

KENTUCKY KERNEL

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Todd offers face time to students tonight

By Ashley Jackson
news@kykernel.com

This Presidents Day, UK students have an opportunity to personally talk with a president: Lee Todd.

Students who are unsure of what state budget cuts could mean for their future at UK can hear what President Lee Todd and Provost Kumble Subaswamy have to say and ask their own questions at the Cats Den's, "A Conversation with Lee Todd."

The forum, which starts at 6:30 tonight, will be an "opportunity for students to have one-on-one, face-to-face time with the president and the provost," said Jeremy Ridgeway, a

history and African-American studies sophomore and Cats Den events coordinator.

"I can't think of a better way to get information than straight from our top representative," said Rob Theakston, event coordinator for the Cats Den.

Ashlee Harris, an integrated strategic communications junior, said she plans to attend the forum tonight to ask questions about the potential university budget cuts.

"I want to know the full impact it is going to have on us as students," Harris said. "What we can do, or any-

thing, to help? What is UK going to look like next year?"

The discussion with the president is just the first step that students can take in getting involved in their future at UK, said Nick Phelps, president of Student Government. Legislators will change their minds about cutting the higher education budget if students express to them that "they will not stand for them," he said.

"The question is, what do (students) want to make time for?" Phelps said. "They could have (their legislators) number saved in their phone and

call everyday. They could send them an e-mail everyday. You send, they read it."

Offsetting the budget cuts could require the equivalent of a "30 percent increase in tuition or the elimination of 700 jobs," Todd said in an e-mail. "I'm in Frankfort almost weekly, sometimes multiple times a week, making our case to legislators and policymakers about the importance of higher education funding and maintaining our momentum," Todd said.

But the university budget is not the only topic that can be addressed tonight; Ridgeway said he expects

Undergrads invited to showcase knowledge

By Kelley Apolo
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Dressed in full 19th-century costume, Lisa Woods created and performed a one-person play personifying the life of Emily Dickinson.

Woods, a recent UK graduate, put on the hour-long production of "The Belle of Amherst" for local high school juniors to tell the story of the poet and to promote "the opportunities of the Department of Theatre to future UK students," said Evie Russell, adviser and programs coordinator for undergraduate education.

Woods was one of over 125 UK undergraduates who participated in last year's Showcase for Undergraduate Scholars, which is meant to increase awareness and the number of undergraduates participating in research and independent creative activities," Russell said.

Applications to participate in the third annual Showcase for Undergraduate Scholars are now being accepted and are due by March 31. The program is sponsored by the Society for the Promotion of Undergraduate Research (SPUR) and Experiences in Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities (eUReKa). Participation is open to all undergraduate students and applications can be submitted online at the eUReKa Web site (www.uky.edu/eureka/showcase).

The majority of students choose to display their research using a poster or an oral presentation, Russell said, but there are not a lot of limitations.

The Showcase for Undergraduate Scholars was developed three years ago in order to help UK reach the top-20 national status, Russell said, and UK President Lee Todd is "extremely supportive but unfortunately will not be able to attend this year."

Russell believes that participation in the Showcase can put students a step above other students.

"The sooner they can get involved in education outside of the classroom, the better they are going to be — the better student, the better individual, a much more well-rounded person," Russell said.

The event gives students and faculty the opportunity to see the kinds of projects and research that is being done by undergraduates in various colleges at UK.

"Research is taking place in every discipline across campus, and the showcase is an example of that," Russell said.

This year, the showcase will be held April 23 in the Student Center Grand Ballroom from 4 to 8 p.m. The UK debate team will kick off the event and students from a nutrition and food science class will cater it. The event will include guest speakers Philipp Kraemer, associate provost for undergraduate education, and Phil Hartling, history professor and chair of the Chellenger Center for Undergraduate Excellence, which includes eUReKa.

Local high school students, UK students, faculty and staff are all encouraged to attend the free event, Russell said.



PHOTOS BY EMILY COOVERT | STAFF

Each year, the Lexington Humane Society cares for more than 11,000 homeless, abandoned animals and puts them up for adoption. Programs such as Spay's the Way, which provides discounted or free spaying and neutering to low-income pet owners, are meant to reduce the number of homeless animals.

Program gives cheap fix for pet expenses

By Robin Pircher
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Students may find it hard to say "no" to a furry companion, but many are unaware of the mounting costs and responsibilities that come with a pet.

Pet owners have the chance to get one important service — spaying or neutering — for a low cost through the Lexington Humane Society's Spay's the Way program.

"Many people aren't aware the resources are out there, or of the importance of spaying or neutering their animals," said Kristin Palmgreen, manager of special projects and innovations at the Lexington Humane Society.

A normal spaying or neutering for a cat or dog can cost several hundred dollars after shots and other examinations, Palmgreen said, and the purpose of

Spay's the Way is to help pet owners who cannot afford the full cost.

Luther James, veterinarian and owner of Scott County Animal Clinic, has seen many student pet owners and said he understands the financial drain it can be on a college student's pocket.

"To spay or neuter can cost you anywhere between \$50 to \$300, but it depends on the location. If you are in a big city, it's going to cost more than if you were here," James said. "I'm just glad we have the amount of first-time owners that get their pet the surgery and understand how important it is."

