I was on 'Friends.'" **KEN HEVELY | LOS ANGELES TIMES**

Old 'Friend' returns to NBC

By Maria Elena Fernandez
LOS ANGELES TIMES

HOLLYWOOD — Stage 24 on the Warner Bros. lot has been renamed "the Friends Stage," but it now clearly belongs to Matt LeBlanc, who is about to begin his 11th consecutive season playing the lovable but dimwitted *Joey Tribbiani*. *Friends*, in case you hail from another galaxy, ended its highly successful 10-year run on NBC in May. Tonight, the old friend whose life was not neatly wrapped up in the finale starts over in *Joey*, a spinoff that sets him in Los Angeles instead of New York, seriously pursuing his acting career and getting reacquainted with his family. Recently while rehearsing the fourth episode, LeBlanc was in his element. *Joey*'s new Hollywood bachelor pad is filled with personal relics from *Friends*: his toy shark and Rock 'Em Sock 'Em robots, his Mercedes-Benz Grand Prix poster and American flag, his hard-to-forget Etc-A-Sketch and a photo of Joey and Chandler (Matthew Perry). The only thing missing, well, besides his five best friends, was new sidekick Drew de Matteo (*The Sopranos*), who plays his sassy sister Gina and was out with strep throat for the third day in a row.

If the heat is on — and there's no denying it with NBC's massive promotional campaign, Warner Bros. Stu-

On TV
Joey airs at 8 tonight on NBC.

dios' high expectations and widespread media coverage — LeBlanc isn't showing it, even this day with his No. 2 missing in action. In fact, LeBlanc has been so busy helping to establish the show's voice that he says he has missed what is impossible for most of the rest of us to avoid: *Joey*'s "Postcards From L.A." spots, which saturated NBC's Olympics broadcasts and have been appearing before movie previews in 6,500 theaters. In six commercials, *Joey* explores the city, offering the kinds of insights only *Joey* can: informing viewers that the Hollywood Walk of Fame is a burial ground for legendary stars or pointing out the Hollywood Hooters instead of the iconic Grauman's Chinese Theater that he's standing in front of.

"Believe me, I live here, and when I leave, I just go straight home," says the 37-year-old LeBlanc, explaining how he has managed to elude himself. "When you're doing a new show, it's good that the actors spend a lot of time together. I've been functioning in a high-pressure environment for 10 years now, so I don't feel that stuff as much. My job is to make the show as funny as I can. I know I'll

be as good in it as I was on *Friends*, and I know it's going to be a good show that is different from *Friends*. The rest is out of my hands. I don't have anything to do with those Nielsen boxes."

NBC, however, hopes to have something to do with what happens with those Nielsen boxes. "It's to our advantage that we have a character people already know, so it's better for us to go out and shoot new comedy with him that is in keeping with the show than to use the jokes in the pilot and have people be sick of them by the time the show airs," said Vince Manze, president and creative director of the NBC Agency. "The worst thing that can happen is for somebody to wake up on Friday after the show airs and say, 'Oh, no! Was that on last night? I missed it.' Quite honestly, we expect a lot of people to check it out."

Perhaps the ratings juggernaut that propelled him from obscurity into stardom has spoiled LeBlanc. But executive producers Shana Goldberg-Meehan and Scott Silveri, the *Friends* staff writers who created the spinoff, admit they are having a harder time ignoring the heavy hype. "Early on, the studio was great telling us to think of it as a small show that nobody cares about," Silveri said. "And that's what we did when we wrote the script and shot the pilot. But now it's a

little harder to pretend that nobody cares about it. We are very aware of the nerves, and we share them."

"If people have low expectations, it might work in our favor," adds Goldberg-Meehan. "We prefer that." Pressure notwithstanding, beyond the *Friends* connection, *Joey* has a significant head start. Television critics and advertisers have generally praised the pilot and predicted its success, although few think it will attract as many viewers as its predecessor, which anchored the most lucrative night in television for many years.

