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July 25, 2002

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WORLD

Professor supports Palestinian statehood



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fighting continues

The bodies of three children recovered from the rubble of an apartment building destroyed by an Israeli airstrike Tuesday in Gaza City are carried during their funeral march in Gaza Wednesday. An Israeli warplane attacked a house in the Gaza Strip early Tuesday, killing at least 15 people, including Salah Shehadeh, commander of the military wing of Hamas.

Not a threat: Desch says Israel's military makes it safe from an independent Palestine

By Vaughan Fielder
STAFF WRITER

A UK professor shared his belief that Israeli security would not be in danger if a separate Palestinian state were established Tuesday night at the Beaumont Center Public Library.

"The only long-term solution is the establishment of a Palestinian state," said Michael C. Desch, professor and associate director of the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce. "I think Israel is in excellent shape in terms of security."

Desch said there are two reasons used to argue that a separate Palestinian state should not be formed: the security of Israel and the belief

that Israel is entitled to the West Bank through religious texts.

Desch's argument deals with the first argument of the two: security. He said there is no reason Israel should feel threatened by the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Daniel Chejfec, executive director of the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation, does not agree with Desch. He thinks that under the current Palestinian authority, there is no hope for peace with the establishment of a separate state.

"I would be extremely uncomfortable with any kind of power given to Arafat and the current leadership," Chejfec said. He said Palestinians should choose leadership that would not threaten Israel.

Desch said that Israel has the defender's advantage, a large number of nuclear weapons and adequate relations with Egypt and Jordan.

"There is no conventional scenario in which Israel will be defeated," he said. "The nuclear weapons would make the difference."

Desch emphasized the ability of Israel to defend itself, though he says Israel has a few liabilities in terms of defense. He listed lack of strategic depth, Iran and Iraq seeking weapons of mass destruction and suicide bombings as possible problems.

Despite these drawbacks, Desch said, holding onto the territory that Palestinians want does not do anything to help these threats. In fact, he argues, it makes them worse.

Several people at the meeting agreed with Desch. "Israel can stand up to al-

See MIDEAST on 2



Desch

"The only long-term solution is the establishment of a Palestinian state."

- MICHAEL DESCH,
PROFESSOR

UNDER OATH

FBI scientist admits she lied in Ragland pre-trial hearing

Sequel? Ragland's attorneys may seek new trial after learning of false testimony

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — An FBI scientist who testified during Shane Ragland's murder trial has admitted that she lied during a hearing held earlier in the case, and Ragland is seeking a new trial as a result.

Agent Kathleen Lundy has insisted that the Ragland case is the only time she has "ever been untruthful in any testimony, report, or other professional matter," according to internal FBI memos filed Friday in Fayette Circuit Court.

Ragland was convicted in March of murder in the 1994 sniper death of Univer-

sity of Kentucky football player and honor student Trent DiGiuro. Ragland was sentenced to 30 years.

Lundy suspended from courtroom and FBI case work after she revealed her lie in April, is one of two scientists who do comparative bullet-lead analysis for the agency.

In Ragland's case, Lundy testified that tests suggested that the bullet re-ported from DiGiuro's head came from the same batch as bullets found at Ragland's house.

A defense witness, former FBI chief metallurgist William Tobin, testified that

the tests were meaningless.

The lie Lundy says she told was at a pretrial hearing when Ragland was trying to get bullet-lead tests thrown out. There, Lundy said that bullet manufacturer Winchester had remelted all of the lead it received until 1996 — two years after DiGiuro was murdered. In fact, Winchester stopped remelting lead in 1986. The importance of the date difference to the Ragland case is unclear.

"I cannot explain why I made the original error — nor why, knowing that the testimony was false, I failed to correct it at the time," Lundy wrote in a May 28 internal FBI memo. "... I was stressed out by this case and work in general. I had been under a great deal of profes-

sional pressure for over a year and had considered resigning."

Ragland attorney J. Guthrie True alleged that the Fayette County commonwealth's attorney unjustly "allowed the court and the jury to rely upon uncorrected, perjured testimony."

Commonwealth's Attorney Ray Larson disagreed. "They got accurate testimony at trial," he said. "It was at (a January) hearing that her testimony was not correct. She knew that, but we didn't know that. The defense brought it out on cross-examination at trial and that's when they found out, we found out, the jury found out, and everybody found out."