Spay's the Way also includes rabies vaccinations and city pet licensing, Palmgreen said. The program is offered throughout the year, but includes more clinics and drawings for free gifts during

See Pets on page 3



A Lexington Humane Society employee loads a cage with cats and rabbits into a truck to take them to PetSmart, where they will be offered for adoption.

Sorority promotes healthy, diverse lifestyle

By Leticia Jones
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Beauty, food and dancing are part of the focus of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.'s annual Total Body Takeover week that kicks off today.

"AKA has always focused on promoting good and healthy practices among women," said Sade Jackson, public relations officer for AKA. "This year we still wanted to promote that but focus on some different events to involve everyone."

Today from noon to 2 p.m., AKA will pass out apples across from Starbucks in the Student Center to promote a healthy lifestyle and to educate people about various cultures and their health issues and practices.

"This week is simply about appreciating and educating ourselves and our peers about the beauty and complexity of other cultures," said Aisee Marshall, president of AKA.

The sorority is tackling health and cultural awareness during this year's event, themed "The Color of One," Marshall said.

AKA will offer a cooking class and a sampling of international dishes tomorrow night from 6 to 8 in room 208 of Erikson Hall. The class will be an opportunity to experience new foods and learn how to prepare healthy dishes, Jackson said.

On Wednesday in room 359 of the Student Center, the group will showcase capoeira, a Brazilian martial arts form, from 6 to 7 p.m.

"Capoeira is a great form of exercise," Jackson said. "Looking at all cultures can promote health awareness to revamp your body with the versatility of these programs."

Total Body Takeover week will also feature "Pretty AKross the World" on Thursday night from 6 to 8 in room 363 of the Student Center, to learn about different cultures and their perceptions of beauty. Free makeovers will be offered

and a hair stylist from Sister 2 Sister beauty salon will also be available.

Erica McClellan, vice president of AKA, said she is excited about Friday's "Dancing Around the Globe" in the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center from 5 to 7 p.m. Indian, salsa and hip-hop dance lessons will be taught by three experienced instructors, McClellan said.

"All of the different dance genres are a great experience someone could do all in one day," she said.

The events are not specifically targeted for African-Americans or females, Marshall said, and all students, faculty and staff can take something away from the week's events.

"Nothing is more empowering than knowledge," Marshall said. "AKA is allowing people to learn something daily at the events and I encourage everyone to come to empower yourself by opening your mind to the colors around us."

Auditioning for 'Real World' means breaking a sweat

Howie Mandel's twin likes me. Is that weird? Probably so, but keep reading because it gets weirder.

I'm sitting at Main Street Live on Saturday with nine other people my age, listening to a guy named Booker, a producer — or something like that — from MTV's "The Real World." And it was one of the weirdest experiences of my life. So here's my story.

One of the nine people fought in Iraq for 18 months. Two of them are funny. Two guys say that the most common misconception about them is that they're homosexuals. And one of the girls is pretty hot.

And then there's Booker — who looks surprisingly like Howie Mandel, the host of NBC's "Deal or No Deal" — and another producer.

We're sitting there in a group interview, auditioning for "The Real World." The two producers are asking us how we feel about the show, but I'm staring at the cute girl because I don't watch "The Real World."

Everyone, even me, remembers the buzz at school the day after the episode in which Karamo let the world know he was gay on "The Real World: Philadelphia." Everyone, even me, knows Co-hutta, the country boy from this season. But that's the extent of my Real World knowledge.

So I'm lost in the discussion of past seasons, characters and episodes, and all of the sudden, the conversation turns to politics.

See Real World on page 3



TRAVIS WALDRON
Kernel columnist

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Wreck your room...Not your car

Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21 - April 19) Today is a 7 — Your comfort level is going up, through your own efforts. Others might think you're lucky, but you know you work hard for what you get. Enjoy it without guilt.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Today is a 7 — You don't chase fame; you'd rather have the fortune and your privacy. You can step into the leadership position if necessary, however if it's natural, do that now.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Today is a 7 — Recent developments reveal lots of unanswered questions. Other people want to know, and you can discover the answers. They'll appreciate your efforts.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Today is a 7 — You should be in pretty good shape financially. Travel conditions will be excellent for about four weeks. Does that give you any ideas? Take the initiative.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) Today is a 6 — A sense of foreboding is temporary, and most likely inaccurate. You'll soon be your enthusiastic, optimistic self again. Rest up until that happens.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Today is a 7 — Consult the grapevine if you want all the latest gossip. Find out what's going on behind the scenes at work. It never hurts to be prepared.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Today is an 8 — Share your recent adventures with friends; you'll find a warm reception. Don't spend too long with the crowd, however. You'd miss a romantic private moment.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Today is a 7 — A domestic dispute is about to lose importance. You and the other person may never see eye

to eye. There's no need to be upset. Notice what's so and amend your plans accordingly.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 7 — The next phase in your plan is beginning to take shape. You've already taken the first step to making it happen. Imagine all the things that could go wrong, too.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Today is a 7 — As you're allocating finances over the next few days, set aside funds for your own education. The next four weeks will be good for upgrading your skills.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 7 — Creativity is required on today's assignment. You also have to be careful how you spend your money. You should be getting used to all of that by now.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Today is a 7 — It's time to get back to work, now that you know what you're doing. You and your partner are unstoppable when you're headed in the same direction.