"I didn't have the strongest expectations, because I've been so jaded about new comedies," said Shari Anne Brill, director of programming for the ad buying firm CARAT USA. "I thought *Friends* was on for two seasons too long. But Matt LeBlanc is very smart to realize that this character works for him. He is an endearing character that people will tune in to see. It's going to depend a lot on the rest of the ensemble and the story lines."

Even NBC's competitors expect *Joey* will lure enough viewers to retain first-place ranking in the time slot against its competitors: CBS's ninth edition of *Survivor*, ABC's *Extreme Makeover*, and premiering on Nov. 4, the second season of Fox's popular prime-time soap *The O.C.*

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Briani Beay	Jenni Jager	Allie Roscoe
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Catherine Eads	Caroline Kusek	Brooke Tolosa
Alyssa Emmett	Alyson Krenner	Lindsay Toddard
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Tracy Frick	Andrea Lopez	Lauren Walker
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KC Geary	Gwen Massie	Meghan Weber
Lesley George	Taryn Moseley	Kate Wendler
	Jesse Mountjoy	

Moore taking run at Best Picture

By Robert W. Welkos
THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

HOLLYWOOD — What happens when pugnacious filmmaker Michael Moore, incendiary documentary *Fahrenheit 9/11* and Oscar gunslinger Harvey Weinstein team up for an Academy Award run? An explosive, and extremely risky, decision to pull *Fahrenheit* out of the documentary race to fight for consideration as best picture.

Moore said he got the idea — it represents a first in Academy Awards history — from veteran Oscar campaigner Weinstein, the Miramax co-chairman who is also an executive producer on the documentary.

While Moore's gambit has definitely raised eyebrows around town, the filmmaker, last seen chucking at Sen. John McCain's barbs at the Republican National Convention in New York, insists that should he win he would leave politics alone, unlike two years ago. While accepting the best documentary Oscar

for his film *Bowling for Columbine*, Moore drew loud boos — and some cheers — when he complained about President Bush as a "fictitious president" waging a war in Iraq for "fictitious reasons."

"I promised Harvey that if this chance ever happens again, I would behave myself," Moore said Tuesday. "And my having to promise someone like Harvey to behave myself means a lot."

Bruce Davis, the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences' executive director, confirmed that no documentary has ever been nominated for best picture.

In the world of Oscar campaigning, the sniping already has started.

An Oscar strategist for another studio who asked not to be identified criticized the move, saying *Fahrenheit 9/11* might be popular with some writers and directors who want to make a political statement, but no actors will vote for it because there are no actors in the

film, likewise, the crafts unions.

"It's silly and egotistical but take the ego out of academy campaigning and what do you have left?" he said.

How Oscar voters will react to a brazen attempt by Moore and Weinstein to barge their way into the hallowed sanctum of best picture remains to be seen, but documentarians are happy to have their profile raised even if it's by the burly, bearded Moore.

"*Fahrenheit 9/11* certainly has gotten a lot of acclaim," said Mitchell Block, a documentary filmmaker and Oscar voter, "but Michael Moore is a controversial figure even within the documentary world. There is criticism that he plays fast and loose with the facts and does not treat subjects as ethically as he could."

Sandra Ruch, executive director of the International Documentary Association, praised Moore's decision to go for the best picture Oscar. "It's an extremely brave move on his part," she said.

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Presidential candidate stops in Cincinnati

Voters must have a valid reason to choose Kerry

CINCINNATI — While John Kerry shook the hands of supporters after speaking in Cincinnati's Union Terminal yesterday, I listened as George W. Bush dominated the conversations of the Democratic presidential nominee's followers.

From the college students to the union workers, the message from the hand-picked crowd was the same after Kerry finished his speech: "Anybody but Bush."

Despite having just heard their only hope to dethrone Bush speak, the majority of those in attendance chose to vent their hatred for the president rather than discuss the issues their nominee-of-choice had just addressed.