"They're doing whatever they can to get a new trial."



Taming a tiger

Woods has flesh beneath his steely exterior | 6

LEE TODD'S FIRST YEAR

Questions Answers

Recently, the Kernel interviewed Lee Todd on his first year as president his successes, challenges, regrets and failures. The interview took place in Todd's car, as he went to attend a meeting in Spindletop Hall.



Q What was your greatest achievement during your first year on campus?

A The main thing that stands out is getting the energy and the spirit of campus among students, faculty and staff, and I would include alumni among that. We've set a path where people are excited to be a part of the process to move the university forward. Meeting the top-20 challenge is not just raising money, but also helping to improve the state of Kentucky. If all we did was pile up resources and money, but didn't do things to change the state of Kentucky, we're not a top university. I've also enjoyed spending time with students. Patsy's (Patsy Todd, the president's wife) involvement has also been wonderful, and I've enjoyed that.

Most of all, lifting the spirit of the campus. Giving a sense of progress has been the greatest contribution of this first year.

Q What was your biggest regret?

A I regret the Administration Building burning down, the tight budget, the basketball team losing its first two games in the SEC. Also, I wasn't able to do everything I wanted to do. After a while, frustration built up. I realized I couldn't do everything out there. I need to find a better way to control my time. You get so absorbed by what other people want you to do, you sometimes forget what you want to get done yourself.

Q What would you change about the first year?

A I'm having a hard time thinking of anything to change. I'm very pleased overall with the way things are going. If I could have done more, I would have. Maybe I could find a way to sleep faster, or add a couple of hours to the clock. I wish I spent more time with development. It was a great first year getting the university ready to present to donors and alumni for investment.

Q What are you most excited about in UK's future?

A We closed out last year's grants and contracts, and broke \$200 million; \$211 million, actually. That's up 21% over last year. We've also increased enrollment for the freshman class, and done it without sacrificing admission criteria. I want to see the Administration Building rebuilt; it will feel good to see hammers and nails going to work on the building. I am also appointing a vice president for public service soon, to enact the "commonwealth measures" we have discussed. This is someone who will wake up each day focused on interests within Lexington and around the state. I'm also excited to have an AD in place.

Last year was a sort of preparatory year, changing the tone and getting ready. This is a year for the execution of what we've started.

Q What were your greatest challenges during the first year?

A Dealing with the first legislative session, and the confusion around the higher education budget, was difficult and time-consuming. The athletic situation, clearly, was also demanding, facing the situation and making changes in the athletic department. The Health Care Task Force found a rational way to increase the money available, the money paid for health insurance for our families. That was a real plus. The budget, though a challenge, was met head-on. We've got a good budget and a strong fiscal nature to the university. Though the budget was cut \$6 million, we didn't have to disrupt the departments. The budget office and the treasury did a good job.

Q What does it feel like to be president?

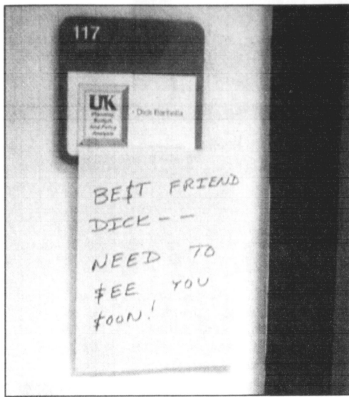
A I used to walk around saying "I can't believe I'm president of UK." Recently, though, I've noticed I haven't been saying that. The job fully sits in my lap. There is a tremendous responsibility to lead this university. I am constantly aware of both the prestige and the responsibility that comes with this job.

Q What was the hardest thing you had to do in the first year?

A There were some tough changes I had to make in the administration early on, moving some people around and some people out. I felt I had to do those things, but they are never easy. Making personnel changes was the most difficult thing I had to do — and the changes in athletics were among them.

JACKPOT

UK employee wins \$23.4 million



REBECCA NEAL | KERNEL STAFF

An anonymous "friend" placed a note on the wall of lottery winner's Richard Barbella's empty office.