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LOVE LIVES

Salma Hayek Loves Her Mom Role

THE DISH

"She's in heaven," a pal says of Salma Hayek, mother to 5-month-old Valentina with her billionaire fiancé of nearly a year, Francois-Henri Pinault, 45. "I've never seen her happier." Hayek, 41, is also helping little ones across the globe: She's the ambassador for UNICEF's One-Pack-One-Vaccine program with Pampers. (For every specially marked Pampers product sold in North America between April 1 and June 30, funds will provide free tetanus vaccines.)

"We have been taken aback by her graciousness," UNICEF's Caryl M. Stern tells Us.

Melissa Joan Hart Ready for Baby

"We're locking the door, turning off the phone and giving ourselves three weeks to get the house organized," Melissa Joan Hart, 31, tells Us of prepping for the March arrival of her second to with rocker hubby Mark Wilkerson, 30. (They already have son Mason, 2.) Also on the agenda? Choosing a name. "We can't agree!" says Hart, who knows the baby's gender but says she's not ready to reveal it. "We let each other be each other," she told Us, before asking her, "Is that what you were thinking?" Nope, admitted Adams: "It's the daily foot rubs!"

Amy Adams Reveals a Love Secret

She's been with her love for nearly six years, but when Amy Adams was asked by Us what she's most loved about her relationship with actor Darren Le Gallo, 33, the Enchanted star, 33, made him guess. "What am I thinking?" the actress (next up in March's Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day) asked her man. "We let each other be each other," she told Us, before asking her, "Is that what you were thinking?" Nope, admitted Adams: "It's the daily foot rubs!"

Leo & Bar's Getaway!

Leonardo DiCaprio and Bar Refaeli put lingering split rumors to rest when the pair — who took a brief break in October after a year and a half of dating — recently jetted off for a romantic getaway to Mexico.

Indeed, the actor, 33, and the Israeli model, 22, looked hotter than ever February 4, hitting the beach in Puerto Vallarta and tooling around on a golf cart (where she perched on his lap). More evidence that the lovebirds are serious about sticking together? Before heading south of the border, DiCaprio (who is scheduled to begin filming the 2009 thriller Shutter Island next month in Massachusetts) and Refaeli went furniture shopping hand in hand in Los Angeles on February 1.

was overwhelming. I'm still speechless," the bride, who wore a satin Reem Acra gown, told Us before her reception at NYC's Tavern on the Green and a honeymoon at Orlando, Florida's Walt Disney World Resort with daughters Rylea, 13 months, and Hanna, 2. The happy day followed an August tragedy, when Hardenbrook and the girls suffered extensive third-degree burns in a house-explosion five days before her planned wedding date. Their strength shone at the vows, Philbin tells Us: "Everybody watching got emotional!"

Super Bowl! Star Eli Manning Meet No. 1 Fan

Crowds flocked to cheer Eli Manning and his New York Giants' Super Bowl win at NYC club Tenjune on February 5, but no one was more excited for the quarterback, 27, than his fiancée of nearly a year, Abby McGrew. "She's never left his side," a source at the bash tells Us of the exec for designer Pamella Roland. "She even held his hand while he thanked fans!"

Ashlee Rates Pete's Buns!

Ashlee Simpson, 23, isn't shy about beau Pete Wentz's best asset. "I love his booty!" she tells Us. The Fall Out Boy bassist, 28, won't get specific about his love of more than a year — "I like pretty much everything about her," he says — but he's clear that she is his top priority. "I am in boyfriend mode!" he gushes.

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Monday february 18th

AS.S "speed networking: A mega-career event"
10-15 employers ready to talk about internship and job opportunities!
food, t-shirts and a free copy on how to write a resume
6-7:30pm grand ballroom old student center

"does self-love or self-hate lead to violence?"
3:30-4:30pm W.T. Young Auditorium W.T. Young Library
Dr. Brad Muehlan, a world-renowned aggression researcher from the University of Michigan, will discuss the interaction between self-esteem and aggression.

"does islamic revivalism challenge a stable world order?"
An expert panel deliberates!
panel includes:
Dr. John Stengel (Patterson School of Diplomacy)
Dr. Robert Olson (Department of History)
Dr. Thsan Asby (Islamic Studies Program)
4:00-5:30pm Room 230 Student Center

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SPEAKING FOR THE MISSES



SABRINA HOUNSHELL | STAFF

Elementary education sophomore Cole Mitchell, center left, and Samantha James watch as faculty member Debbie Sharp, left, performs "Hair" during the Vagina Monologues in the Worsham Theater on Saturday. The performance was part of "V-Day," which raises awareness of violence against women.

REAL WORLD

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Wow, I thought, I know politics. I can get involved here. You're reading the writing of a guy who spent Feb. 5 glued to Super Tuesday coverage instead of watching college basketball, a guy who gets free text updates from Barack Obama's campaign.

Now I'm involved in the discussion, and I'm on a roll. Turns out, Booker is tired of Real World casts that are politically apathetic. And it turns out that Booker is agreeing with me on everything I say.