He hadn't even left the room yet, and the discussion had already turned to Bush. That's John Kerry's problem. It seems that regardless of what Kerry has said or done since securing the nomination earlier this year he remains "that guy running against Bush."

And that's his fault as much as anyone's. He hasn't been able to establish any reason for the American voters to cast their ballots for him other than he's not Bush, and that's not going to be cause enough to catapult him to the presidency in November.

And as a proud Democrat and Kerry supporter, I am beginning to worry. When Bill Clinton ousted Bush's father in 1992, he did so because he offered hope and gave voters a reason to like him. Ronald Reagan accomplished the same thing against Jimmy Carter in 1980, which Carter had done to Gerald Ford four years earlier.

To unseat any presidential incumbent, especially in a time of war, the challenger has to give voters a valid reason for doing so. John Kerry hasn't done that yet and he didn't do it in Cincinnati yesterday. He followed a variation of the same tired stump speech he's been giving for months.

He spoke about the war in Iraq, the economy, health care and Social Security. What he clearly didn't do was connect with his audience.

When asked what brought her to yesterday's rally, one Northern Kentucky University student told me she was a "big supporter" of Kerry. But when I asked what specifically she liked about Kerry, there was silence.

"I just know I didn't want Bush," she ultimately said.

If Kerry's most loyal followers, those who get invited when he comes to town for a private campaign rally, can't articulate one single thing they like about him as a candidate, then what does that say about his candidacy in the first place?

The "Anybody but Bush" philosophy was what garnered Kerry the nomination back in the primary season. Democrats in Iowa, New Hampshire and virtually every other state saw him as the "best hope" to beat Bush in November and that drove their vote.

Howard Dean, they said, was too crazy, but he had something that attracted a following. John Edwards, they said, was too inexperienced, but he had something that attracted a following. In John Kerry they saw an experienced, practical leader, but I don't think anyone was ever enthralled by his campaign. They just thought he could beat Bush.

Between now and Nov. 2 Kerry has to change that. He has to give people a reason to vote for him other than "he's not Bush." In the next 30 days Kerry will have at least two debates and countless other opportunities to make his case. He must capitalize on those opportunities.

It's clear now that Kerry isn't going to connect with voters on a personal level, as Clinton and Reagan did in the past. He's been painted as aloof and pretentious and that's probably not going to change in less than two months. He just doesn't have the charisma that Clinton and Reagan had.

That means Kerry either has to find an untapped issue that voters can associate with him or, more likely, he must offer the American people a clear, reachable and somewhat revolutionary plan for the future.

There's still hope for Kerry and his supporters, but it's completely up to him now. He's the one who has to establish a valid reason for voters to choose him at the end of the day.

If Kerry can't accomplish that, I don't see much of a chance of him sitting in the Oval Office in 2005.

Ben Roberts is a journalism and political science senior. E-mail: broberts@kykernel.com

Kerry needs to re-examine campaign strategy now

CINCINNATI — What I witnessed Wednesday makes me increasingly confident that the majority of the nation will cast a vote to re-elect President George W. Bush.

I traveled to Cincinnati and ventured into the lion's den, or more formally, Union Terminal, to hear presidential candidate John Kerry speak to voters in Ohio.

Not concerned with having a religious experience or being converted from my evil conservative ways, I tried to look at the situation from a more strategic perspective.

First of all, the campaign organization had problems. A volunteer told me the stop was scheduled less than 24 hours before it occurred, and that the volunteers had trouble getting admitted.

The cavernous museum was quickly converted into a large echo chamber (pun intended). Because of the poor sound system and intense reverberations, none of the speakers could be clearly understood.

And I'm not sure the Green Party would have approved of all the paper handouts unloaded on the press like machine gun fire. Kerry has recently shaken up his campaign staff and called for more debates with Bush. Both are traditionally perceived as acts of desperation.

At least the event started on time. Then there was Kerry's speech.

