

# KENTUCKY KERNEL

CELEBRATING 36 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

## CPE: UK's diversity is better, still needs work

By Juliann Vachon  
jvachon@kykernel.com

UK has made moderate progress to improve diversity on campus, but the university still faces many challenges in achieving increased diversity among the entire UK community, according to a recent state report.

The Committee on Equal Opportunities of Kentucky's Council on Postsecondary Education presented the 23-page report at a meeting yesterday morning based on an October visit to UK.

The report outlined UK's efforts to attract and retain minority students while also creating an atmosphere of respect and community among all ad-

ministrators, faculty, staff and students.

"The study underscores the importance we place on diversity and the progress that we've made," said UK spokesman Jay Blanton. "It also shows that we have some improvements to make."

The committee's report stated that there was a "general feeling that the level of performance by UK is on an upward trajectory" in diversity efforts, but strengthening certain areas will yield greater diversity on campus.

Highlights of UK's performance include:

- New initiatives and programs implemented to attract minority students to UK that have "had the effect of increasing the level of excitement and support across the campus."

- An increase in student morale "as the university announced a resurgence of enrollment of African-American students in fall 2006."

- The development of retention initiatives including changes in admission standards and the promotion of financial access for students.

- A complimentary evaluation from local leaders for UK's efforts to become more engaged with the black community while embracing "its painful past as a tool to move forward."

- Some recommendations the committee made include:
  - Increase the pace to diversify its executives, faculty and staff, including more African-Americans in President Todd's cabinet.

- Develop innovative strategies to increase black representation at the highest levels of policy development positions.

- Promote financial access for students.

- Refine and build on the success of increased admission and enrollment in 2006.

- One challenge the university faces is improving graduation rates among minorities. Although steadily improving, the black graduation rate over six years for 2005-2006 was 49.3 percent compared to a 66 percent graduation rate for whites.

Mahjabeen Rofituddin, UK director for student  
See Diversity on page 3

## Bars, study agree: business good despite smoke ban

By Katie Saltz  
ksaltz@kykernel.com

Like many local business operators, Terry Fisher, a manager at Lynagh's Irish Pub and Grill, was nervous that Lexington's smoking ban would hurt his business.

Most businesses, however, didn't see the results they expected.

"Business isn't as bad as everyone expected it to be. Actually, it's gone fairly well," said Terry Fisher, a manager at Lynagh's. "Bars around here have had to learn how to adjust."

Donald Mullineaux, director of the school of management in UK's Gatton College of Business and Economics, co-authored the study that evaluated employment rates in Lexington bars and restaurants before and after the smoking ban. The study found no significant changes in business.

"The idea was that if sales were down then employment would decrease, but if sales were up then employment would increase," Mullineaux said. "Our study found no negative impact in bars, restaurants and hotels in Lexington since the smoking ban."

Some bars, like Two Keys Tavern, have found ways to accommodate smokers and the ordinance, said Two Keys employee Ryan McGuffin.

"Business died down at first, but got better when we opened the bar on the patio," McGuffin said. "That accommodated the smokers and helped our business."

The smoking ban has also improved the atmosphere of many restaurants, said Matthew Salyer, a manager at Tolly Ho.

"The smoking ban made the atmosphere much nicer and much cleaner," Salyer said. "We're more family- and student-friendly now."

Salyer also said that the smoking ban causes faster table turn-over because customers don't stay as long smoking.

Nick Sprouse, general manager for The Dame, said that if given the choice, The Dame would still allow smoking inside.

"Restaurants should remain smoke-free, but bars should have a different ordinance," Sprouse said. "We were initially against it, but everybody's just gotten used to it."

Sprouse said that sales at The Dame are up, and enforcing the ordinance has not been a problem.

"Many artists actually demand no smoking in their contracts," Sprouse said. "We're pretty ambivalent about it."

Mark Pyles, an assistant professor at the College of Charleston, was the lead author in the study and said the study probably won't change any opinions about the smoking ordinance.

"This won't convince people, but it is a reaffirmation to those who agree with the ban," Pyles said. "People are scared of the costs of the ban. This might help alleviate those concerns."

## News stories influence UK poet's work

By Jill Laster  
jlaster@kykernel.com

A poet's inspiration can come from many different places.

Nikky Finney, UK English professor and acting director of the African-American Studies and Research Program, spoke last night about how journalism has influenced her work as a poet.

Finney is the author of three books of poetry and a book of short stories. At last night's presentation, sponsored by the National Black Journalists Association, Finney read poetry based on news stories that touched her as a writer.

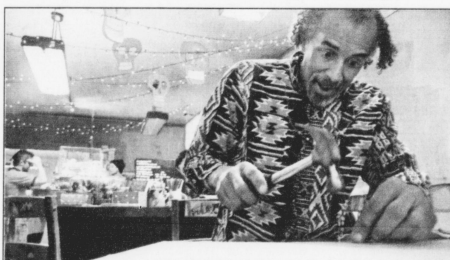
"In each book, there is an event, something  
See Poetry on page 4



Jim Embry shows Gretchen L. Collins, a chalk artist and friend of Embry's, a photograph he took during his work with the Lexington Youth Green Corps yesterday afternoon at Third Street Stuff. The picture, "Gold Dust," shows a child working in a garden, smiling at the camera.

## Activist hopes garden will inspire youth

By Lauren Copeland  
news@kykernel.com



Jim Embry finishes framing a picture yesterday afternoon at Third Street Stuff.

When Jim Embry said he wanted to get young people involved in designing a memorial garden, a reporter asked if that was odd.

"Yes, it's odd," he said. "But it ought to be normal."

Embry, a local artist and activist, recalled this story at weekend community meetings to organize the Isaac Murphy Memorial Garden. It's a project he hopes will change the way Lexington youth learn about community leadership by providing them with hands-on community projects.

"Kids walk past empty lots on their way to school and see that school work has no connection with their community," he said.

The park will honor contributions of blacks and residents of northeast Lexington to the thoroughbred industry. Embry hopes the park will be ready for the 2010 World Equestrian Games.

See Garden on page 4

## SG to decide new committee structures

By Blair Thomas  
bthomas@kykernel.com

The Student Government Senate is expected to choose one of two committee-restructuring plans tonight in an effort to boost legislation output.

The Senate already passed a constitutional amendment Feb. 7 to streamline its committee system. The amendment eliminated joint committees, which contained members from both the executive branch and the Senate, and which had no regular meeting times.

The Senate is now looking at two different plans to implement new committees — one that will introduce seven new committees that would consist of only Senate members and a counter plan pushing for fewer committees.

College of Engineering Senator Josh Odoi is introducing his act that would add seven new committees to the already existing Committee on Committees, the only one surviving from the old structure. The seven new groups would be the Student Life Committee, the Academic Affairs Committee, the Budget and Finance Committee, the Policy, Govern-

ances and Ethics Committee, the External Governmental Relations Committee and the Graduate and Professional Student Affairs Committee.

"Each of these committees will work in cooperation with the cabinets and will have very specific focuses," Odoi said. "With this plan, resolutions that senators present will go to the committee that address the issues dealt with in the resolution. This way, they can give a more specialized approach to evaluating our legislation."

Senate President Brent Burchett supports Odoi's plan because of the positive changes he thinks it will bring.

"Our committees haven't been the best in the past," Burchett said. "With Josh's plan, people serving on committees would actually be out there, thinking up and drafting legislation and bringing in more ideas to each Senate meeting. It will allow us a closer look of what needs to be addressed on campus."

Sen. Jesse Parrish said he plans to introduce a committee structure that is different from Odoi's, which he says will better serve the Senate.

Parrish agreed that changes to the Senate

structure should be made but thinks eight committees is too much of an expansion.

"Earlier this year we started discussing Senate expansion in great numbers, but we didn't increase the number of senators by as much as we had originally planned," Parrish said. "I think that by having all of the committees that Sen. Odoi is proposing, we will be spreading the Senate too thin. I'm afraid that some of the committees won't have enough to do and will be stepping on the toes of the other SG branches."

The Senate may opt not to finalize the committee restructuring tonight if the Senate cannot agree on an organization, or if other senators introduce other structural proposals.

But most senators agreed that some kind of restructuring was in order.

"The good thing about making the guidelines for committees less strict in our constitution is it allows for changes to be made in committee structure as problems come about," said at-large Sen. Tyler Montell. "It is the best plan for the Senate to be able to design what they want to see instead of having to follow a pre-made design."