'A lot of golf': Winner will soon retire, invest his money and live the good life

By Andrew Blankenship
STAFF WRITER

After years of helping UK manage its budget, Richard Barbella, UK's Director of Policy Analysis, doesn't have to worry about money any more.

Barbella, a UK employee for 27 years, won a jackpot of \$41.5 million in last Saturday's Powerball drawing, but took the cash option, a mere \$23.4 million.

"I love the University of Kentucky," Barbella said. "Cut me and I do bleed blue. It's my school."

Barbella graduated from UK and later earned an MBA. He worked for the university for 27 years and will work until November, then retire.

"On behalf of the university we congratulate him," Mary Margaret Collier, a spokesperson for UK, said of Barbella. "(We) wish him the

best of luck." She said President Lee Todd also wished Barbella the best of luck.

Angie Martin, Associate Vice President of Planning and Budget said "he's taking a couple of days of vacation."

Employees who worked with him in the Human Resources office were gathered around a laptop computer Tuesday afternoon, watching his press conference at Kentucky Lottery headquarters with disbelief.

"The University employees are very happy for him, very excited," said Martin. His phone is disconnected, Martin said, and he planned to get an unlisted number.

"I won't do anything crazy. I'll pay off the house, but I won't go on a big spending spree," said Barbella. "I want the money to last."

Barbella said he plans to invest his money and play "a lot of golf."

ARTISTIC

UK art professor to display work in new courthouse

Big winner: Artist selected from a field of 60 gallery-filling hopefuls

By Nichole Lainhart
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Artist and UK art professor Arturo Alonzo Sandoval was selected from a list of nearly 60 Kentucky artists to have his artwork displayed in the new U.S. Sixth District Court building in London, Kentucky.

The U.S. General Service Administration's Art in Architecture project requires that a percentage of the cost of all new federal buildings be allotted for artwork to be displayed in the facility.

"We wanted a Kentucky artist," said architect Royce Bourne, who was one of twelve members on the AIA panel that narrowed the list of artists for the GSA. Bourne, of Lexington's CMW, Inc., was the principal architect in charge of the new federal courthouse project. "[The panel] went through a series of slides of Kentucky artists... and kept narrowing it down until it was a short list of three and the GSA selected from those."

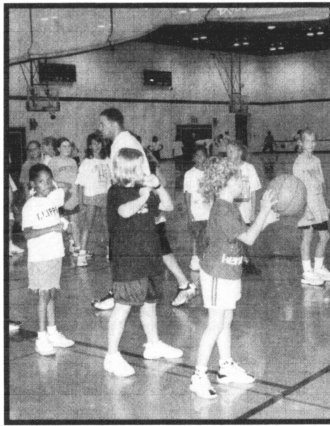
The Art in Architecture project commissioned Sandoval to do a series of four pieces that are titled "Appalachian Knots."

The pieces are woven strips of polished brass, copper and aluminum in a reverse twill pattern that is painted and has a clear-coat finish.

Sandoval, along with several other artists, metal fabricators and engineers are currently working on the pieces and expect to have the series completed in late August. The works are scheduled for dedication on Oct. 7.

"We wanted a Kentucky artist."

- ROYCE BOURNE,
ARCHITECT



HOLLY DAVIS | PHOTO EDITOR

Starting early

Coach Trey Clark gets the girls ready for another drill on Monday afternoon, their first day of a week-long UK girls' basketball camp in the Seaton Center gymnasium.

MIDEAST

Continued from page 1

most every country," said Kenneth George, who attended the meeting.

Laila Elsharif, a Palestinian graduate student at the University of the Louisville, said she agreed

with what Desch had to say, with a few exceptions.

"It was clear a Palestinian state would not present a threat to Israel, but the question is, would Israel present a threat to Palestine?" she said.

Despite the controversy, most believe Desch is a respected authority on the subject. "I consider him to be a good person and an excellent scholar," said Chefetz.

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PALE FACE, OUTER SPACE

Black lights, science fiction and greasepaint

Do you remember your high school drama productions? They were probably cheesy plays put on by a group of unnaturally enthusiastic high school students. Perhaps the set was very low-budget or the costumes were pieced together from whatever people had at home.