Other than the political discussion, I'm obviously the least interested person in the room. The others? They are Real World: gelled hair, stylish clothes, beaming smiles, and so on and so forth. I'm not, with my hat turned backward and my faded "Big Blue Nation" T-shirt I stole from my roommate because I haven't done laundry in weeks.

But for some reason, they tell me to stay.

What? Stay? Why? So now I'm in a room even farther back in the bar, filling out a survey that's 20 pages long. It took me longer to fill it out than it did the framers to draft the Constitution. My hand is cramping like it's Joe Crawford's leg. And I

was pretty envious of the guy sitting at the bar drinking a Bud Light.

The questions were interesting, to say the least.

"What are your best traits?"
"Describe your childhood."
"What are some of your life-changing experiences?"

"How's your sex life?"

Whoa. Now we're getting personal.

At this point, I'm more stressed out than I was in my Civil Liberties test last Thursday. I'm sweating. It looks like I'm writing in Arabic. My head hurts. And I'm really envious of that guy at the bar who's almost done with his third or fourth Bud Light.

The guy sitting next to me, filling out the same survey, is struggling. That's how taxing this survey is: He was Special Ops in Iraq for 18 months, and the questions are making him sweat.

I finish the survey and hand it to Booker as he walks out the door.

My ride is gone. My phone is broken. So I walk. With a swollen and sprained ankle, I limp two miles home.

As I gimp past Rupp Arena, where there was apparently a motocross event that night, I realize something.

I want to be on "The Real World."
Travis Waldron is a journalism sophomore. E-mail: twaldron@kykernel.com.

PETS

Continued from page 1

February as part of the national Spay Day USA campaign.

More than 11,000 homeless, abandoned and unwanted animals are brought to the Lexington Humane Society each year, Palmgreen said. The organization has taken efforts to reduce these numbers by spaying or neutering every adopted pet and offering a low-cost option for current pet owners.

The overpopulation in Lexington reflects a nationwide trend,

with five to six million dogs or cats entering into shelters each year, Palmgreen said.

Spaying or neutering provides many health benefits, Palmgreen said. Pets who do not have the procedure can express territorial behavior, aggression and personality changes. If female pets are not spayed, the animals can experience problems with infection during heat cycles and can develop problems with their reproductive organs as well as complications from pregnancy. Neutering a pet can also reduce the chance of cancer and prolong the animal's life by two or three years, Palmgreen said.

"I've had many compliments and happy clients after the surgery. They were just happy to get it done and not have to worry," said James, the veterinarian.

The surgery isn't complicated and takes one to two hours on average, James said. After the procedure, the animal is held for a day to heal and then allowed to go home.

"I've seen the animal healing and acting normal in two to three days after the procedure," James said. "(Pet owners) still have to watch the animal's stitches, but they are happy and playing around again. It doesn't hurt them much, and they will be a more loyal

companion afterward."

Assistance through this program is based on household income and financial assets, according to the Lexington Humane Society Web site (lexingtonhumane.org). Pet owners have to complete an application to determine if they qualify.

There have been about 1,920 free or low-cost surgeries performed through Spay's the Way program in Fayette County in the last two years and the Humane Society hopes to perform 1,500 surgeries this year, according to the Web site.

TODD

Continued from page 1

topics such as Robinson Forest and racial tension at UK to come up as well.

Patrick Kelly, a computer science junior, plans to ask the president about UK's plan to become a top-20 public research institution.

"Until our undergraduate program is top-notch, we should not be pursuing to be a top-20 school," Kelly said.

The Cats Den staff is hoping that the conversations tonight will help to form a closer bond between the president and the students.

"I'm really looking forward to engaging in a conversation with students," Todd said. "After all, they are why we are here."

