

ESTABLISHED 1894

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY



WEATHER Light sleet and rain today, high 40; rain or snow tonight, low 20-25; cloudy tomorrow, high 25-20.

SPORTS Notre Dame will need to revive the Luck of the Irish to beat the Cats on Sunday. Story, matchups page 3.



FRi

February 10, 1995

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INDEPENDENT SINCE 1971

ECSTASY: A FIRST-HAND ACCOUNT

Drug enhances taste, feelings

By Chris McDavid
Senior Staff Writer

Editor's note: The following is a perspective piece recounting an individual's experience with the drug Ecstasy. It is not meant to glorify the drug nor represent all possible experiences with the drug. Participants' names have been changed to protect their privacy.

New Year's Eve, 11:30 p.m.

We arrive at the club in downtown Louisville, and Mia, our dealer's girlfriend, discreetly distributes the flat yellow tablets to our group. There are 10 of us who are going to dose together, and to get our trips as synchronized as possible, we all take our hits at the same time. I am told by Alison that it is a bad idea to be the only person tripping, so it's important we all go at once. I swallow the nervous lump in my throat and the yellow tablet along with it.

11:45 p.m.

My hands have gone numb, and I notice that I am clenching my jaw for no apparent reason. Alison is doing the same thing, but Jeff is far ahead of us. He chewed the pill instead of swallowing it, and it is hitting him much faster. He says it feels like "an electric current is flowing through his body, charging it."

Alison's sister Cheryl and her boyfriend are already starting to get touchy with each other, and he removes his shirt while she caresses his chest. We are all beginning to become oblivious to our crowded surroundings in the club.

Jan. 1, 1995, midnight

Everyone gets with their friends for the traditional New



Photo illustration by GREG EANS Kernel staff

Year's kiss, and no one from our group needs any encouragement. The drug is surging through my body at this point, and my sense of touch is becoming heightened by the minute.

I grabbed my straight friend Stephen when the clock struck midnight and we kissed vigorously as we were surrounded by champagne glasses and shouts of "Happy New Year!" confirming that for many people gender is irrelevant on this drug.

The couples that have sprung up break apart and we go from friend to friend wishing Happy New Year's, touching and kissing. Our friend Tomeka arrives, but she is not tripping.

She told me earlier that her experience with X left her feeling depressed and alone in a crowd of people, and she did not want to do it again. She has eaten cherry Certs, and when she kisses me I realize that my sense of taste has been enhanced as well. It is deli-

cious, and I find it hard to tear myself away though an hour earlier I would not have dreamed of kissing a woman in that way.

12:30 a.m.

I am at what I perceive to be my peak, and the drug has fully consumed my body. I grind my teeth constantly, making my jaw ache, and take every breath as if it will be my final one. I am overwhelmed with the desire to touch and kiss my companions.

At some point, six of us move to the women's bathroom, unconscious of our own gender and knowing it doesn't matter at this club anyway. We are all thirstier than we have ever been in our lives, an apparent side-effect of the drug. Someone has a cup, so we refill it over and over with water, drinking it like we have been stranded in the desert for weeks. In between gulps, we are huddled in a mass, hands touching, massaging, clutching any

body they happen upon. I have no desire to have sex — touching and being touched is gratifying enough. I become obsessed with Alison's velvet dress and Cheryl's boyfriend's chest.

1 a.m.

The drug is slowly becoming less intense, but I have more energy than I have ever had in my life. Most of the others are still peak-

See ECSTASY on 6

Budget items could help UK students

By John Kelly
Campus Editor

President Clinton's 1996 federal budget includes two items that would help college students who rely on financial aid to pay the bills, said David S. Prater, UK's director of student financial aid.

Clinton has proposed an increase in the yearly limits on Pell Grants and a major expansion of federal government involvement in student lending.

Under the Clinton budget, eligible students could get a \$2,620 Pell Grant each year, an increase over the current limit of \$2,340 a year.