I was in quite a few of those kind of plays when I was in high school. My Drama II class put on a memorable production of Ray Bradbury's classic science-fiction story *The Martian*



Rebecca Neal
DIALOGUE EDITOR

ese style of drama where the actors paint their faces white and wear black clothing. Often the plays are silent, so no lines are spoken. The style relies on body language and facial expressions to convey the story line.

The experience was interesting, to say the least. Ac-

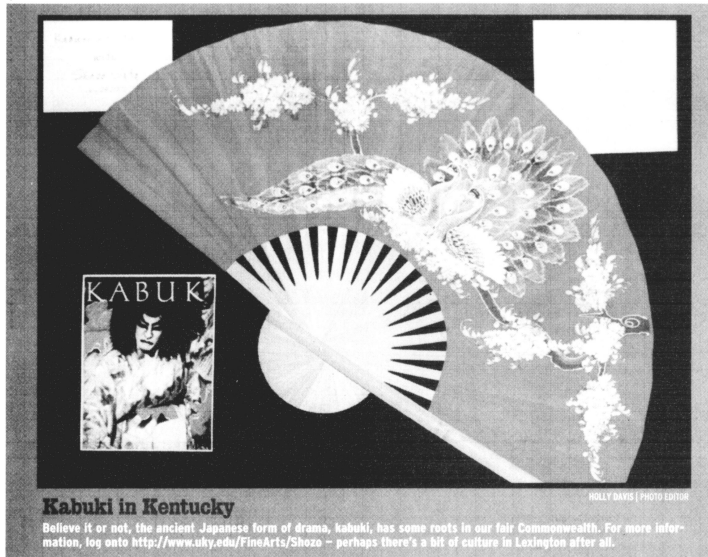
ording to my friends in the audience, the play made no sense whatsoever. Not only were we not trained well in the art of kabuki, but it is nearly impossible to act out a Bradbury story without words. People couldn't even tell which actors were Earthlings and which were Martians!

We dressed all in black, painted our faces white with thick, viscous greasepaint and strategically placed a few black lights around the stage. Apparently we didn't have sufficient lighting, as few people in the audience could see many of the actors. It was just as well, as the actors couldn't even see them-

selves — we kept running into each other!

The worst part of the play, coincidentally, occurred after the curtain call, when we had to remove our makeup. The girl that had bought the greasepaint failed to realize that you had to buy special remover to wash the goop off. The stuff dried and stuck to our skin. We were in the bathrooms for over an hour scrubbing our faces with Palmolive and rough brown paper towels.

Ah, the fun days of high school. If you ever get a chance to go to a kabuki performance, I'd recommend it. Drama can be enlightening.



Kabuki in Kentucky

Believe it or not, the ancient Japanese form of drama, kabuki, has some roots in our fair Commonwealth. For more information, log onto <http://www.uky.edu/FineArts/Shojo> — perhaps there's a bit of culture in Lexington after all.

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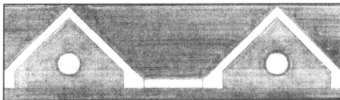
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The Barnhart Era

As many of you already know, Mitch Barnhart was hired as UK's new Athletic Director after four long months of searching. I personally feel that he was a good choice for the Cats, and I'm not just saying that to sound supportive. I've actually done my homework for this article, seeing that I had to write a piece on him for Big Blue Nation, which comes out in a few weeks. However, what I have for you today are Barnhart's top secret plans for the Athletics Department, thanks to my uncanny skills as an investigator. I'll admit that my findings are on the 99% borderline of fiction, but who do you think I am, Wolf Blitzer?

Barnhart's Plans for the Athletic Department

Fundraising: Mr. Barnhart, as he insisted that I call him (he didn't like Mitch), is well known for his skills at "paying the bills" which is why he'll be passing around mandatory donation baskets during all classes.

Football: Everyone seems to be speculating the future of Guy Morris, but I've discovered Barnhart's plan is deeper than that. Can somebody say NFL expansion team? That's got to be an NCAA violation waiting to happen.

Basketball: Due to last year's off-court troubles, Barnhart is assigning a new resident adviser over at Wildcat Lodge. I don't think we'll have anything to worry about with Sergeant Hartman from Full Metal Jacket roaming the halls.

NCAA Title IX: This policy can cause controversy for most schools, but it seems like the new AD has this figured out, too. From now on, there will be no more male or female sports. The whole athletic department is going co-ed, which may or may not hurt our chances for a bowl game.