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Monday 18 th	Tuesday 19 th	Wednesday 20 th	Thursday 21 st	Friday 22 nd	Saturday 23 rd
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •A Conversation with President Lee Todd, 6:30 PM, UK Student Center Cats Den •Swing Dance Lessons, 8:00 PM, Yates Creek Recreation Center, 1400 Gainsway Dr. •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center, 3:00 PM, Carnegie Center •OLD MASTER WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE COLLECTION, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Does Islamic Revivalism Challenge a Stable World Order? An Expert Panel Deliberates, 4:00 PM, Student Center Room 230 •Ghostbusters, 2:00 PM, UK Student Center Cats Den •Miniature Worlds: Art of India, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Cheap Seat Tuesdays •Final Word, 6:00 PM •Miniature Worlds: Art of India, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •WildCat Career Link demo session, 3:30 PM, B&E, room 125 •Interviewing 101, 12:00 PM, Raymond Bldg. Room 112 •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •OLD MASTER WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE COLLECTION, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center, 3:00 PM, Carnegie Center •CCO-Volunteer at Catholic Action Center, 5:00 PM, Catholic Action Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •OLD MASTER WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE COLLECTION, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Fashion Show, 6:00 PM •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •CCO-Young At Heart Meeting, 5:00 PM, Student Center •WildCat Career Link demo session, 4:00 PM B&E, room 125 •Miniature Worlds: Art of India, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Learn to Knit, 7:00 PM, Student Center Rm 228 •Volunteer w/ Beaumont Buddies, 4:00 PM, Beaumont Middle School •CCO-Volunteer at God's Pantry, 3:30 PM, God's Pantry •Dress for Success Fashion Show (Pre-Expo Career Fair event), 6:00 PM, Goodbarn •Comedy Caravan, 8:00 PM, UK Student Center Cats Den •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center, 3:00 PM, Carnegie Center •Interviewing 101, 12:00 PM, Raymond Bldg. Room 112 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Happy Hour: \$1 Video Games, 4:00 PM, UK Student Center Cats Den •Miniature Worlds: Art of India, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Free Movie: Into the Wild, 10:00 PM, Worsham Theater (Student Center) •A Soldier's Play for colored girls who have considered suicide when the rainbow is enuf, 7:30 PM, Guignol Theatre •DanceBlue subcommittee Meeting, 6:00 PM, SC RM 203 •Cru Weekly Worship Meeting, 7:30 PM, Center Theater in the Student Center •Successfully Work a Career Fair, 3:30 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center •Does God Exist? Arguments from Both Sides, 8:30 PM •DanceBlue Informational Meeting, 5:30 PM, SC RM 228 •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •CCO Board of Directors Meeting, 5:00 PM, 106 Student Center •OLD MASTER WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE COLLECTION, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center, 3:00 PM, Carnegie Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center, 3:00 PM, Carnegie Center •Free Movie: 3:10 to Yuma, 10:00 PM, Worsham Theater (Student Center) •DanceBlue!, 7:00 PM, Memorial Coliseum •Miniature Worlds: Art of India, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •DanceBlue!, 7:00 PM, Memorial Coliseum •DanceBlue!, 7:00 PM, Memorial Coliseum •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •DanceBlue!, 7:00 PM, Memorial Coliseum •OLD MASTER WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE COLLECTION, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Swing Dance, 8:00 AM, Arthur Murray Dance Studio, 1801 Alexandria Dr. •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •OLD MASTER WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE COLLECTION, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Volunteering at the Carnegie Center, 10:00 AM, Carnegie Center •Miniature Worlds: Art of India, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts
<p>Sunday 24th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •Miniature Worlds: Art of India, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts •OLD MASTER WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE COLLECTION, 12:00 PM, UK Art Museum in the Singletary Center for the Arts 					

OPINIONS

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■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

An open-primary system would benefit Ky. voters

As Kentuckians wait for the May 20 primary, it is easy to be jealous of the more than 20 states that cast their votes this month.

However, as this topsy-turvy election season has shown, moving Kentucky's primary up to Super Tuesday in early February wouldn't necessarily give the commonwealth a greater say in the presidential nomination process.

Even though medium-sized states like Alabama, Oklahoma and Minnesota held their primaries Feb. 5, they didn't get much attention from the candidates or the media. Instead, all eyes were on California, New York and Georgia.

It's unlikely Kentucky would have fared any better than other states with relatively small numbers of delegates if it had moved up its primary.

A better idea would be for the state to give voters more choices by moving to an open-primary system.

Under Kentucky law, registered voters who changed their party registration after Dec. 31, 2007, are not eligible to vote in their current party's primary in 2008, and independents can only vote in nonpartisan primary races.

These strict rules limit Kentucky voters' influence over presidential nominations and essentially shut out independents altogether.

In an open primary, by contrast,

each voter can participate in either major party's nominating contest, regardless of his or her own partisan affiliation (or lack thereof).

An open primary would make a significant difference in the current political climate. On the Republican side, John McCain has the race almost wrapped up, as it would be virtually impossible for remaining opponents Mike Huckabee and Ron Paul to earn enough delegates to overtake him.

Kentucky Republicans won't have a true say; their options will be to crown the winner or cast an ineffectual protest vote.

It's much different for the Democrats, where contenders Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton both need every last delegate

they can get. Unless the March 4 primaries in Ohio and Texas, and the April 22 primary in Pennsylvania prove more decisive than anticipated, Kentucky Democrats' votes will certainly count.

If Kentucky had an open primary, all of its voters — not just the 57 percent who are registered Democrats — would get to have a say in at least one of this year's presidential nominating contests.

State legislators and party officials should keep that in mind when they're preparing for the presidential races in 2012.

Instead of moving up Kentucky's primary, a better idea would be for the state to give voters more choices by moving to an open-primary system.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Allow students, faculty to carry guns on campus

What should university communities do to minimize death and injury due to gun attacks in campus classrooms? The police cannot be in all places at all times. Legislation that limits gun ownership will not work for the simple reason that criminals or violent individuals do not obey laws.

Two reasonable approaches to this problem exist: One, allow all individuals with valid state-issued concealed-carry permits to carry guns on campus and in classrooms. This approach is supported by Students for Concealed Carry on Campus. Two, require all faculty members to take firearms training equivalent to that needed to obtain a concealed-carry permit. Then, when teaching, faculty members would be responsible for carrying a weapon and serving as the first line of defense in the event of an attack.

Neither of these approaches is perfect. We live in a violent world — any defense would be better than the present pitiable situation where we are all potentially "sitting ducks."

Paul J. Kalisz
Forestry professor

Students are mature enough to be armed

My thoughts and prayers go out to the victims and their families of the horrid shooting on Northern Illinois University campus on Thursday. What does it take to realize that taking away a viable first response against active gunmen (or women) is not a smart idea? Silly and horribly late text messages do nothing to protect students. Police are great protection, but they're minutes away when an active shooter is seconds away. As nice as it is to have police, they are primarily a reactive force.