"It's been at least four or five years since it was increased," Prater said. "Those grants go to the neediest students. That would help a lot of students because it would reduce the amount they would have to borrow."

Clinton's other proposal would not benefit UK

students because the University has already begun to use the program it would affect.

The president has proposed expanding the direct student loan program, in which the government replaces banks as the leading institution for Stafford Loans, to 100 percent of all Stafford Loans.

"We already are prepared to go with that program," Prater said. "That starts next fall. It provides better service for students."

"We got in the second year, but the president's proposal would allow a lot of schools that didn't get in on the ground floor to get in now."

In a typical year, Prater said, he would be more excited about such proposals' chances of being approved in Congress, but the newly-elected Republican majority has made this year different.

"There are more concerns than usual," Prater said. "There are a lot of proposals out there with this majority party that will reduce some forms of financial aid."

Some of those proposals could include eliminating deterrents for interest on student loans. Others could affect programs like federal work study and the Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants, Prater said.

"It's crystal clear that this Congress wants to make some major changes and make them fast," Prater said. "There is a real rush to do something about the federal deficit and this is one place that is one way to do it."

"But I would hope that we would not cut off the things that benefit our young people's education and future."

Inside
Students should apply now for financial aid. See story, Back page.

NEWSbytes

NATION Quayle bows out of presidential campaign

WASHINGTON — Hard-pressed to attract the money and talent necessary for a strong campaign, former Vice President Dan Quayle abruptly reversed course yesterday and said he would not seek the 1996 Republican presidential nomination. His decision came less than three weeks after he vowed to campaign aggressively as a voice for the conservative "unsilent majority" he said was appalled at the decline of the family.



Quayle

Doctors divided over nomination

WASHINGTON — Congress' five doctors are divided on the nomination of Henry W. Foster Jr. to be surgeon general, reflecting splits not only between parties but in attitudes toward abortion.

Republican Reps. David Weldon of Florida and Tom Coburn of Oklahoma, both outspoken foes of abortion, call Foster unsuited to be the country's chief public health advocate. But Rep. Jim McDermott, a liberal Democrat and psychiatrist from Seattle, said that in performing abortions Foster did "what any obstetrician might do, all of it legal."

NAMEdropping

Streisand pumps down the volume

NEW YORK — Shortly into NBC's airing of "The Prince of Tides" the phone rang at the network's Manhattan headquarters. It was Barbra Streisand, asking the station to turn down the volume on commercials.

Streisand, the film's star and director, told The New York Times that she had an engineer lower the commercial sound by two decibels. She was upset because volume on the commercials was much louder than the sound of her movie, the network said. Streisand said the unidentified engineer followed her orders, although only after receiving assurance that she would assume full responsibility. Compiled from wire reports.

President's home not exactly an open house

Students see Maxwell Place as intimidating, imposing

By Ty Halpin
Assistant Managing Editor

The black cast iron and brick fence that surrounds Maxwell Place, home to UK President Charles Wethington, can be somewhat imposing. The sign that blocks the sweeping driveway reads "Private Drive," adding to the keep-out mentality some students absorb as they walk to class each day.

"The house was on campus to keep (Wethington) in touch with the University," said Matt Varney, a geology senior. "It doesn't seem to be doing that. It seems like it's an inconvenience for him to be there because of the walls."

"You can't even step in his driveway to pick someone up or drop them off."

Wethington, who has lived in Maxwell Place since November of 1990, said construction of the wall was not his decision.

"That wall had been started during (former president

David Roselle's) time in office," he said. "The one extension was completed as part of a landscape plan."

Roselle, who is now president of the University of Delaware, remembers a Maxwell Place full of life and visitors. "I have very fond memories of my time there," Roselle said by telephone. "I loved the house. We always had a lot of people coming in and out. It's fun to be reminded of all those good times."