Facilities: UK's facilities are some of the best in the nation, compared to other schools. But why stop there when there are still professional teams looking down on us? Barnhart already has his eyes on a few classroom buildings that could be razed and replaced with a Super Dome.

Jonathan Ray
Rail Editor
jonathan@
kykernel.com



MIKE LUCKAICH
ALL-STAR JOURNALIST
OF THE AY COW

READERS' FORUM



Expressions

Religious, political differences are the basis of the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians

To the editor:

A little humanistic common sense could go a long way toward solving the religious/political mess in Israel/Palestine. The place is on the invasion routes linking three continents and has always been multi-ethnic. For everyone's sake, they need to start getting along. Israel should be allowed to exist safely within its pre-1967 borders. Whether Jews had any right to settle in Palestine or not is now a moot point. Several generations have been born there and it is now their home too. An independent Palestine should be set up in the West Bank and Gaza, and Israeli settlements there dismantled. Good fences would definitely make good neighbors here. However, the economies of these two nations should be as thoroughly intertwined as possible. That's what finally got France and

Germany to get along!

Palestinian refugees should be resettled in other countries and given citizenship. Further immigration by both nationalities into the two countries should be limited, as should natural increase in population. These are and will always be tiny countries with limited resources.

Jerusalem should be made an international city. Between the industrial democracies, the UN, wealthy Arabs and Jews and tourism, financing this should be feasible UN troops without religious ties to the area would make the best peacekeepers.

"God," for 2000 years, failed to "restore Zion." Secular Jews did it in a mere 100 years. "God" has failed to bring "the peace of Jerusalem," but we humans can if we choose to do it.

Patrick L. Buck

INSTRUCTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC STUDIES

Apathy must not continue; students should be active on campus and keep up on current events

To the editor:

I enjoyed reading Rebecca Neal's column in the 7/18 Kernel. I think we are in the age of PC-ness, where we seem to be reassured we are doing the right thing by mumbling certain catch phrases that we hope demonstrate to others that we are ethical and aware.

The column made me wonder about how to encourage students on this campus to become engaged in these deeper issues. To practice social awareness, one must begin in one's home environment -- for UK students that would mean right here on campus.

As the Chair of the University Senate Council, I am disappointed that students are not more actively engaged in the many issues facing them.

Where was the outrage by students when they heard the Athletics program was involved with academic fraud?

Where is the public scrutiny of your elected leaders and how accountable are they to you, the student body?

What can be done to draw students out and encourage them to become engaged? If only students knew what real power they have on campus, they'd be amazed at what could be accomplished with regards to some of the ethical and socially important issues that face our academic community.

It takes courage to point out issues others would rather not hear about. I believe students need to become more aware of and involved with issues of humanity and social awareness. I would be delighted to continue this dialogue with any interested students who feel motivated to discuss these issues.

Dr. Jeff Dembo

PROFESSOR, ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY AND CHAIR, UNIVERSITY SENATE COUNCIL

UK should support equal rights for all

When I first read that two Kentucky senators were threatening to "disrupt" funding for UK because of a proposed session on lesbian health, I was infuriated.

I am a 22-year-old woman beginning a family. I am thankful that health professionals have access to information specific to my family's needs.

I cannot imagine being denied the latest and most accurate knowledge about my specific health needs.

This is, in essence, what the senators were proposing. I began to recall the patterns of oppression that hinder gays and lesbians: lack of equal access to health benefits, no rights to legally marry, brutal criticism from hundreds of communities and now a couple of state senators are suggesting to remove their rights of freedom of expression in an academic setting.

Sen. Borders wants UK to pull the session on lesbian health that is being offered as part of the Women's Health Conference in September. He thinks that the UK administration should speak out against the forum and extract it from the program.

I think Sen. Borders' (R-Russell) ideas are closed-minded and absurd. He is ignoring an entire group of people that is just as deserving as any other group to have access to information about their health needs.

In addition to Borders' threats, Sen. Dick Roeding (R-Lakeside Park) chimed in with his own generalizations about women in Kentucky:

"How dare the university propose to recognize a lifestyle that the vast majority of women in Kentucky do not agree with?" he said in a letter to UK President Lee Todd.