# SUDOKU

Go to [www.kykernel.com](http://www.kykernel.com) for the solution

3		9						
8	7	5	4					
9	5					4		
5	4		3					8
	3	4	1	9				
7			8			1	4	
	8				6		7	
			6	3		5	1	
			7					3

4puz.com



## BRITNEY'S WORST FEAR

Justin Timberlake bonds with her ex Kevin Federline, and Isaac Cohen sells her bedroom secrets

**By Kevin O'Leary**  
Just after midnight on February 10, while her peers were in L.A. attending Grammy preparties and gearing up for the music industry's most important night, Britney Spears was settled into a booth at her tried-and-true NYC hot spot Tenjune. Did the singer feel left out, jealous that even her once-ridiculed ex Kevin Federline was taking part in the lead-up excitement? "F--- the Grammys!" Spears exclaimed into a live microphone behind the DJ's booth between rounds of Malibu Rum and Cokes. Says a fellow clubgoer, "She was really a mess by the time she left." Indeed, the one-time Grammy winner later vomited on herself in her SUV. (Her rep had no comment.)

By Kevin O'Leary  
Just after midnight on February 10, while her peers were in L.A. attending Grammy preparties and gearing up for the music industry's most important night, Britney Spears was settled into a booth at her tried-and-true NYC hot spot Tenjune. Did the singer feel left out, jealous that even her once-ridiculed ex Kevin Federline was taking part in the lead-up excitement? "F--- the Grammys!" Spears exclaimed into a live microphone behind the DJ's booth between rounds of Malibu Rum and Cokes. Says a fellow clubgoer, "She was really a mess by the time she left." Indeed, the one-time Grammy winner later vomited on herself in her SUV. (Her rep had no comment.)

**The Ex Summit**  
The previous candidates for the job, Federline and Timberlake, lately seem to prefer each other over Spears. In a scene that could easily qualify as a Worst Case Scenario for any woman, the Nationwide insurance pitchman was invited to Timberlake's February 9 Rolling Stone Grammy party at L.A. hot spot Avalon Hollywood. One of the first on the red carpet, Federline, 28, initially didn't see his ex-boss, 26, emerging from the venue behind him. "Justin walked right up and they man-hugged," says an onlooker. "It was clear they like each other."

Timberlake's buddying up to Federline was just part two of the bonding they did at the Super Bowl in Miami Gardens February 4. Hanging out in the Badwaver suite in Dolphin Stadium during the big game and in front of other guests, "K-Fed and Justin were talking for at least 20 minutes," says an eyewitness. "They were laughing about Britney and how messed up she is. They're both more than over her."

Liking Timberlake is a switch for Federline, says a pal of the single dad, who says jealousy of the pop star caused conflict during his two-year marriage to Spears. "Kevin resented that Britney still spoke to

Justin," says a Spears source. "Now they both see she is out of control," continues the insider. "It is like they both come from the school of been there, done that."

Though one Spears source claims, "She could care less if Kevin talks to Justin or not. She just wants to be happy right now," another challenge lays before her: the steamy video Timberlake released on February 11, "What Goes Around... Comes Around," featuring current fling Scarlett Johansson, 22. In what could best be described as the more mature sequel to his "Cry Me a River" video, Timberlake acts out yet another revenge fantasy against a woman who has strayed.

**Turncoat Lover**  
Though he only clocked a few weeks with Spears, even Cohen, 25, wanted in on the action. After working his way into Timberlake's Grammy bash, "Isaac was telling people that he was looking forward to meeting Kevin," says a source. Indeed, Cohen feels like they've already met. In his salacious interview, Cohen describes his first sleepover at Britney's house as a marathon sex session, in full view of her mounted and framed wedding dress. "As we made love that night, it was like Kevin was in bed beside us," he said, adding that "she was totally happy when we were locked in each other's arms... but once the sex stopped, she was like a little girl lost, unable to cope."

COPYRIGHT 2007 US WEEKLY.

LIVE PATIO MUSIC

THE WORLD FAMOUS TWO KEYS CAFE

UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

### 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 an 8 - You have the support of your teammates. They think you can do anything. Let them in on the secret. You can do it all because of them.

**Taurus (April 20 May 20)** - Today is a 7 - The more "To Do" items you check off the list, the more secure you become. Try to explain to the others, kindly, that this trick will work for them, too.

**Gemini (May 21 June 21)** - Today is a 5 - Your friends provide encouragement, but you're the one taking the test. Luckily, you're very smart, and you're proving it again. Relax and do what's natural.

**Cancer (June 22 July 22)** - Today is an 8 - You don't have to feel intimidated any more. You can do fine on what you've accomplished. You don't need any of them; just make sure they do a good job.

**Leo (July 23 Aug. 22)** - Today is a 7 - You don't need to tell everybody what you've recently discovered. Let them figure it out for themselves. Move fast, while you have the advantage.

**Virgo (Aug. 23 Sept. 22)** - Today is a 7 - You're being offered something nice for your home and/or family. Luckily, what you'll have to pay is not more than you can afford. Accept a good deal.

**Libra (Sept. 23 Oct. 22)** - Today is a 6 - Get somebody else to take care of the parts of the job you find most difficult. You're really not in the mood to take on a bigger challenge now.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 Nov. 21)** - Today is an 8 - You're a bit hyperactive now, which is a good thing. There is too

much work for a regular person to do, which is not a problem. You're also feeling romantic. Luckily, you can do it all!

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 Dec. 21)** - Today is a 7 - Your sense of humor is coming back. You may not have known it was missing. Actually, it was just resting. Beware today of unexpected giggie fits.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 Jan. 19)** - Today is a 7 - Don't push too hard. That won't be necessary now. Go with the flow, and you'll wind up in a beautiful place.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 Feb. 18)** - Today is a 7 - Your attention is being drawn to a new topic, and this is good. You can afford to do more research now, and you should.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 March 20)** - Today is a 9 - Move quickly on an opportunity that won't come again for a while. You've thought about it long enough. Grab it!

© 2007 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

Today's Horoscope Sponsored By:

**CHARLIE BROWN'S** Restaurant and Lounge  
816 Euclid Ave.  
269-5701

**Warm Fireplaces**

**TOPSON CAMPUS.com**

Party Pics... Interviews... We're Covering You!

**MTV PRESENTS**

# JOHN MAYER IN CONCERT

With Special Guest Mat Kearney

## RUPP ARENA • SAT. FEB. 24

LIVENATION.com

Tickets also available at Ticketmaster.com. Ticketmaster Outlets, charge by phone at 859-281-6644, or Rupp Arena Box Office. Dates, acts and times are subject to change without notice. All tickets subject to applicable service charges and fees.

Produced by **LIVE NATION**

Continuum

In Stores Now [johnmayer.com](http://johnmayer.com)

DIY  
Contin  
diver  
unive  
energ  
color  
does  
proc  
"Res  
norit  
them  
"Res  
cause  
smar  
becar  
for th  
U  
in its  
sues  
new  
tiona  
T  
medi  
tive  
looki  
said.  
to tel  
are c  
Blant  
F  
group  
whit  
ed th  
tion  
uati  
cord  
-  
they  
para  
colle  
Ame  
said.  
repor  
char  
nor  
tion

## DIVERSITY

Continued from page 1

diversity engagement, said the university should put the same energy into retaining students of color once they get to UK as it does in the minority recruitment process.

"It's really important for minorities to find that place where they feel comfortable to be themselves," Rofuiddin said. "Retention rates aren't lower because minority students are smart enough, they are lower because of what is not in place for these students to succeed."

UK planned a major change in its approaches to diversity issues with the creation of the new Vice President for Institutional Diversity position.

The VPID will "take an immediate look at the administrative structure UK uses when looking at diversity," Blanton said.

"We will look to the VPID to tell us what diversity models are out there and succeeding," Blanton said.

Faculty and staff focus groups made up of blacks, whites and other ethnicities, stated the need for more conversation and dialogue within the educational community at UK, according to the report.

Several faculty noted that they regularly overhear disparaging remarks made by white colleagues regarding African-American students," the report said. "When the incidents are reported to some department chairs, they are dismissed as minor occurrences with no additional follow up."

Rofuiddin said UK has

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

# CRIME REPORT

UK Police reports from Feb. 13 to Feb. 19.

Feb. 14. Theft of a projector from the Biology Building at 9:02 a.m.

Feb. 14. Theft of keys from the Alumni Gym at 10:20 a.m.

Feb. 14. Alcohol intoxication reported to the UKPD headquarters at 5:39 p.m.

Feb. 15. Theft of laptop from Erikson Hall at 8:57 a.m.

Feb. 16. Suicide attempt at Jewell Hall reported at 1:37 a.m.