During his stint at UK, Roselle held a reception for incoming freshmen on the Maxwell Place lawn.

"It was nice to have such a beautiful place to host new students," he said. "I wanted to be in touch with those new kids and give them an official welcome to the University."

Since Roselle left UK in 1989, Maxwell Place hasn't been



JAMES CRISP Kernel staff
MAX OUT Maxwell Place is home to UK President Charles Wethington.

See HOUSE on 2

Self-segregation issue discussed

By Alison Kight
Staff Writer

Sociology graduate student Amy Griffith is conducting research on the issue of self-segregation of races and whether it takes place at UK.

Griffith, who is doing this research for her master's thesis, says self-segregation is the process where races separate themselves from one another.

She cited instances like eating and socializing in different areas, utilizing a separate greek system and having differing opinions on the idea of affirmative action as it relates to campus issues, such as university admission and scholarship distribution.

Griffith spoke about her research to members of UK's

Women's Studies and African-American Studies programs at a presentation last night in the Hilary J. Boone Faculty Center.

The presentation was scheduled in conjunction with Black History Month, and upcoming Women's History Month.

Griffith is also the assistant to Doris Wilkinson, the Director of the African-American Studies program, said she got the idea for her thesis after watching a segment on "60 Minutes" dealing with the issue of self-segregation at Duke University in Durham, N.C.

She is conducting her research by interviewing both black and white students at UK.

Griffith is showing various students the segment and then interviewing them about their opin-

ions. Other speakers also talked about their past theses and current research projects.

Rosie Moosnick, a sociology graduate student, talked about her past thesis on life histories of blacks from three generations. Moosnick interviewed both men and women in each category and found stark differences.

"There was a real difference in talking between genders," Moosnick said. "Men talked more about the system in society that was keeping them down, and women talked about behavior, specifically the need for programs to make (black) teens feel good about themselves."

Fon Gordon, a history professor, talked about a research project she is doing on Daisy Bates,

who was instrumental in helping the "Little Rock Nine."

This group of nine black high schoolers were the first to attend the all-white Central High School in Arkansas in 1957.

It took 12,000 troops from the National Guard to finally give the students safe passage into the school.

"She was an integral part of the process that year," Gordon said. "The students were delivered to the Bates home before and after school, and were then escorted to school by the National Guard."

Other speakers were Teresa Unsel, an art professor, discussed her research on black women in the Old West, and Susan Bordo, a philosophy professor discussed race and the body.

House

Maxwell Place seen as intimidating

From PAGE 1

quite as warm, said Ron Holder, a biology senior.

"When I was an underclassman, I was like, 'What building is that?'" Holder said. "Who is the almighty person who lives there? Now, I'm so disgruntled with UK that I have to block it out when I walk by."

Wethington said he holds receptions, dinners and Board of Trustees functions at the house. This list does not include any student functions, which Varney thinks should change.

"It seems like somebody that is supposedly here for (students) would be more accessible," Varney said, adding that he has never seen Wethington at Maxwell Place. "It seems to defeat the purpose of having the house."

"You might as well tear it down and put up a new classroom or something students can use."

Holder concurred with Varney's assessment.

"It seems very uninviting for students," Holder said. "If

(Wethington's) afraid of not getting his privacy or vandalism, then he should move off campus."

Wethington, who owns another house in Lexington, was unable to pinpoint how much time he spends at Maxwell Place.

"I don't know how to estimate how much time ... I actually spend there," Wethington said. "It is clearly the best majority of my (residential) time. I'm very fortunate to have to opportunity to live in Maxwell Place."

Maxwell Place was built in 1871 by Dennis Mulligan for his son, Judge James Mulligan. The house was named for John Maxwell, one of the pioneer founders of Lexington.

The University purchased the house in 1917 for \$40,000, according to Board of Trustees minutes. Frank McVey, who served as UK president from 1917-1940, moved into the home immediately after it was purchased.