At the beginning of his address, a heckler started screaming something about atrocities in Vietnam before quickly being dealt with by a submission hold expert and Kerry supporter next to him.

Kerry handled the situation well, but it was all down hill from there. Sticking closely to his prepared remarks, Kerry spent most of his time criticizing Bush's handling of the war in Iraq and less time talking about domestic issues.

Personally, I was a little surprised the senator proceeded to spend so much time hammering Bush on the war.

Clearly the issue isn't a winner for Kerry. Yet he continues to press it, like he continued to press his Vietnam service.

In fact, most of the Kerry supporters I talked to said the economy was the single most important issue of the campaign. Kerry and Bush poll nearly the same on the economy as well, but the issue seems to be more of a potential winner for Kerry.

Kerry did not specifically condemn the choice to go to Iraq Wednesday.

Monday he said it was "the wrong war in the wrong place at the wrong time." Last month he said he still would have supported the war if he'd known there would be no weapons of mass destruction.

How do you reconcile those two positions unless you believe in fortune cookie foreign policy?

Kerry also said that, unlike Bush, "I would have built a genuine coalition of our allies around the world."

The proposition is less than clear-cut. Most NATO countries have made cuts to their military budgets and have no interest in giving any meaningful support to U.S. forces, regardless of who's president.

And it doesn't help to call the current US-led coalition "some tramped-up, so-called coalition of the bribed, the coerced, the bought and the extorted."

Kerry's speech made some good points. President Bush hasn't conducted all facets of the Iraq war successfully.

But Kerry must do more than make the case against Bush; he must also make the case for himself. One woman I talked to at the campaign rally said she has no intention to vote for Bush but is not completely sold on Kerry, which reinforces my point.

Some supporters in Cincinnati were concerned that Kerry wasn't ripping into Bush hard enough, successfully rebuking Bush attacks and passionately communicating his differences on issues like education, abortion and appointment of U.S. Supreme Court justices (and how that could affect abortion).

Additionally, Kerry faces a likability problem.

He rarely deviated from his prepared remarks in Cincinnati and the speech did not contain charisma, an optimistic outlook or a vision that would inspire citizens to vote for him.

It's time for Kerry to make some serious changes to his campaign approach or his presidential fortune cookie will crumble, revealing a doomed fate for Kerry.

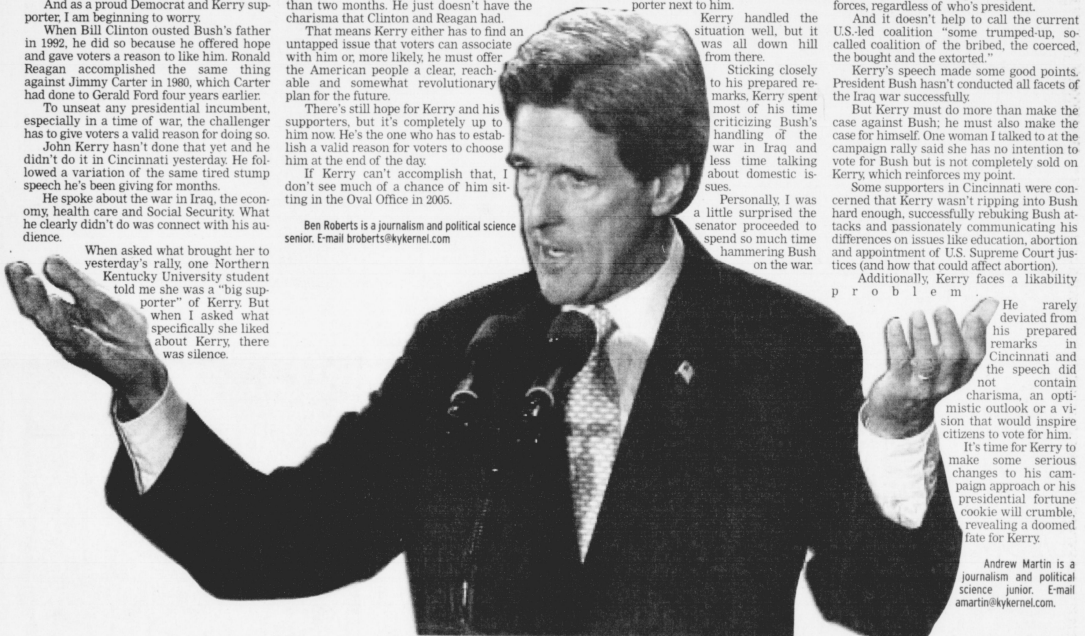
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Ben Roberts
ASST. OPINIONS EDITOR