Feb. 16. Alcohol intoxication in Main Campus area at 2:03 a.m.

Feb. 18. Marijuana use in Blanding Tower at 6:48 p.m.

Feb. 18. Theft of iPod from the Lambda Chi House at 8:51 p.m.

Feb. 19. Theft from Singletary Center at 11:21 a.m.

Feb. 19. Arrest made for theft of books from UK Student Center at 2:44 p.m.

Feb. 19. Theft of laptop from W.T. Young Library at 10:06 p.m.

Feb. 19. Theft from Cooperstown main office building at 11:59 p.m.

Compiled from reports at UK Police Department.  
Compiled by staff writer Alice Haymond.  
E-mail ahaymond@kykernel.com.

come a long way in 30 years but that organizational changes must start at the top with administrators and work their way down to address communication between faculty and minority students.

Rofuiddin said when she mentions the idea to colleagues she is often met with skepticism. "I've been challenged quite

a bit that maybe it's too much of a reach to think that an open dialogue about multicultural affairs will go all the way to the top administration," Rofuiddin said.

"We don't have culturally competent faculty," she said. "We all bring our own prejudices to the table. We cannot assume by virtue of the profession that everyone is prepared to work with students of different cultures."

The report also stated that one faculty focus group member noted that the state of race relations and the campus environment is "indifferent."

Jared Williams, assistant to the director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center, said he has seen a "dramatic increase" in diversity awareness since he came to UK as a student in 2000.

"Students are calling for change," Williams said. "But until you get more UK employees and student leaders from different backgrounds, things will continue to improve at a very slow pace."



Students socialize at the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center yesterday afternoon. Assistant to the director Jared Williams, said he's seen a dramatic increase in diversity awareness since he came to UK in 2000.

## STUDENT LIVING DONE RIGHT

**VOTED #1 APARTMENT COMMUNITY BY UK STUDENTS 3 YEARS IN A ROW**

<p><b>GREAT LOCATION - WALK TO CLASS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swimming pool</li> <li>Fitness center</li> <li>Individual leases</li> <li>Private bedrooms</li> <li>24-hour emergency maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully furnished units</li> <li>Full-size washer and dryer in each unit</li> <li>Full kitchens</li> <li>High-speed internet and cable television included</li> <li>On-site management</li> </ul>
--	--

**ROYAL LEXINGTON**  
695 Winnie Street  
859.226.9068  
royallexington.com

Owned and professionally managed by AMERICAN CAMPUS COMMUNITIES

THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

WE DO IT DAILY.

---

MILES

SALON & SPA

269-7700

Located at 2692 Richmond Road, on the corner of Patchen Drive and Richmond Road across from the Chop House Restaurant

**Specials for UK Students, Faculty, & Staff w/ ID**

\$15

TURBO-SPRAY  
TAN  
W/ UK ID

Package of 5 \$65.00

WALK-INS WELCOME

No Coupon Needed

UK's Home for UV Free  
Tanning

BRING A FRIEND!  
2 CAN GET TANNED  
FOR \$25.

Must come together, cut out coupon and bring with you to the store for special price. If calling for an appointment remember to mention ad!

Valentine's Day is coming! Gift certificates available!

### Oswald Research & Creativity Awards Call for Entries

**Awards in Each Category are: 1st Place \$350; 2nd Place \$200**

The Oswald Research and Creativity Competition is accepting applications for its 2007 Awards.

The program has 7 categories:

1) Biological Sciences	5) Social Sciences
2) Humanities/Creative	6) Design (architecture, landscape, architecture, interior design)
3) Humanities/Critical Research	7) Fine Arts
4) Physical and Engineering Sciences	

**Eligibility requirements:** Any UK undergraduate (full or part-time, enrolled for either semester) who does not already have a baccalaureate degree

In the sciences and humanities/critical research categories, students generally submit research papers written for a class or on their own. In the Humanities/Creative category, students submit short stories, original plays, or poetry. The Fine Arts category is appropriate for musical compositions, paintings, sculpture, videos/film, or photography or photography essays. Entries in the Fine Arts and Design categories will be displayed in the Little Library, 2nd Floor, April 9-13.

Entry forms and official guidelines may be found on our website at [www.uky.edu/outreach/osaward](http://www.uky.edu/outreach/osaward)

The design and Fine Arts Categories' entry guidelines/instructions and deadline can be found on the website

**DEADLINE: MARCH 9, 2007**

Contact: Evie Russell, 257-6420  
or Evie.Russell@uky.edu

Presentation of Awards to each winner in a special ceremony SHOWCASE OF UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS Wednesday, April 25, 2007

the Beatnik Ball presents:

# the dialectics

TONIGHT  
february 21 @ 8PM  
SC grand ballroom  
free admission

2003 student center | 859.237.8867 | paid for by student activity fees. event is subject to change.

[www.uksab.org](http://www.uksab.org)

**GARDEN**

Continued from page 1

The half-acre park will be in the same neighborhood that Kentucky Derby-winning jockey Isaac Murphey once lived — the area bordering Midland Place and Nelson Avenue.

"It's recognition that the horse industry is based on a larger foundation," he said. "We are paying homage to our ancestors and looking toward the future."

Embry, a 1974 UK graduate, said he has been a Lexington activist since he was 10 when he joined his mother during civil rights demonstrations. As a member of the NorthEast Lexington Initiative, a community enhancement group, he has been working on developing the park for years.

Another part of Embry's wish to involve Lexington in community projects is the Youth Green Corps.

Embry created the group, along with members of the NorthEast Lexington Initiative, as a way for young people to become involved in the park project and build a sustainability-oriented community through other projects.

The NorthEast Lexington Initiative has been involved in youth projects for years, and Embry sees Youth Green Corps as a way for young people "to adopt and get inspired by their community."

A project like the park needs a wide range of people working on it to reflect the diversity in the world, Embry said.

"That is how the earth is," he said. "It's very diverse and it's very inclusive. It's very beautiful."

"With diversity we have the opportunity for our work to become even more grand, more sustainable," he said.

The community is responding, with meetings drawing interest from elementary school students to UK professors.

"We must have a table that is reflective of the community," Embry said. "We are trying to affect even greater democracy."

Still, Embry said the inclusiveness of the group was "weak" compared to what it could be.

At Saturday's Youth Green Corps meeting, Embry shared an early rendering of the park.

Leadership Lexington, another community enhancement group for young professionals, designed the rendering, which includes racetrack- and horseshoe-shaped walkways where a stage and gazebo could sit. Hills around the park are designed to protect children from traffic.

Youth Green Corps built on these ideas Saturday, suggesting the additions of a playground with a water feature, a statue in the middle of a mock-race track, using boulders as natural boundaries and adding an ice rink in the winter.

UK Greenthumb member Andy Stith said he wanted UK to become more involved in the project. He also liked many of the ideas community members had for the park.

"I like the idea of something that is vibrant and accessible to kids," he said.

Work on the park will begin in the spring, Embry said, with youth involvement in groups like Youth Green Corps should grow by that time. Right now, though, it's just too cold to work outside, he said.

"We're not a sustainable community if we're not involving young people in these activities," Embry said.

**POETRY**

Continued from page 1

that happened in society that led me to my desk," Finney said.

Finney told a story of one news event that inspired her and that was handled by black journalists.

When soul singer James Brown died at the end of last year, Finney said the black magazine Jet covered the event with a more unique perspective than larger publications like The New York Times.

"Why do we need black publications?" Finney said. "Because what's important to some isn't important to all."

"We need good black journalism," she said. "We need journalists of all colors and hues to write the truth."

Finney said that unlike stories in newspapers and on TV, poetry explores not just what a person said, but his or her inner

thoughts.

"Journalism is about the who, what, where, when, why," Finney said. "Poetry is about adding to those questions."

More than 30 people, including UK students, professors and members of the community, attended last night's event.

Kenya Cummings, an early education freshman, was one student who saw Finney speak last night.

"She's amazing," Cummings said. "If you haven't read her work, you should."

Cummings said she first saw Finney speak at a freshman focus workshop hosted by the Office for Multicultural and Academic Affairs and plans on seeing Finney speak whenever she can.

"It just renews my faith in who I am ... just being in college and finding myself," Cummings said. "She's found herself."

Finney said knowing and taking care of herself, physically

and mentally, has helped her as a person and a poet.

"I know who I am," Finney said. "I feel like even if people don't like me ... that'll just go away."

After speaking, Finney answered questions from audience members about her perspectives on journalism and poetry.

When asked about what qualities a journalist should have, Finney stressed the importance of being educated.