The University pays two full-time employees to maintain the house, with their combined yearly salaries totalling \$40,935.

Material expenditures for the upkeep of Maxwell Place are \$1,200 for the current year. During Wethington's tenure, the structure and grounds have undergone \$18,148 worth of renovations.

Priority deadline for aid is April 1

By John Kelly
Campus Editor

Students planning to receive financial aid need to begin applying now, said UK's Director of Student Financial Aid David Prater.

The priority deadline for completing and sending in the federal financial aid forms is April 1.

On that day, UK will begin awarding campus-based aid, including work study and some grants. Those who apply afterward will miss out on those funds, Prater said.

"A lot of students don't realize that they have to reapply each year," Prater said. "Especially freshmen, who had their parents do it last year probably and don't know they need to fill out the forms again if they want assistance next year."

Federal financial aid applications can be picked up at the Financial Aid Office in Fundhäuser Building.

The forms are located at the

front desk and in the hallway, Prater said.

"It's easy," he said. "It just takes a few minutes."

Filing the application is free. Students should file the form as soon as possible after completing their federal income tax forms.

"They'll need that basic financial information about themselves to complete the financial aid application," he said.

"There are some lines on the form that ask for information from tax returns."

Most students' parents will have to contribute some information for the forms.

Students who apply after April 1 will still be eligible for Pell Grants and Stafford Loans, but will not be able to get SEOG grants, Perkins Loans or work study next year.

"That will be awarded immediately, and we have a great deal of need out there," Prater said.

"Students who apply before the priority will get that aid."

LCC will provide free preventive dental care

Staff report

In celebration of National Dental Health Month, the Dental Hygiene Program at Lexington Community College will provide free preventive dental care for children February 20-25.

The free dental examinations, provided by Lexington Community College dental hygiene students will provide basic dental care for children ages two to 13.

Janella Spencer, Associate Professor of Dental Hygiene at Lexington Community College explained what is entailed in the examination that has been available to area children since 1978.

"The dental students examine the teeth, check for cavities, polish, provide fluoride treatments, X-rays and make note if the chil-

dren require fillings or further dental work," Spencer said.

Examinations will be performed in room 250 of the clinic of the Oswald Building located in the parking lot of Commonwealth Football Stadium.


The clinic is open to the public all year, but is procured for one week in February for those people who otherwise cannot afford dental care.

"This service benefits children and is part of community service for the dental students," Spencer said.

Discounts are available for senior citizens, UK faculty, staff, students and the unemployed.

Appointments are available from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with no appointments from noon to 1 p.m.

Those interested should call 257-2992 for an appointment.



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▼ A cutline in yesterday's Kernel incorrectly identified Dee Ann McNeil as an all-around performer.

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SPORTS

Irish seeking magic of old

Notre Dame still searching for big win

By Eric Massigo
Senior Staff Writer

On a daily basis, devout parishioners in South Bend's Basilica of the Sacred Heart, the bastion of American Catholicism, kneel on one knee and pray for:

- 1.) Forgiveness from sin
- 2.) Health of family and friends
- 3.) Irish quarterback Ron Powulus to have a good spring practice.

Talk about second fiddle and you talk about Notre Dame basketball. The calendar reads February, but in South Bend, where football is life, you'll hear more discussions of power sweeps, flea-flickers and post patterns than full-court presses, three-point shots and post defenses.

This Sunday, however, pigskin-crazed South Bend will shift its Irish eyes to the hardwood when No. 5 UK, the pace car of the Southeastern conference, ventures north for a non-conference pit stop at Notre Dame.

The Irish, at 14-8, find themselves on the verge of their first winning season in three years.

Notre Dame hasn't seen NCAA Tournament action since 1990, and to appease the tourna-

ment committee, they must complete their resume with the all-important quality win. Problem is that these days in South Bend, big wins are spaced farther apart than Democrats in Washington. They have, in this season, precisely one quality win — an 80-79 upset of Indiana in late November — to show for their efforts. The other 13 victims are about as potent as Our Lady of Mercy. And two of the eight losses came at the hands of roundball rejects San Diego and Dayton.