Andrew Martin
OPINIONS EDITOR



JOHN FOSTER | STAFF

IN OUR OPINION

Downtown is lookin' good

Lexington welcomes new water works and new trees as students return to the city this semester.

After about four years of drafts and debates over what to do with the area in front of the two new courthouses downtown, Lexington saw the opening of a new plaza on Limestone this summer.

The 1.7-acre area cost about \$1.77 million to develop and is the result of a lot of compromise, said Circuit Judge Mary Noble this summer.

She said the most difficult part was getting the design to reflect varying interests and goals.

The money for the project came directly from the funds set aside for the courthouses and could not be spent on anything else in the city besides the plaza.

With its grassy areas, benches and

two water fountains, we can't find much to complain about.

The space offers a lot of options and the water features draw a lot of interest whether it's the interactive, getting wet sort or the more observant, sit and watch the water sort.

City officials received some criticism this summer when people noticed that work crews were removing trees from wells along Main Street. But those who enjoyed the downtown greenery won't be missing their trees for long.

City Forester Tim Queary said that the trees are going to be replaced, starting in October.

The old trees, most planted in the 1970s, were damaged from years of weathering, particularly the ice storm in 2003, Queary said. Many had outgrown their wells and were dying.

The Triangle Foundation, originally set up to take care of Triangle and Thoroughbred Parks, is helping by providing the \$125,000 needed to remove the trees and then replace them.

The new trees will offer more of a variety, featuring about four kinds of trees.

We can't complain about improving upon downtown greenery, especially when the bill is covered without taking away from other city projects.

City officials and planners who fret about how to draw more people downtown might look to these two successful projects.

UK's campus is close to this part of Lexington and students could be looked to as a good population to draw from.

Features like fun, inventive public spaces and healthy greenery help create a better atmosphere for everybody.

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.

We reserve the right to edit all submissions for clarity, brevity and grammatical errors. If you have any questions about the policy, call us at 257-1915.

E-MAIL opinions@kykernel.com

Note to readers

The Opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas.

Unlike news stories, the Kernel's unsigned editorials represent the views of a majority of the editorial board.

Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the Opinions page reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of the Kernel.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Football columnist impatient with Brooks and company

I disagree with Sports Editor Tim Wiseman's assessment of UK Football Head Coach Rich Brooks as stated in Monday's column titled, "Brooks leading Cats on long death march."

Wiseman demands that UK Head Coach Rich Brooks quit using a lack of depth on the roster as an excuse for losing.

At the same time Wiseman pines over former UK Head Coach Hal Mumme, saying, "With Mumme, blowout losses still felt like parries, complete with Jimmy Buffet soundtrack."

Wiseman may want to lead your readers to think that Hal Mumme's tenure at UK was "Cheeseburgers in Paradise." In reality, Mumme left UK "wastin' away again in Margaritaville."

Due to the recruiting violations that occurred under Mumme, UK has been forced to offer less football scholarships which has caused the current depth problem.

This past recruiting class (2004) is the first non-sanctioned one of Brooks' career at UK, and it will take time for these players to mature.

I would expect the Kernel's Sports Editor to understand this is the reason why Coach Brooks says, "We don't have a lot of choices" at the present time.

Wiseman may lament the loss of the party atmosphere that Hal Mumme brought to UK Football.