It is unclear where Roeding obtained this figure. Can Roeding back up this claim, or was it just a fact created to fit his argument? Who conducted the research that revealed the aforementioned conservative ideology of Kentucky women?

I believe I am one of the many Kentucky women who want all people to have equal rights and equal access to health information. Just as people should not be denied specific health information based on their race or gender, people also should not have to face discrimination based on their sexual orientation.

It is my wish that the community as a whole will express their displeasure and disagreement with the senators' views. I hope that the community's disdain will influence these men and possibly help them gain a respect for family values and the rights of all individuals to have access to the most current information on their specific health needs.

We are now living in the 21st century. These senators should not let their own fears and prejudices control the public's right to information.

I worried Todd would not support the session and wondered if he would stand by lesbians' rights to have a forum on health issues. To me, Todd's decision would reflect his feelings on diversity and rights of those who may not be in the majority.

"I would be shocked if President Todd is aware of this and demoralized if he or the administration has given their approval," Borders said in a recent Lexington Herald-Leader article.

Borders must now be in shock, as Todd has openly supported the issue.

"We are an equal opportunity university and pride ourselves on not discriminating against anyone. To do otherwise would be a great disservice to all Kentuckians," Todd told Herald-Leader reporters.

UK has a progressive, open-minded president. Todd's decision to support the session on lesbian health as part of the UK Women's Health Conference in the fall is commendable.

His statement shows his willingness to take the risks that are necessary to move UK toward becoming an egalitarian university that is responsive to all groups of people, regardless of their sexual orientation.

Kernel columnist Vaughan Fielder is a journalism senior. Her views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.



Vaughan Fielder
KERNEL COLUMNIST

Farewell to my fans and Kernelites

It's time to get off the bus on jump on the train. Like the late comedian Robin Harris' famous tagline, "When ya gotta go, ya gotta go!" Well, I gotta go.

To all who have read my byline for the last three years, today will be the last time you'll see my byline in the Kernel. Starting next month, I will be taking one classes at the University of Maryland while making a transitional move to Washington, DC, during the fall semester.

However, my time with the Kernel and at UK has been wonderful.

The Kernel has shaped me in an extraordinary way, helping to develop me as a journalist. The paper's influence on me will last for decades to come.

One summer day I walked in the Kernel newsroom wanting to write and



Lamin Swann
NEWS EDITOR

be challenged. I was given an article, a little bit of background on the assignment and a deadline. After that issue was printed and I saw my byline, I was hooked on being a journalist and informing the world at hand.

During my tenure at the Kernel, I have had the chance to write stories about President George W. Bush while he was campaigning during the 2000 election, covered Vice President Dick Cheney at the 2000 Vice Presidential debate at Danville's Centre College and Cheney's fundraising visit to Lexington for Sen. Ernie Fletcher the day before Sept. 11. Some reporters writing for big city daily newspapers wait a lifetime to cover two of the most powerful men on the globe.

Covering politics and public policy is my career goal, though the best interviews I've done were with av-

erage people. These are the people who will probably not be in a newspaper again or be on the 11 o'clock sports highlights -- the people who had a story to tell but did not want the fame.

The priceless thing of being a Kernel staff writer is the group of people I've spent most of the last three years with, a unique breed -- Kernelites.

The Kernel family is the toughest family on the block. Sometimes it may seem that our motto is, "If you didn't give us junk, we won't give you none." We got what we wanted -- most of the time.

Kernelites are the people who have sacrificed their school, love and social lives each night to get the day's news, sports and entertainment to the newsstands. These are the people whom I've brainstormed with developing stories; they are my hardest (and harshest) critics yet friends that I will have a connection with for a lifetime.

There are many many

people I want to thank for these blessed three years, though there's not enough room in this column. If I missed your name -- thank you.

First of all, a big thank you to the Kernel family including the matriarch and backbone, (Ms.) Patsy Martin, and Chris Poore, the rookie Kernel adviser finishing an all-star season.

The Kernel daily crew -- the ones who sacrificed everything else to make an award-winning paper: Tracy Kershaw -- my biggest critic inside the newsroom and out. Hey, run a tight ship next year! Nick Tomecek -- Six-pack of Budweiser: \$5. Buck- et of chicken: \$4. Riding in the VW Jetta, listening to LL Cool J and breaking down in the middle of nowhere on the way to the 2000 Vice Presidential debate. Priceless.