"You've got to know what's going on around you," Finney said. "Read everything. Learn everything you can."

Finney also said that writing with beautiful language isn't enough for a journalist or a poet.

"The writers I respect most in the world write beautifully about difficult things," Finney said.

"That's what I try to do," Finney said. "I don't always get there, but I try."

**COLLEGE of ART & SCIENCES**

**Geek Week Events**  
Wednesday, February 21

**A&S Ambassadors**  
**Bleed Blue** ... and hope you will too with a donation of blood to the Central Kentucky Blood Center.

All donors receive a t-shirt and a chance to win a basketball signed by Tubby Smith. Free refreshments!

**"Invention and Intention: Writing The Memory Keeper's Daughter"**

7pm  
Recital Hall  
UK Singletary Center for the Arts

Kim Edwards, UK English Department and author of The Memory Keeper's Daughter.

Reception immediately following and a chance to win a copy of The Memory Keeper's Daughter!

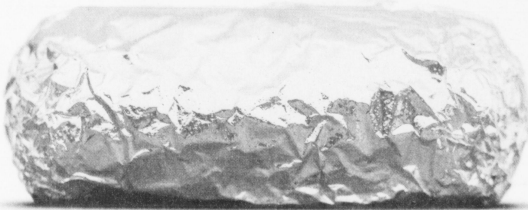
**Got Geek?**

**Got Internship?**  
ABC's of Landing a Summer Internship!

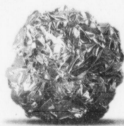
Free refreshments and t-shirts!

1 - 2pm  
Room 230  
Student Center

[www.as.uky.edu/geekweek](http://www.as.uky.edu/geekweek)



**EMPTY.**



**FULL.**

**BIG BURRITOS.**  **Chipotle.**

**SOUTH LIMESTONE & PINE**

## Q & A with Shane Tedder

COORDINATOR OF RESIDENCE LIFE RECYCLING

By Meghan Cain  
mcain@kykernel.com

This year, the Kernel has been spotlighting various campus leaders. This week we are featuring Shane Tedder, coordinator of Residence Life Recycling.

### Q. What is Residence Life Recycling?

A. In 1990 Student Government and RSA got together to start a recycling program in the resident halls. RSA officially funded it, and it became part of the room and board fees in 1992. From '92 until spring of 2006, the program was student funded and ran, but in spring of 2006 they hired a full time person to focus on education about recycling and sustainability and to coordinate the office of residence life. Residence life is comprehensive with 22 residence halls, three dining halls—Blazer, Commons and K-Lair, nine greek houses, the Greg Page Apartments, Shawnee Town, Cooper and Commonwealth Village.

### Q. How is this process run?

A. The process is simple. Say you buy a water bottle, and you put it in your personal recycling bin in your room. Then you dump that into the bigger recycling bin in the dorm. It is then emptied into a trailer and hauled to the Bluegrass Recycling Center where it is weighed and sorted. The city then bails the material and ships it to different markets around the Southeast. The recycling center pays us different prices for each commodity.

### Q. What do you do with that money?

A. The money generated from the sale is used for programming in the resident halls—for refreshments and such. It is also used for Earth Days in the Bluegrass.

### Q. Who can get involved in Residence Life Recycling?

A. Anyone. We have about 12 to 14 student employees. The best way to find out if we are hiring is to visit our website at [www.uky.edu/studentaffairs/recycling](http://www.uky.edu/studentaffairs/recycling). We do encourage volunteers to help with the educational stuff we do like Earth Days in the Bluegrass. Really the mission of the program is to help UK students waste less.

### Q. Do you think this program is working?

A. Yes. Shane Tedder recycles material from the South campus dorms. He said throwing products away is boring but recycling is empowering. Tedder is also involved in Wildcat Wheels located in Blazer on North campus.



A. In terms of recycling, we have definitely seen an increase in the years. This is an average annual growth of 38.6 percent.

### Q. Why is recycling important?

A. Because there is no such place as away. You don't throw things away, it goes to a landfill in central Kentucky. Recycling, as opposed to throwing something away, not only conserves natural resources, but it increases energy and stimulates the economy by creating jobs. It creates a cheaper source of material for the industrial sector.

### Q. How does recycling do this?

A. Here is an example. Getting aluminum from bauxite aluminum for a Toyota car causes you to invest a lot of front end, but through recycled materials by melting down the aluminum, you can save a lot of money in the front end of the process. It takes about 95 percent less energy to produce aluminum product from a recycled material than aluminum-ore. It is a huge energy conservation.

### Q. Why is energy savings important?

A. It is a small daily decision or behavior that everyone can do that has a positive, social, environmental and economic impact. It is empowering and feels good.

### Q. Why do you believe people don't recycle more?

A. I think there are three reasons people give—it is inconvenient, confusing, and they just don't care. UK's resident facilities tried to accommodate to the first two reasons by making it simple and convenient, and I believe this approach has worked due to the increased student participation in the last six years.

### Q. How do you feel about this?

A. We need to increase the education. Education is key to getting people who say they don't care to care. We want to show it is not just a wacko environmental thing—it is a social, environmental and economic issue. It is very cheap to throw things away here, in Germany it is illegal to throw anything away that is recyclable.



Shane Tedder empties a bag of plastic bottles and cans into a trailer on South campus. This is the first year Residence Life Recycling has paid a full time coordinator.

PHOTOS BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

### Q. What is the program doing to decrease this factor of not caring?

A. We are participating in Recycle Mania, a nationwide recycling contest. It is a competition among 20 colleges and universities and is going from January 28 to April 7. The competition is to see which school's students can recycle the most pounds per student. You can track how UK is doing by going to [www.recyclemania.org](http://www.recyclemania.org). The winner receives bragging rights and a trophy.

### Q. So what is the grossest thing you have encountered while emptying out the recycling bins?

A. Employees have occasionally encountered problems where people have s--- in the containers. They have put dip cups, used condoms and rotten meat in them too. The rotten meat was probably the worst because it looked like a person buried it in the paper bin. I just ask that people consider, the people emptying out the bins are their classmates and to please be considerate to that.

### Q. How do you feel when this stuff happens?

A. It is really frustrating. I don't get it. I feel baffled. I don't know why people want to abuse the bins. When there are non-finished drinks or things sorted incorrectly, you expect it because people are lazy. But when there is severe abuse to the bins, it is almost like people do it out of spite.

### Q. What is your job?

A. My job is really diverse. Really, my three primary purposes are to coordinate resident recycling on campus, coordinate educational stuff and work with

Wildcat Wheels. UK handles all of the rest of the recycling on campus we don't do.

### Q. If we don't start recycling more, what will happen?

A. We'll continue to be very wasteful of energy and pay for this by higher energy bills. We will have to open more landfills to accommodate the waste. We will deplete our natural resources faster than if people recycled. And eventually, we will mine the landfills for valuable resources we have thrown away.

### Q. What do you think about mountain top removal?

A. Coal is one of Kentucky's most valuable natural resources, but the practicing of mountain top removal's long-term costs aren't worth the short-term savings. That being said, coal is important for Kentucky's economy and provides valuable jobs for people living in coal fields. I really feel we need to find a balance between the benefits that coal provides and the negative impacts of the current mining processes. Energy efficient technology and energy conservation will certainly be a part of this balance.

### Q. How many times a week are the bins picked up?

A. Three times a week for residence halls. Dining facilities are emptied everyday. We also respond to complaints. Where the employees pick up is really variable—so doing a tower could be like doing four of another. Typically, they work around eight hours a week.

**Bluegrass**  
Community & Technical College  
HIGHER EDUCATION BEGINS HERE

Bluegrass Community & Technical College is an equal opportunity institution. A KCTCS institution.

## Get on the fast track to a college education

Apply today! Spring II (eight week) classes at Bluegrass Community and Technical College start March 1.

♦ One of the lowest tuition rates in the state ♦ General education classes that transfer to four-year institutions

Call 859.246.6200 ext. 56789 or visit [www.bluegrass.kctcs.edu](http://www.bluegrass.kctcs.edu) for class schedules and more information.