However, Wiseman shouldn't blame Coach Brooks for the mess Mumme left after the party.

CHRISTOPHER EMMICK
UK staff

Injured ball player tries again

By Chad Crunk and Ryan Mabry
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

When Mike Breyman left the field for the last time as a UK player, he thought his baseball career was over.

"I had hung it up," Breyman said. The Cats' designated hitter and power threat off the bench in 2004, Breyman did not get enough playing time to garner a look from professional scouts.

UK head coach John Cohen said that injuries early in his senior season set Breyman back.

"He didn't get to play early because he was injured," Cohen said. "He pulled a hamstring and twisted his knee."

Those injuries kept Breyman from getting back to full speed, and he was forced into a designated hitter role in what would be his final season of collegiate baseball.

When the season ended, Breyman had a summer job lined up and had no plans to continue playing baseball.

But thanks to old friend, he got a second chance at baseball.

Casey Gilvin, one of Breyman's teammates on last season's UK baseball squad, had latched on with the Frontier League's Gateway Grizzlies of Sauget, Ill.

Breyman went to one of Gilvin's games to pay his friend a visit. By an odd twist of fate, that night Gilvin went down with an injury of his own, and the Grizzlies needed a player to take his spot.

Gilvin knew exactly whom he wanted to take his place.

"I talked to the Grizzlies and they agreed to give him a chance to make the team," Gilvin said.

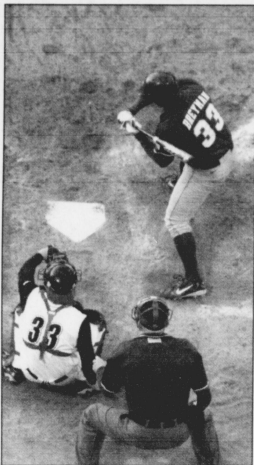
Two months later, Breyman was hitting .324 with a 429 on base percentage, helping his team to the Frontier League playoffs.

"Mike really has the potential to hit at the pro level," Cohen said. "He just needs the opportunity to play every day and fall into a rhythm."

Breyman has had several key hits for the Grizzlies this season. In a game on July 27 against the Windy City Thunderbolts, Breyman had five RBIs, including a grand slam. The Grizzlies won the game 14-7.

Breyman's personality has been key to his success.

"He's a great young man," Cohen said. "He was a good student, and he has a great sense of humor."



Former UK baseball player Mike Breyman began his professional baseball career this summer with the Frontier League's Gateway Grizzlies of Sauget, Ill.

"Mike's a big teddy bear," Gilvin said. "He's laid back, but when he does get mad, he's real aggressive. That's what makes him a good baseball player."

Thanks to Gilvin, Breyman found himself playing baseball again. And he'll keep following his baseball dream as long as he can.

"It's doubtful that I'll be picked up by a major league franchise this year because I haven't had many at bats," Breyman said. "I'll probably play for the Grizzlies next year, and if nothing happens, then I'll hang it up for good."

E-mail: sports@kykernel.com

After 15 years, Deion Sanders still 'Prime Time' sports figure

By Laura Vecsey
THE BALTIMORE SUN

In this far-flung world of sports journalism, your faithful correspondent has always hunted for tales of humble beginnings and humbled endings.

And then there's Deion Sanders. "Sorry, sis. Nothing personal. I only talk on Thursdays," Sanders said Tuesday.

Ah, to be Prime Timed not once, but twice, during an otherwise plausibly successful reporting career.

Some of us were around 15 years ago when "Prime Time" took his show to The Show. Or, rather, took his show to the prelude to The Show.

That was Albany, N.Y., home of the Albany-Colonie Yankees, where Sanders started his first full season of professional sports while this scribe was toiling for the Albany Times-Union.

To illustrate the way in which a fellow like Sanders could wow the local populace, the Times-Union recently took a poll of the favorite athletes ever to have played in upstate New York's Capital Region.