My only complaint is, why does the university punish those who wish to safely carry a weapon when 48 states allow their citizens to? Guess which state doesn't allow it — yes Illinois. It's amazing how the criminals still get guns in these "gun-free zones," or should I reub them "criminal protection zones?" After all, schools are soft targets, and unfortunately, universities are perpetuating that.

A gun isn't a guarantee, but it is a reassurance. Remember the Trolley Square shooting, the Virginia Tech shooting, the Omaha Mall Shooting and you'll realize what they all had in common — they were posted off limits to those who carry concealed weapons.

I'm sure the same old tired arguments of "accidents" and "student safety" will be pulled out to discount the idea, but these men and women on campus should be mature enough; they are supposed to be adults, correct? Teach them proper safety and allow the students to arm themselves, and stop fabricating the number of "accidents" that have the naysayers worried, and you'll realize true "student safety."

Kyle Martin
Computer science senior

Trust police, not firearms, to protect students

The prompt for the current concealed-weapon debate is the fear of a suicide-shooter attack on our campus. We understand that according to the pro-concealed-carry group, potential suicide-shooters would be deterred by the knowledge that other students would be carrying guns. However, there is one major flaw in this theory. These suicide-shooters are suicidal. They want to die. Specifically, they generally shoot themselves, or keep shooting until they are shot. They will not be deterred from shooting people by the fear of getting shot.

We are more fearful of a campus flooded with guns. We do not trust the average college student to decide when deadly force is necessary to protect us. Most students don't even look both directions before crossing the street. Most frightening in this regard, college students seem to experience more frequent emotional highs and lows than the general public. Every semester has the potential to be a dramatic roller coaster for any given student. Arming this group of irrational people could result in a return to the Wild West. Instead, let's trust our campus and city police to protect us.

Tara Chaney
Education junior
Conley Chaney
Law student



TERRENCE NOWICKI, Western Front

Vagina Monologues an anticlimax in spite of good intentions

On somewhat of a whim, I decided to attend UK's production of the *Vagina Monologues* on Saturday night.

The play was performed as a part of V-Day, a global event that raises funds and increases awareness about violence against women. I believe that there are few causes more worthwhile than this and I was glad to purchase my ticket. Confident that the production had this goal in mind, I admire their time and dedication, and found that they did a stellar job.

It was, however, more than a little disappointed with the play itself. With the notion in mind that the monologues were geared towards empowering women, it was my hope that they would focus on aspects of female sexuality that were exceedingly profound, dyer or praiseworthy.

For this reason, I appreciated the monologue that addressed the birth of author Eve Ensler's granddaughter, as well as the heartbreaking accounts of gruesome rape in war-ravaged countries. The general sentiment was that the vagina — and more importantly, the woman — is pretty wonderful. But I wouldn't use such a word to describe the content of these monologues.

One unexpected feature was the levity, and I dare say impertinence, of

some of the monologues. During a segment on "what my vagina would wear," I struggled to understand the purported difference between a vagina that would wear diamonds and one adorned in leather.

Another monologue personified the vagina as angry, and at the outset I was expecting it to be angry about sexual abuse, sexism or the unnecessary shame often associated with female sexuality. Instead, I spent the next few minutes listening to laughter aroused by criticism of mere tampons, douches and visits to the gynecologist. *Seriously?*

Even more disturbing was the ways in which the legitimate problems of the women depicted were supposedly solved.

A woman's hatred of the aesthetics of her vagina is alleviated by a stranger she doesn't particularly like, yet decides to have sex with, after he stares at it for about an hour. A 13-year-old girl who was sadly raped by a friend of her father's finds healing by being raped again in a pleasant encounter with a woman almost twice her age (it's no wonder that her age was later changed to 16 and the phrase "good rape" was excised). And my personal favorite, a sure-fire answer to women's lack of sexual pleasure, is found in none other but a female lawyer-turned-dominatrix, who has decided to lay her advocacy of justice to rest for a much higher cause: moaning.

So far, it looks as though we're glorifying one-night-stands, lesbian rape and the purchase of female-administered orgasms. I'm pretty open-

minded, and my point here is not that any of these things should be considered wrong. But why are we so quick to applaud them? Sure, they entertain us, but why?

I would have loved to see a little more emphasis on the inherent dignity of women and how precious their sexuality is, as opposed to simply how uninhibited it can be. And here's a crazy idea, maybe even a piece on the sheer joy of sex within a marriage.

Which brings me to my next point. Is it simply a coincidence that we get such a negative picture of men? Some imbecile cheats on his wife because she won't shave her pubic hair. A teenage boy gets mad at a girl for leaking discharge on his new car seat after he kisses her. We have the gross, brutish soldiers gang-raping the female captives, the man who molests his friend's daughter and the chauvinist men who beat up the transsexuals.

Not once, at least that I can recall, do we see an example of a nice, normal guy. And correct me if I'm wrong, but I think our vaginas would be at least a little less happy without the male species. Any adept feminist knows that a major goal of feminism is to empower women to equal and coexist with men, not to bash or abandon them.