# THE COURTYARDS

## Great Amenities

# #1 in Student Living

- All Utilities Included
- High speed internet included
- Cable TV with HBO included
- Fully Furnished
- Washer/Dryer in each unit
- Resort Style Pool and Hot Tub

- Basketball and Tennis Courts
- Sand Volleyball
- Newly expanded Fitness Center
- Private Patios and Balconies
- NO TOWING Policy
- FREE Parking for Residents and Guests

845 Red Mile Rd. • Lex., KY 40504  
859.258.2039

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30am-7pm • Sat. 10am-4pm • Sun. 12pm-4pm

**Starting At:**  
4 Bedroom = \$399.00 per mo per person  
2 Bedroom = \$499.00 per mo per person

[www.collegeparkweb.com](http://www.collegeparkweb.com)

# SPORTS

Chris Miles  
Asst. Sports Editor  
Phone: 257-1915  
E-mail: cmiles@kykernel.com



UK 70, LSU 61

## Comeback finally pays off

For the 4th game in a row, Cats rally in second half — this time pulling out win

By Jonathan Smith  
jsmith@kykernel.com

Jodie Meeks never stops moving. The UK freshman guard was always active on offense, whether in the paint, or around the perimeter. On defense, he was in his opponent's face and always willing to take a charge.

Meeks tied a career high as he scored 18 points — 13 in the second half — to help UK overcome a 16-point first-half deficit to beat LSU 70-63 in front of 23,828 fans at Rupp Arena. It was the Cats' 400th win at Rupp Arena.

Meeks, who, during one stretch, scored 12 of UK's 14 points, helped work for the win all night. Twice he scored on cuts to the basket for layups, and he freed himself up for three open 3-pointers.

"He's very athletic," UK head coach Tubby Smith said. "I think the players believe in him and trust him."

The Cats (19-8, 8-5 Southeastern Conference) could have used his energy early as they continued their recent pattern of falling behind by double digits in the first half. LSU (14-13, 3-10) led by as many as 16 points and took the Cats out of their offense for most of the first half.

UK started the game 2-for-16 from the field and committed nine turnovers. Randolph Morris scored 14 first-half points and was the only UK player with a field goal until Ramel Bradley made a steal and a layup with 6:11 left in the half.

"He was carrying the load for us," Smith said. "When you're down 15 or 16, you need someone to step up."

Because of Morris, UK was able to stay close enough to make a run at the end of the half.

Trailing 31-21, UK shut out the Tigers over the final 2:33 cut LSU's lead to 31-30 at halftime. The Cats got a huge lift from LSU head coach John Brady in the middle of the run.



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

Junior center Randolph Morris competes with LSU junior guard Dameron Mason during UK's 70-61 win. The win was UK's 11th straight against LSU in Rupp Arena and the Cats 400th win in the venue. Morris' 20 points made him the 53rd player in UK history to score a career 1,000 points.

After LSU was forced into a 10-second violation with 1:36 to go, Brady received a technical for an comment he made to officials. Meeks made both free throws and hit a 3-pointer during the UK possession following the technical.

"That was a big turning point," Meeks said. "Hitting the free throws and the 3-pointer helped us get back in the game and really got us going."

UK shot only 9-27 in the first half, but bounced back in the second to shoot 13-21.

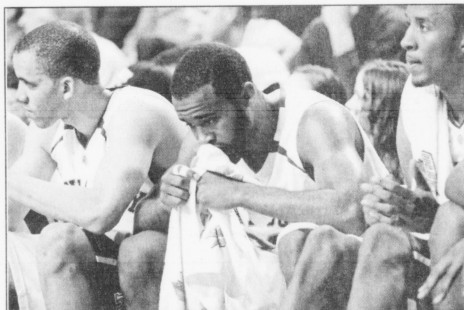
UK and LSU went back and forth for most of the final 20 minutes before the Cats pulled away with a 10-0 run in the final minutes.

The Tigers were without Glen Davis, the SEC's second leading scorer and leading rebounder, who was unable to make the trip to Lexington because of a strained right quadriceps. The Tigers seemed to struggle without him, shooting just 39.7 percent from the field and getting out-rebounded 35-33.

It was LSU's 11th straight loss in Rupp Arena.

The Cats entered the match-up with a three-game losing streak, during which they fell to a third-place tie in the SEC East. UK will get a chance to make up ground in the division Sunday against Vanderbilt. The Commodores beat UK earlier this season and No. 1 Florida last week.

"Every game is a must this time of the year," Smith said. "If you expect to be collecting any type of momentum toward the SEC Tournament, you don't want to be losing a bunch of games."



ANDREW HUGGINS | STAFF

Junior guard Joe Crawford sits on the bench during the first half. The Cats trailed by as much as 16 in the first half and had only one field goal in the first eight minutes of this game.

**Need more sports coverage?**  
**Check out the Score, in the Kernel every Friday.**

**Delta Delta Delta**  
presents:  
**Kristen's Story:**  
A story of  
**Acquaintance Rape  
& Depression**

As told by  
**Andrea Cooper,**  
**Kristen Cooper's mother**  
**7:30 pm**  
**Memorial Hall**  
**February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

Inform & educate yourself about the consequences of rape

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY RESEARCH

### Volunteers Needed for Research Study on Treatment of Asthma

Researchers at the University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center, Department of Allergy, are conducting a research study to test the effects of Xolair®, an investigational medication for persistent allergic asthma.

- You may qualify for this study if:
- you are between 18 and 55 years of age;
  - you have at least moderate persistent allergic asthma for at least one year;
  - you have been on a stable asthma treatment for at least four weeks prior to study entry; and
  - you have been a non-smoker for at least one year prior to study start.

Participants will receive study related care and medication free of charge. In addition, participants treated with the medication Xolair® may gain relief from their asthma symptoms.

The principal investigator for this study is Beth Miller, M.D. For further information, please contact Jody Holl, A.R.N.P., at 859-323-3719.

**UK** UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY  
Chandler Medical Center  
An Equal Opportunity University

**Eye Max, Inc.**  
Optometrists

Dr. Kari Carpenter    Dr. Clay Mattson    Dr. Suzannah Rich    Dr. Rena Pate

Located inside  
**Wal-Mart on**  
Nicholasville Rd. - Man 'O War  
971-0589

500 West New Circle  
(North Park)  
225-4657

1024 North Main Street  
(Nicholasville)  
881-5444

Hours (Differ with location):  
Mon 10am-7pm    Wed 10am-7pm  
Tues/Thurs 9am-6pm    Fri 10am-6pm  
Sat 9am - 5pm

- Comprehensive Eye Care
- Contact Lenses
- Treatment of Eye Infection and Diseases
- Walk-ins Welcome

**NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS**  
PRESENTS  
**EVOLUTION OF BLACK HISTORY: (FROM PAST TO PRESENT)**

**LOCATION: INGELS HALL**  
**DATE: WED 02/21/07**  
**TIME: 8:30PM**

**UK CHAPTER**

ACTIVITIES: MUSIC, FOOD, SCIENCE, FASHION, HISTORY, EXHIBITS, ETC.  
COME ENJOY A NIGHT OF BLACK HISTORY!!!!

# Football to play record 8 home games

By Chris Miles  
cmiles@kykernel.com

The upcoming football schedule got a makeover as UK announced yesterday that the Cats will now play a school-record eight home games and host Kent State, another MAC team on Sept. 8. The change brings UK's home-game total to eight, including three in a row to open the season. With the changes, UK will play its second game of the season hosting Kent State rather than the previously scheduled game at Temple. Executive Associate Athletic Director Rob Mullens said the change was prompted by Temple's switch to the Mid-American Conference. Its new conference schedule conflicted with the already-scheduled UK game, Mullens said.

"We worked with the MAC Commissioner on this change," Mullens said. "They contacted us saying they needed to move or change the (Temple) game." Instead of playing their second game of the season on the road, the Cats will now host Kent State, another MAC team on Sept. 8. The change brings UK's home-game total to eight, including three in a row to open the season. "Following this last great season, the opportunity to play at home is significant and will help us," Mullens said. Temple Assistant Athletic Director Larry Dougherty declined to comment on the schedule change because Temple has not yet released its 2007 schedule. Kent State, on the other

hand, is looking forward to the new match up, said Kent State Athletic Director Laing Kennedy. "We have a lot of respect for Kentucky," Kennedy said. "Bottom line is, I'm pretty pleased with the scheduling." UK also announced other changes in the 2007 schedule, including switching the game at Arkansas on Sept. 29 with the Florida Atlantic home game on Sept. 22. The change follows UK's agreement with ESPN to televise the South Carolina game Thursday, Oct. 24. If the schedule had not been changed, the Cats would have had to play back-to-back SEC road games with only four days rest. UK's SEC home games

## 2007 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Eastern Kentucky	Sept. 1
Kent State	Sept. 8
Louisville	Sept. 15
Arkansas	Sept. 22
Florida Atlantic	Sept. 29
South Carolina	Oct. 4
Louisiana State	Oct. 13
Florida	Oct. 20
Mississippi State	Oct. 27
Vanderbilt	Nov. 10
Georgia	Nov. 17
Tennessee	Nov. 24

HOME GAMES IN BOLD

will be against Louisiana State University, Florida, Mississippi State and Tennessee. UK will also face off at home against two in-state rivals — Eastern Kentucky and Louisville.