Only Pat Riley, Sam Perkins, Adam Oates, Mike Tyson, Derek Jeter, Jeff Blatnik, Phil Jackson, Bernie Williams, Dottie Pepper, Joe Juneau and John Starks ranked ahead of Sanders in terms of popularity.

Of course, only 38 people voted in the Capital Region poll, and goodness knows Sanders only played in 33 games, hitting a cool .286.

Now Sanders is shaking up Ravenstown, which you'd think didn't need any glitz or fizz or spotlight heat. It's already so hot in here, Ray Lewis is taking off all his clothes. Or at least planning to dance again to that tune.

Ah, but the stage loves Sanders. And vice versa.

It fires up the ol' memory chip from the times when "Prime Time" first hit the big time — leaving Florida to earn money for his speed, even if a minor leaguer's per diem was barely enough to pay for Neon's tooth polish.

In 1988, the New York Yankees selected the Florida State star of the gridiron, diamond and running oval in the 30th round of the amateur baseball draft.

That was so long ago, the Yankees finished fifth in the seven-team American League East that season. Their payroll was a whopping \$18,777,999.

And the Yankees made Deion the 781st pick overall.

That would appear to be humble beginnings, but we don't need ESPN Classic to remind us there is no such thing for the man known as "Prime Time."

He might have been relegated to bus trips to Eastern League burghs, but Sanders made it clear he wasn't there but for a cup of coffee.

He was all Jerri Curl back then, enough hair to make the Yankees' notoriously anal-retentive farmhand manager cringe. That's right, Buck Showalter was Sanders' first pro boss — after Tallahassee Bobby Bowden, that is.

Strangers in the night, Buck and Deion, exchanging glances. Talk about obtuse career paths converging in weird places.

Among the lesser-known facts about Sanders' illustrious two-sport career: He was the first player to get a hit in a professional baseball game in London, Ontario. That was on April 7, 1989, when Sanders, then 21, playing center field and batting leadoff against the London Tigers, singled off Don Vesling.

And we thought every detail of Sanders' athletic, rap-singing, evangelical life had been uncovered.

Better yet, Sanders went 4-for-4 that cold April night in Canada — when the wife of Tigers Manager Chris Chambliss sang the anthem in a fur coat. Sanders made two sensational catches. By September, Sanders had gone through Triple-A Columbus and was hitting homers — at Yankee Stadium.

That Sanders was the 781st pick overall didn't have any humbling effect on him, anyway. He was also the Atlanta Falcons' first-round pick, fifth overall, and he showed up at his NFL coming-out party wearing enough jewelry to open a Fortinoff's mega-store.

Yes, it was clear from the beginning where Sanders' bread was buttered. The NFL was where "Prime Time" was worth his weight in gold.

As Sanders himself once said: In baseball, you can't jump around and act the fool because the game requires too much concentration and patience and a lot more sacrifice of individual flamboyance, which is why athletes nearly as athletically gifted as Deion (Barry Bonds, Ken Griffey Jr., Alex Rodriguez) were (eventually) willing to submit to being "just one of 25 guys."

Here in Ravenstown, the talk has been about Sanders' NFL comeback.

If we learned anything from Michael Jordan's career-ending sputter in Washington, it's that even the most sensational will eventually fall, or falter.

Watching that kind of thing happen really stinks.

And Prime Time won't easily ingest no humble pie.

He's already woofing on national TV to his buddy, retired receiver Michael Irvin.

"Prime Time" has issued a taunt in advance of the Ravens' season opener Sunday, daring Browns quarterback Jeff Garcia to throw to his side of the field.

Do the Ravens, prime Super Bowl contenders, need any more of this? "There's a difference between arrogance and conviction," Coach Brian Billicek reminded us all earlier this week.

Who could forget? Coach is the real "Prime Time" around these parts.

It's best to remain cautiously optimistic about what and when and how long Sanders will reappear. If he reappears.

He's picking his spots. Nickel coverage. Twenty snaps. Most important: No talking — unless it's Thursday. Sis.

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