Who knows, maybe you think I'm just being a stuffy prude. I simply believe that a play on one of the most celebrated parts of the female anatomy should have a little more... depth.

Natalie Glover is a psychology and philosophy senior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

Is McCain a true conservative? Republicans are all shook up

Republicans are in a fix. Here's why:

Conservative Republicans don't care for John McCain, their party's presumptive presidential nominee. GOP voter turnout has been pathetic during this primary season.

McCain, the U.S. senator from Arizona, sought to allay the fears of skeptical conservatives during a high-profile meeting last week of the Conservative Political Action Committee.

McCain, some loathe him. Many remember McCain's 2000 primary contest against George W. Bush in South Carolina. It was one of the most bitter contests ever witnessed by man. McCain was the moderate candidate in that race, reaching out to Democrats.

This year, conservatives tried and failed to stop McCain in his quest to win the GOP nomination. With growing frustration and an unaccustomed sense of impotence, many conservatives now have surveyed the battlefield and realized it is too late to stop McCain.

True, some prominent economic and social conservatives slowly have moved to McCain's side as his hold on the nomination has become more secure. But he still faces resistance from those who see his challenges to party orthodoxy on a range of issues — from campaign-finance reform to taxes and the environment — as a form of left-leaning betrayal.

McCain's loudest critics have been conservative radio talk show hosts. Rush Limbaugh has devoted much of his airtime to arguing McCain's nomination would destroy the Republican Party. And Ann Coulter said last week she would support Democrat Hillary Clinton over McCain if the two faced off in the general election.

McCain called for a truce with unhappy conservatives but made it clear he wasn't ready to kiss any rings. "I do hope that, at some point, we would just calm down a little bit and see if there's areas we can agree on," McCain said. "Our message will be that we all share common principles, common conservative principles, and we should coalesce around those issues in which we are in agreement."

Conservative disdain for McCain runs deep, in large part due to his

stand on illegal immigration. Other black marks?

McCain voted against President Bush's major tax cuts. He opposes a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage. And he's not only willing but expresses an eagerness to work with Democrats in Congress.

Exit polls exposed McCain's lack of support from the GOP's far right — a weakness that alarms many Republicans. And McCain was booted by the Conservative Political Action Committee crowd last week when he brought up the subject of immigration reform.

Laura Ingraham, a talk show host, wasn't impressed with McCain's speech.

"It's one thing to say — as McCain has — that you were a foot soldier in the Reagan Revolution, she said. But she added, the real question is, 'What have you done lately for the conservative cause?'"

"I think some people want to own the word 'conservative,'" said U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., a prominent McCain supporter who also has been criticized within his own party for his positions on some issues, including immigration.

Graham's advice to McCain is to do what he has done his whole life: "Tell people who he is and what he believes."

Lee Bandy, now retired, worked as a political writer for *The State* newspaper in Columbia, S.C., for 40 years. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

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Cats' defense squeezes out victory at LSU

By Kenny Colston
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Four days after suffering one of the worst losses in the program's history, UK used an improved defensive effort and consistent shooting to down Louisiana State 67-63 on Saturday at the Maravich Center in Baton Rouge, La.

"I think we showed some heart," senior guard Joe Crawford said. "It's tough. (The Vanderbilt game) was one of the worst whippings I've ever had since I started playing basketball. I knew it was going to be tough in here to come out here positively and win a ballgame."

Led by Crawford, freshman forward Patrick Patterson and a smothering defense, the Cats (13-10, 7-3 Southeastern Conference) took off in the second half with a 13-3 run to grab an eight-point lead with 14:42 left in the game. UK limited LSU (9-15, 2-8 SEC) to three free throws and zero field goals until the 14:22 mark.

"Our defense was fantastic today," head coach Billy Gillispie said. "It's what we were shooting for in the first half, but we let it get away."

Despite LSU's sluggish start to begin the second half, the Tigers finally started hitting shots, touching off a 13-4 run of their own to reclaim the lead at 51-49. But Patterson tied the game for the Cats on the next possession, and senior guard Rameel Bradley hit a 3-pointer to put UK up for good, 54-51.

Crawford led the Cats with 21 points on 8-of-14 shooting, the majority of which were scored in the second half. Bradley added 16 and Patterson chipped in 14 to pace UK. Forward Anthony Randolph led LSU, pulling down 14 rebounds in addition to his game-high 24 points.

"For us to be at our best, Joe needs to be at his best," Gillispie said. "He's been fantastic, but I want him to score 20-plus points a game." UK wasn't sharp early on, though. After staking to an early 7-4 lead, the Cats struggled for much of the first half. The Tigers held UK scoreless for over three minutes until sophomore guard Derrick Jasper's layup with just over 13 minutes until halftime.

The Cats were also in foul trouble for the second consecutive game. Patterson picked up

two fouls early on, and Jasper picked up three fouls of his own.

Randolph, who torched Florida on Wednesday, was as good as advertised, scoring nine first-half points.

"The whole team played hard," Randolph said. "We wanted to win this game real bad. We did everything in our power to try and win this game."

Still, the Tigers couldn't pull away from the Cats. Down 28-22 minutes before halftime, sophomore guard Jodie Meeks nailed two 3-pointers to bring the Cats within two points at the half.