**Reason #30 I get paid to have fun!**

The legends will be holding try-outs for their "Promotions Team" that appears at every Legends home game. Come and be a part of the game-day fun!

Try-out sessions will be held at Applebee's Park. Please attend either Tuesday, February 27 or Wednesday, February 28 both from 4pm - 6pm.

Questions call Tiffany King at 859-252-4487

**Ash Wednesday Services at Catholic Newman Center**

Wed. Feb. 21  
12:10 PM & 5:30 PM Mass and distribution of ashes  
7:30 PM & 9:00 PM Liturgy of the Word and distribution of ashes

320 Rose Lane • www.uknewmancenter.org • 859-255-8566

# Hockey falls just short of national tourney

Loss over weekend ends Cats 22-win season

Travis Waldron  
twaldron@kykernel.com

The UK Hockey team came up one victory short of its first trip to the national tournament in 13 years. The team lost its final game of the season 5-2 to Florida Gulf Coast University on Saturday at the American Collegiate Hockey Association Division II Southeast Regional tournament in Youngstown, Ohio. Penalties doomed the Cool Cats, with four of the five goals against them coming on power plays. "We committed a lot of penalties," assistant captain Pat McAdams said. "They capitalized on opportunities. It was a tough way to finish the season, losing to a good team that we should have beat." The ACHA has four regions making up Division II, and each division sends its top two teams to the national tournament automatically. The teams that are ranked third through 10th go to the regional single-elimination tournament where the top two teams advance to the national tournament. The sixth-ranked Cool Cats defeated seventh-ranked William Patterson Univer-



Assistant Captain Patrick McAdams attempts to evade a University of Tennessee defender during the 5-5 tie on Feb. 10. The Cool Cats lost in the Division II regional tournament over the weekend, ending their season.

sity 6-5 in double overtime on Friday's first round and sophomore forward Tony Valerino scored in the second overtime. Despite the loss to Florida Gulf Coast, the Cool Cats are hoping that by returning all but one player they can make a run at the national tournament next season, said junior forward Trevor Reibling McAdams.

"We're looking forward to next season," McAdams said. "We've got a lot of guys returning. We're looking forward to hopefully going to nationals." The Cool Cats finished this season with 22 wins, posting their second 20-win season in three years.

Fresh, bold, spicy. We're looking for you.

Servers • Hosts  
Got what it takes to have a great time? Then bring your stuff into Chili's today! Our excellent hourly benefits include:  
Flexible hours • Hands-on training  
Competitive pay  
Health benefits • Paid vacations  
Management career path  
Relaxed, casual atmosphere

Spice up your career like never before. Apply in person at Chili's  
108 Market Place Drive • 859-971-9392

COME MEET US! EOE

Your Ticket to China

English Teaching Program in Shenzhen, China

Spend a year in Shenzhen teaching English and learning Mandarin Chinese. This well-established, government-sponsored program is now in its 10th year.

- Training in English teaching methods and in Mandarin Chinese language (at 4 levels) for 3 weeks in August in Beijing, with housing and tours
- Free housing at a Shenzhen public school where you will teach oral English, 12 classroom hours per week, Sept. 1 to June 15; one or two participants per school
- Monthly salary, paid vacation, and travel bonus
- Chinese classes continue in Shenzhen, a Mandarin-speaking modern city of 5 million near Hong Kong
- On-Site Coordinator
- Free airline tickets

Prior study of Chinese not required. Must be a native speaker of English with college degree (by July 2007).

For more information and to apply, visit our web site  
[www.chinaprogram.org](http://www.chinaprogram.org)  
or phone 901-857-2930

# Hoops post-season hopes lay with win at Florida

By Matthew George  
mgeorge@kykernel.com

The UK women's basketball team will have one last chance to make the post season NCAA tournament as they head to Gainesville to face off against a weak Florida team in their season finale on Sunday. A win against Florida (7-20, 1-11 Southeastern Conference) would place the Cats at 7-7 in the SEC. UK (17-11, 6-7 SEC) is optimistic that a .500 conference record and a strong showing the upcoming SEC tournament will be enough to put them in good position for the NCAA tournament. "I feel like we still have a shot," senior guard Jenny Pfeiffer said. Pfeiffer said that UK's senior-day win against Arkansas on Sunday definitely boosted the team's morale heading into the post season. "We need to go down to Florida next week and prove something there, and then, hopefully, luck is on our side." After struggling through the month of February, where the Cats notched a 3-3 record and lost two games at home, UK will benefit from a week of rest before playing the Gators. "We are going to enjoy a couple of days off, which they (the team) need badly, and get ready for Florida," head coach Mickie DeMoss said. "If we could build some momentum going into the SEC Tournament, I think that would be very helpful." Sophomore guard Carly Ormerod said the team could really use a bye week because of the up-and-down season that they've already had. "I think it will be good physically for all of us and also mentally to get some rest," Ormerod said. "We need all the wins we can get from here on out. Every day we come out we know its going to be a battle but we have to give it our all because we are not in the best of positions right now."

## Senior Day emotions run high

It was an emotional 87-60 senior-day win against the Razorbacks for a team that



Junior center Sarah Elliott hugs senior guard Nastassia Alcius on the bench during UK's 87-60 win over Arkansas on Sunday.

has made big strides over the last few seasons. UK honored seniors Pfeiffer, Nastassia Alcius and Jennifer Humphrey. Before tip off, both Alcius and Humphrey were wiping tears from their cheeks. "I anticipated that (Humphrey) would get a little teary-eyed because she is a very emotional person," DeMoss said. "I didn't think that (Alcius) would like that. It kind of caught me off guard." Even coach DeMoss couldn't contain all of her emotions, and she said the three seniors teased her after they caught her shedding a few tears before the game. "They saw that I was crying and I said, 'You mean you don't think the old, hard lady can cry every once in a while,'" DeMoss said. "I told them I was actually crying with joy that you three are going to be out of here." Pfeiffer had the only dry eyes during the celebration, or at least that is how it

seemed. "I cried behind the scenes," Pfeiffer said. "I got it all out before." Pfeiffer said the struggles she has gone through at UK caused her to break down. She was a starter as a freshman before a broken hand caused her to miss the rest of that season. As a junior, Pfeiffer started in 17 games before sitting out with mononucleosis, which caused her to miss much of her second season. Pfeiffer battled back from the injuries and illness to etch her name in UK's record books. Pfeiffer holds the school record for free-throw percentage in a season and career, and she ranks third all-time on UK's career list for 3-pointers made and attempted. "I just thought about all of the stuff that has happened in the past and finally saw that I'm here and I made it," Pfeiffer said. "Then it finally hit me."

**Need Cheap Flights?**

1-800-592-CUTS (2887)  
[www.travelcuts.com/usa](http://www.travelcuts.com/usa)

**TRAVEL CUTS**  
See the world your way

**ALCOHOL RESEARCH STUDIES AT UK**

- UK's Alcohol Research Center in the Department of Psychology is conducting a number of studies involving the effects of alcohol on behavior.
- Participants should be between 21-35 years of age for alcohol studies.
- Participants ages 18-20 are also needed for other studies not involving alcohol.
- Healthy male and female social drinkers are needed.
- Participants will be financially compensated for their time.
- Entertainment, food and beverages are provided after the study in a comfortable setting.

Call 257-3137 for more information

**Burning Out?**

Come to Independent Study and we will help you make up for lost credits.

**UK The Independent Study Program**

Room 1 Frazee Hall • 257-3466

# OPINIONS

## KERNEL EDITORIAL BOARD

Megan Boehnke, editor in chief  
Keith Smiley, managing editor  
Wes Blevins, opinions editor  
Brenton Kenkel, assistant opinions editor

Darishah Shahe, multimedia editor  
Jonathan Smith, sports editor  
Ellie Fairbanks, features editor  
Chris Miles, assistant sports editor

The Opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas. Unlike news stories, the Kernel's unassigned 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.

## Mining practices that harm streams must end now

Streams flowing from the tops of eastern Kentucky's mountains have helped shape the region's landscape for thousands of years — and left plenty of convenient valleys to dump the excess in when the tops of those mountains are stripped off.

When a mountaintop is removed to get to the coal seams underground, there's inevitably plenty of spoil — a mixture of rock, shell and dirt — that's of no value to the mining company. So into nearby streambeds and valleys it goes, quickly reshaping geographical features that have been forming since long before the state was populated.