Andrea Uhde, Kelley Sears, Travis Hubbard, Will Messer, Ashley York, Stacie Melhuus, Sarah Zopf, John Wampler, Jenny Robinson, (Granddaddy) Tom Soper,

Steve Jones -- you all are a tight crew, go and tackle the world as journalists. Drew Purcell and Chris Rosenthal -- players, play on. Amanda York -- thank you pushing me to not give up as a journalist; I'll see you at the crossroads. I'd like to send a big shout-out to the advertising and business crew, the countless staff writers and photographers and my family who lost contact of me for days.

Now I have time of my own. Jennifer, I'll be over soon -- I won't forget about you this time.

As I enter my last few weeks, I'd like to say that UK and Lexington, you have been a gracious host to me for the last 12 years. Though I'm leaving, I won't forget you and I'll be back soon.

Friends, if I don't see you before, I'll see you soon.

News editor Lamin Swann is a journalism junior. His views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.

Woods turns human, if only for a day



PHOTO FURNISHED

Maybe next year

Tiger Woods entered last week's British Open as the favorite to win the championship and possibly golf's grand slam. Inclement weather forced Woods to shelve any of those aspirations for this year.

So Tiger Woods really is human, at least he was for one day during last week's British Open Championship.

That was the habitually perfect Woods standing in the rain on Saturday with a look on his face that only the most respected hackers at your average golf course have after shooting a 10-over-par 81. Granted, most people, including yours truly, would be happy shooting an 81. But most people aren't Tiger.

Let's put what he's done into perspective. Tiger made sure everyone knew he was chasing Jack Nicklaus' record of 18 major championships when he joined the PGA Tour in 1996. Well at the ripe old age of 26, Woods has eight. Seven of those eight have come in the last 12 major tournaments he's competed in. Tiger has three Masters championships, Nicklaus has six. Tiger has 32 career PGA victories in six years on tour. Nicklaus has a total of 70; he turned pro in 1962.

There are other things that link Tiger and Nicklaus as well. At the beginning of the 2000 PGA Championship at Valhalla Golf Club in Louisville, Ky., the two were paired for the first two rounds of the tournament. This had everybody in the golf world talking about the "passing of the torch" from one great professional to another. Tiger would go on to win that tournament. It was one of nine he won that year. Nicklaus' best year as a pro saw him win seven times in one year.

After Tiger tore through this year's Masters and U.S. Open Championship, there was talk of a grand slam, winning all

four majors in one year. Tiger has held all four major trophies at one time. In 2000 he won The U.S. Open, The British Open and The PGA Championship. Then in 2001 he won The Masters. Nobody had ever won four consecutive majors. Many said Tiger had won the grand slam. However, golf's purists said he had to win all four majors in the same calendar year for it to be considered a true grand slam. So now people call it the "Tiger Slam". Nevertheless, Tiger headed to Muirfield, Scotland last week after winning this year's first two majors. Nicklaus had done the same thing in 1972, and the talk back then was the same — could he win the grand slam? Well, Nicklaus didn't achieve that glory, but his loss came in dramatic fashion at the hands of Lee Trevino on the last day of the tournament. Tiger's hopes were blown away by cold, windy and rainy conditions on the third day of the championship. Somewhere, Carl from "Caddyshack" was heard saying, "I don't think the heavy stuff's going to come down for a while."

For five hours the conditions were brutal; those five hours just happened to be the same five that Tiger was on the course. Before and after Tiger's round the weather was fairly decent. So Tiger goes out and shoots an 81 to drop him to 6-over-par for the championship. The next day, when Tiger heads out onto the course, the weather is perfect. Ernie Els eventually wins the tournament, but not before Tiger goes out and obliterates Muirfield with a 6-under 65 for the day.

Now I ask you, if the weather hadn't been so horrible that many of the players said they wouldn't have even tried to play a round of golf had it not been for the fact that they were in a major championship, do you think Ernie Els would have been lifting the trophy over his head? If Tiger hadn't been human for one day, who knows?



Tom Soper
SPORTS WEEKLY EDITOR

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