After tumbling at Vanderbilt on Tuesday, the Cats desperately needed a win on the road to stay in the NCAA Tournament picture. The win also boosted the UK's chance at a first-round bye in the SEC Tournament.

"This is a really important game," Crawford said. "This can decide who can go up or down from here on. We came out here, and we fought hard. We knew we needed to win this ballgame."

COMPILED FROM LSU ATHLETICS REPORTS

Hockey closes regular season with loss to IU

By Jon Hale
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With a bid to the postseason already wrapped up, the UK hockey team had one task left Saturday night: saying goodbye to its seven seniors.

Playing in their last regular season game at the Lexington Ice Center, the UK seniors finished the regular season with a 5-3 loss to Indiana. Long after the Hoosiers scored an empty-net goal as time expired, the seniors remained on the ice, taking pictures with family and friends.

"It's too bad we didn't end with a win," senior goalie Nathan Lyons said. "But we played good against a great team tonight."

IU jumped out to an early lead with a goal from forward Joe Fornari only 29 seconds into the game. Senior defenseman Patrick McAdams pulled UK even with his own goal with 13:51 left in the first period.

The Cool Cats took the lead in the second period with two goals from Tony Valerino. The junior forward netted his first goal with 5:18 remaining in the second period and followed with a power-play goal two minutes later. Valerino's goals would be UK's last of the night.

The Hoosiers closed the game on a 4-0 run. Defenseman Brandon Dornish's goal at the 16:19 mark in the third period gave IU the lead for good.

Even though he didn't get the outcome he hoped for, Lyons was quick to thank the fans for their strong support in his final game.

"It meant a lot to see the big crowd here for our last home game," Lyons said.

Lyons said that even though this senior class wouldn't play any more games at the Lexington Ice Center, their careers aren't over.

After locking up the ninth-seed in the final American Collegiate Hockey Association Southeast Regional rankings, the Cats were already assured a playoff berth. The tournament starts Friday in Washington, D.C.

"We are really excited about the playoffs," Lyons said. "We have a good chance to go far."

Next weekend's ACHA Southeast Regional Tournament matches the third-through 10th-ranked teams in the region against each other. The top two teams from the regional tournament will join Florida Gulf Coast University and Miami (Ohio), the top two teams in the region, at the ACHA National Tournament on March 12-15 in Fort Meyers, Fla.

While the Cool Cats and the seniors have big plans for the playoffs, Lyons said that no matter how the season ends, the seniors have formed a bond that will last forever.

"These guys aren't just my teammates," Lyons said. "They've been my best friends for the last five years."

Elliott's 16 points, Ormerod's return fuel UK win

By Laura Pepper
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With two teams donned in pink headbands, wristbands and warm-up uniforms as a part of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association's "Think Pink" initiative to raise breast cancer awareness, the UK women's basketball team rolled Alabama 64-44 yesterday.

Despite 21 turnovers and a sloppy first half, the Cats (13-12, 7-4 Southeastern Conference) outscored the Crimson Tide (8-10, 1-10 SEC) 39-23 during the second half at Memorial Coliseum in front of 4,879 fans, many of whom were clad in pink clothing.

"We were turning the ball over far too much," head coach Matthew Mitchell said. "(Alabama) worked very hard to put pressure on us. They forced you into making some difficult plays. The first half we weren't making a lot of them. The second half we did. That was a big difference."

With 3:57 remaining in the first half, senior center Sarah Elliott tied the game at 21 with a foul shot. Junior guard Carly Ormerod, making her first appearance since the Dec. 20 game against Louisville, gave UK the lead for good with a free throw on the following possession.

"I think we played a little panicky at the very beginning of the game," Elliott said. "We hurried a lot of things and had a lot of turnovers. We just tried to hurry too much. Coach brought us back and said, 'Calm down, we can do this,' and, 'Go out there and play our game.'"

Sophomore guard Lydia Watkins' layup with a little over 11 minutes remaining in the second half capped a 26-7 run, all but burying the Tide for their 10th consecutive loss.

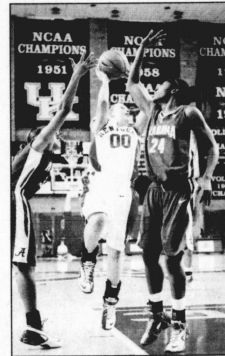
Elliott led UK with 12 points in the first half and finished with a game-high 16 points. The senior's pair of free throws with 7:16 left in the game moved her into sole posses-

sion of 10th on UK's all-time leading scorers' list with 1,435 career points. The free throws gave UK a 58-27 advantage.

Ormerod, who has missed nearly two months with semioitis and turf toe, was a huge return for a team riddled with injuries. The Cats recently lost freshman guard Amber Smith for the season with a torn anterior cruciate ligament.

Totalling eight points, two assists and two rebounds, Ormerod said she was excited just to get back on the hardwood.

"I had a lot of close-to-playing times where maybe I was just a day away and then it came back," Ormerod said. "I was just excited to be back out there without pain. I just wanted to get back out there for my team."



ED MATTHEWS / STAFF
Junior guard Carly Ormerod shoots over Alabama's Nathalie Reshard at Memorial Coliseum.

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