The Kentucky General Assembly has an opportunity to slow this deformation of the state's landscape with House Bill 385, the Stream saver Bill, which would make it illegal for mining companies to dump waste into streams. Currently, the House Natural Resource and Environment committee is considering HB 385, according to the General Assembly's Web site.

Kentucky's representatives should not let the Stream saver Bill languish; it should be enacted quickly to protect the state's natural beauty and the communities impacted by strip mining.

The nation's reliance on coal is tremendous — currently, over half of the country's electricity is generated with coal, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Producing enough coal to keep up with such energy demands requires a process that can get to coal seams quickly and mechanically, using a minimum amount of labor. That process is strip mining.

Unfortunately, the national need for coal will keep strip mining in Kentucky for years to come. But there is room to reduce the residual impact of coal mining on the environment and on Kentucky communities, and the Stream saver Bill is an important part of this.

The bill will modify Kentucky's mine reclamation law to require mining companies to return as much spoil as possible to the original min-

### KERNEL EDITORIAL

ing site, or to other previously mined areas, according to a summary on the General Assembly Web site. As an added precaution, the bill also specifically prohibits any spoil from being dumped in the "waters of the Commonwealth."

The coal mining companies disagree with the bill, claiming it overreacts to the environmental impact of strip mining.

"The environmentalists say we bury the streams," said Bill Caylor of the Kentucky Coal Association in a Feb. 14 Kernel article. "What we are doing is elevating these dry ditches

Mountaintop removal does serious environmental damage, with minimal gains for Kentuckians. Legislators should pass HB 385, which would help decrease the harm these practice causes

with rock and recreating the stream."

"If this bill is literally interpreted, it would shut down every form of mining. That would really hurt the Kentucky economy," Caylor said.

This is, at best, an oversimplification of the truth. Creating an artificial stream somewhere near the site of a creek bed is no substitute for not dumping soil and rock into the stream in the first place.

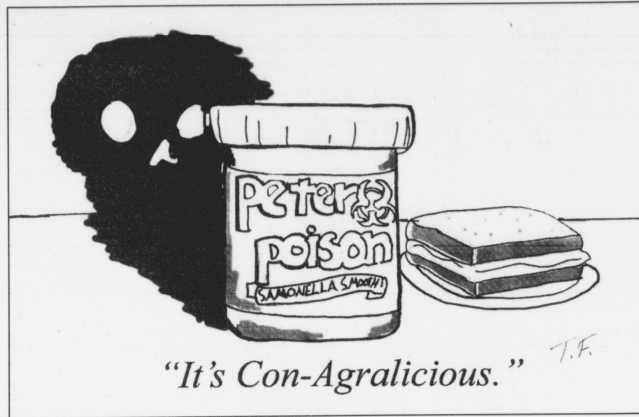
And while the economy of Kentucky is certainly tied to the mineral, making it illegal to dump refuse into streams will hardly be a death-blow to coal mining.

Erik Reece, a UK lecturer and author of a book on strip mining, told the Kernel in an e-mail last week why we should all be concerned about the impact of strip mining, regardless of whether we see its effects or not.

"We all live downstream from this kind of mining," Reece said. "We all bathe in and drink water flowing out of the mountains, and if that water is contaminated, we all have problems."

"Plus, as Kentuckians, we should all be alarmed at what coal companies are doing to destroy our Commonwealth."

Kentucky legislators need to give this issue the urgent attention it deserves and pass the Stream saver Bill as soon as possible.



"It's Con-Agralicious." T.F.

TONY FISHER, Kernel cartoonist

## We must raise awareness to fight violence against women

It's probably one of the most disturbing statistics about the University of Kentucky, and I'm sure that most people have heard it somehow or another by now: by the time they graduate, one in three women on campus will be the victim of some form of assault, harassment, or stalking.



CHAD REESE  
Kernel columnist

With these kinds of numbers, the issue of women's safety has rightfully taken a very prominent place on the priority lists of several campus organizations. Student Government, for example, sponsors safety walks and meets with administrators to discuss possibilities for improvement. Thanks to additional financial resources, Women's Place has been able to expand significantly over the last couple of years.

Still, for all the talk and planning surrounding what may be the most important issue this campus currently faces, there is significantly more that can and must be done to help solve this problem.

First of all, the general public needs to be made more aware of the issue. The administration makes an admirable at-

tempt by requiring incoming freshmen to view a presentation regarding violence against women, but even this "mandatory" event is often skipped by students who realize that they are not truly held accountable for attending it. Why not have the students sign in to this event with their name and student number? This will, of course, require some time and effort on the part of the administration, but ensuring that every student has an opportunity to view this presentation is essential.

Secondly, there is currently no widely publicized campuswide event highlighting the issue of violence against women. How difficult would it be for the UK Police Department and the UK administration to jointly host a "Campus Safety Day" that could pass out alarm-whistles and brochures, and generally make the issue of campus safety one of paramount importance? Even students who would not attend this event would likely pass through any large assembly in a central location on campus (such as the plaza in front of Patterson Office Tower).

This event would also give SG an opportunity to showcase its participation in the solving of this problem. More students, for instance, could join in their "safety walks." Women's Place could also highlight the services they provide, whether it is their Students Educating and Empowering to Develop Safety (SEEDS) program or consultation ser-

VICES. The Student Mental Health Clinic could discuss treatment options with victims who suffer from mental trauma after an attack.

The UK Police Department could provide general safety tips to students, such as walking with friends, carrying a cell phone and staying on well-traveled paths across campus at night. Administrators could highlight their short- and long-term goals for safety improvements.

In short, the possibilities are endless. Most of all, however, students simply need to be informed of the variety of services that UK provides to help deal with this problem. It would be nice if every student frequented UK's website with an intent other than double-checking the dates for Spring Break, but the sad truth of the matter is that UK needs to make information relevant to the issue of women's safety accessible to every student.

Whether it is through a "Safety Day" or some other means is entirely irrelevant, but it is intensely vital that Student Government and the administration do more to get information out to the entire student body on campus. To quote my favorite politician, Jonathan Miller, "The time is now, the place is here, and the moment is ours" to solve this problem. Seize the moment, UK.

Chad Reese is a philosophy and political science junior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Abortion restriction would save children's lives

In her column in yesterday's Kernel, Tara Bonistall said Senate Bill 179 creates unnecessary restrictions on women's right to choose in the case of abortion. She reported that according to the bill, women would have to travel to the abortion clinic to receive face-to-face counseling and then wait 24 hours before they could undergo the procedure.

Creating barriers to a procedure that alters the life of a baby and a mother ensures adequate planning and education. We create barriers to buying products that are detrimental to our health, like guns and cigarettes. Similarly, the government is trying to ensure that the women seeking abortions are knowledgeable of the consequences and prepared to make this decision. With abortion, not only is life at stake, but there are societal, emotional, physical and psychological consequences.

"Forcing a woman to have a child that she is not capable of caring for is not in the best interest of either the mother or child," Bonistall said. She claims that others supporting the bill should direct their attention to more pressing matters and stop patronizing women.

First, I find it insulting that Bonistall does not treat the issue of abortion as a pressing matter. Second, women warrant patronization for irresponsible behavior — don't have sex if you're not willing to or cannot deal with any consequence that could result. Third, the woman may not actually know what is in the best interest of the child or herself. Abortion affects millions of babies and mothers, and it's true that nobody thinks of it as a walk in the park. However, peo-

ple do think of it selfishly. A woman selfishly seeks sexual gratification without thought of how it will affect her life, or a baby's life. She selfishly thinks of how her life will be altered, perhaps not according to her plan, and selfishly seeks abortion so she can selfishly pursue what she thinks she deserves out of life. In her selfish ambition, she terminates a life.

Rephrase that: She murders a baby. SB 179 is not trying to patronize women; it's trying to teach women knowledge and responsibility they once had before becoming so focused on themselves.

Morgan Fischer  
Management senior

### Politicians shouldn't use Facebook as a soapbox

In response to the Kernel editorial "Facebook should be more than birthday wishes for Fletcher," I have to ask: What's the deal? You are telling me that alumni who are now statewide political figures always have to preach their stances on issues?

Gov. Ernie Fletcher, whatever his stance may be on particular state or national issues, spends all day pushing those stances. That's his job. He can't find some new medium to get his name out there and have that be enough? What are those political signs in front lawns every fall? Just a way to get your name out there for people to know you are running. It's the people's job to do the research. Sure, it'd be nice if signs could tell you everything, but there are space and time limitations.

I think it's cool that Fletcher uses it to wish people happy birthday, like a normal

Facebook.com user. Heck, I even learned he was a mechanical engineer when he went here — chalk one up for the MEs! Whether it is actually him doing it, or some intern logged into his account, the point is that he is not pushing his views down your throat. The last thing you would want on your own Facebook is a debate about abortion, or an argument over Iraq.

Let me give you a run down of the governor's page: Political views: Conservative. Religious Views: Christian - Baptist. He gives three Web sites, his e-mail address and a land phone number, all from which you can contact him. This is a load of information resources.

The guy's a busy man. And sure, it might take some time for him to get back to you on his stances, but that's because everyone is communicating to him through e-mail. Have some patience.

I can't believe that we live in a world where you can get all kinds of information at your fingertips in a matter of minutes, and the Kernel is complaining about having to leave Facebook to talk about something political.

Tom McCrocklin  
Pre-mechanical engineering sophomore

### 'Fat politicians' column was irrelevant, then offensive

I was disappointed in yesterday's dull opinion piece by Brent Burchett ("This Fat Tuesday, remember those politicians who tipped the scales?"). Honestly it's hard to see the news value in an article about fat politicians. The article was dotted with trivial facts — President William Howard Taft got stuck in a tub; I had no idea!

### Weekly Poll Question

Do you support the Stream saver Bill (House Bill 385), which would bar coal companies from dumping mining waste in Kentucky streams?

Vote online at [www.kykernel.com](http://www.kykernel.com)

### Cartoonists Needed

The Kernel is looking for a cartoonist to draw pieces for the Opinions page on a regular basis. Those who have an interest in campus and local issues will be given special attention, although cartoonists of all interests will be considered.

E-mail [bkenkel@kykernel.com](mailto:bkenkel@kykernel.com)

### Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Wes Blevins. Please limit letters to 350 words or fewer. Be sure to include your full name, class and major with all submissions.

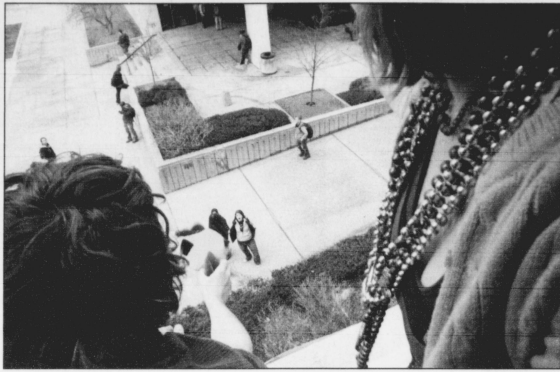
E-mail [opinions@kykernel.com](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com)

Walter Smith  
Journalism junior





MARDI GRAS IN MILLER HALL



ALLIE GARZA | STAFF

Third-year architecture students Graham Gordon and Dara Solomon throw Mardi Gras beads and stuffed toys to students from their studio in Miller Hall yesterday afternoon. "We were in New Orleans for a few days," said Solomon. "We had tons of beads left over, so we decided to give them out."



ELLIOTT HESS | STAFF

# Katrina looms over Mardi Gras celebration

By Peter Whoriskey  
THE WASHINGTON POST

NEW ORLEANS — The Mardi Gras celebration that took place "under the bridge" Tuesday wasn't broadcast live on TV. It didn't appear on tourist brochures. Indeed, it hardly seemed to exist, to judge by the absence of attention.

But the predominantly African American tradition that goes on in the shadows of the Interstate 10 overpass draws more than 10,000 people, boasts its own proud and bizarre spectacles — Zulu warriors, brass bands and Day-Glo feathered Indians among them — and in its own separate reality offered a stark contrast to the hopeful hype that attended the more official, more publicized of the city's Fat Tuesday.

Democratic Mayor C. Ray Nagin and others touted the ample Mardi Gras crowds and packed hotels elsewhere in the city as a sign of the city's vitality.

"This is what Mardi Gras is about in New Orleans — it's back, y'all, it's back!" he told a largely white Canal Street crowd to kick off the festivities.

But among those celebrating under the bridge, many noted the far smaller crowds in that area compared with pre-Katrina years, a product of the lingering devastation in African American neighborhoods. Moreover, people said, among those who have returned, the sense of celebration often masked the personal hardships of post-Katrina New Orleans.

"All that other stuff — all that they're saying on TV about us coming back, about us rebuilding — it's just a front," said Bennie Pete, the tuba player and band leader for the Hot 8 Brass Band, a local institution, a few hours before taking the stage beneath the overpass. "It's terrible here. People are struggling. Just look around."

He pointed to the nearby Lafitte housing complex, which has been closed since the storm. Metal shutters cover the windows of hundreds of units to prevent resi-

dents from returning. Notices posted warn passersby that anyone entering could be fined or jailed. Within view, many other buildings have been similarly abandoned.

"People need places to live," he said. "Now ask yourself: Why can't they reopen that?"

For the day at least, people under the bridge were hugging and dancing and watching the peculiar spectacles, intentionally arranged or not, that abounded.

Crawfish could be had for \$4 a pound, turkey necks or pigs feet for \$3; other cooks stirred roadside vats of gumbo. Brass bands, a local tradition, played. Men dressed as Indians in Day-Glo colored feathers — a tradition supposed to have begun to honor the Native Americans who once aided runaway slaves — roamed and periodically shimmed to the music. Members of the Zulu krewe, whose parade ends nearby, sashayed about, wearing Afro wigs and grass skirts.

Beneath the masks, costumes and smiles, however, lurked tales of post-Katrina dislocation and ongoing struggle.

Jack Humphrey, 58, a construction worker, who had just finished parading with the Zulu krewe as a "Walking Warrior" — he was dressed in rabbit and cow skins, a grass skirt and a helmet affixed with bullhorns — lost his home and said, "It's been really rough."

Blair Conerly, 33, a barber who is a Mardi Gras Indian had to commute in from Dallas, where he now lives.

Pete, the tuba player, comes in from neighboring Kenner because his home in the Ninth Ward was destroyed. Just a few months ago, in the midst of one of the city's crimes waves, a member of his band, was shot and killed while driving with his wife and child.

Asked whether the hard-hit Ninth Ward would ever come back, Pete exhaled forcefully enough to billow his cheeks.

"If it ever does, it will be a really, really long time," he said. "The answer is I really don't know."

Celebrate  
Mardi Gras @  
**Yesterdays**  
Free Pool  
ALL NIGHT  
Wed. Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>  
Lower-Level Convention Center

New Arrivals for SPRING BREAK  
**SANDALIZE!**  
Chaco KEEN  
Teva  
Over 50 Styles and colors in stock!  
189 Moore Drive • Mon-Fri 10-8 • Sat, 10-6, Sun 1-5  
The Outdoor Store  
Phone: 278.0730

Sweetheart of A Deal  
when you get one of our  
**Auto Loans!**  
You could win a  
FREE nights stay  
at Scottwood  
Bed and Breakfast!  
Rates as low as  
**5.25% APR\***  
\*Annual Percentage Rate. Current as of 2/1/07. Rate based upon credit eligibility and is subject to change. \*\*Offer available 2/1/07 through 2/29/07. Drawing will be held Monday, 3/5/07. Restrictions may apply. See a representative for details.  
NCUA ESE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION  
859-264-4200 www.ukfcu.org

**Feminist**  
"Abortion is the Ultimate  
Exploitation of Woman."  
— Alice Paul  
Founding Feminist &  
Author of the Equal Rights Amendment of 1923  
**EDUCATE YOURSELF - CKRTL.ORG**  
Make the Natural Choice, Choose Life.  
Right to Life of Central Kentucky Inc.  
1600 Harrodsburg Rd. Lexington, KY 40504 • 509-277-3970

NO CREDIT CHECKS • NO SIGNED CONTRACTS  
**\$45** a month  
unlimited anytime minutes  
unlimited U.S. long distance  
unlimited picture, text and IM  
• get your first month of service FREE  
• FREE activation  
• NO deposit required  
when you buy a new Cricket® phone at  
**Simpson Center**  
1080 S. Broadway  
next to Atlanta Bread Company  
Limited time offer. Available at participating locations with new activation. Taxes and fees extra. Some features not available with all phones. Unlimited minutes and unlimited text, picture and IM refer to calls and messages originating from within your calling areas in the U.S. long distance excludes: Alaska. Subject to Cricket® Terms and Conditions. Other restrictions apply.  
© 2006 Cricket Communications, Inc. 6006b\_FLY\_6/06  
cricket wireless