So to beat UK, the Irish must either find a bushel of four-leaf clovers, play like a squadron of deranged leprechauns, or be graced by divine intervention, right?

Enter the Luck of the Irish. Though in absentia for several years, the Luck of the Irish has, over the past two decades, helped transform Notre Dame into col-

UK vs. Notre Dame Sunday, 1 p.m. Joyce Center

UK (16-3)		
Probable Starters:	Pts:	Reb:
G Tony Deik	10.5	3.4
G Jeff Sheppard	9.2	2.3
C Andre Riddick	4.9	4.5
F Rodney Rhodes	13.5	5.2
F Walter McCarty	9.5	5.3
Reserves:	Mark Pope, 7.7 gpp; Antonio Walker, 7.4; Anthony Epps, 7.0; Jared Pritchett, 6.8; Cameron Miles, 2.2; Scott Flaggatt, 2.1; Chris Harrison 1.5; Allen Edwards, 1.4	

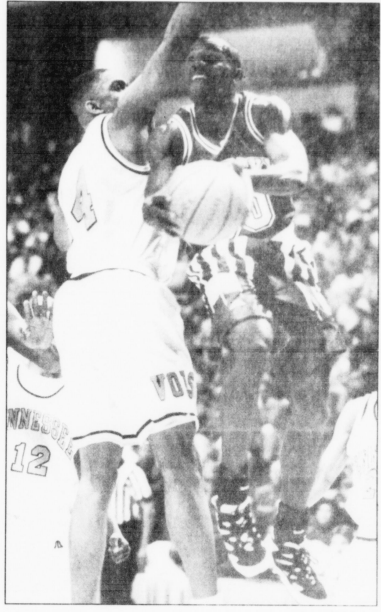
Notre Dame (14-8)		
Probable Starters:	Pts:	Reb:
G Ryan Hoover	10.5	2.5
G Lamar Justice	8.8	4.2
G Matt Gutsch	6.8	4.2
F Jason Williams	8.1	2.0
F Pat Garrity	13.1	5.1
Reserves:	Keith Kurovski, 11.1 gpp; Marcus Young, 4.5; Derrick Manner, 3.7; Billy Taylor, 3.4; Pete Miller, 2.7; Admore White, 1.7; Brian Walker, 1.4; Matt Vankoski, 0.7; Kevin Ryan, 0.4; Nick White, 0.0.	

TV: NBC, live

lege basketball's giant killer. Back in 1974, in the days of the 8-track tape, the Irish halted UCLA's record 88-game winning streak. And in the '80s, they made a habit of toppling Top 5 powers, including No. 1 DePaul in 1980, Virginia in 1981 and North Carolina in 1987.

In the '90s, though, the Luck of the Irish has resembled the Luck of the Polish. The Notre Dame locomotive ran out of gas four years ago, prompting former coach Digger Phelps to exit stage left for the broadcasting booth (where he spends much of his spare time prying his foot from his mouth).

Since then, basketball has taken a four-year sista in South Bend. Phelps' successor John MacLeod, who registers a solid 8 on the Rick Pitino/Winston Bennett suave meter, was a hero in some circles upon arrival on campus in 1991. But after two consecutive losing seasons, those circles are shrink-



UP AND UNDER Tony Deik drives to the basket in UK's win over Tennessee on Wednesday. Deik and the Cats travel to Notre Dame on Sunday to face the Irish at 1 p.m. on NBC.

SCOUTING report

BACKCOURT



McCarty

UK coach Rick Pitino hasn't been happy of late with the defensive play of his point guards, starter Jeff Sheppard and backup Anthony Epps. The toughest defensive assignment among Notre Dame's guards will be Ryan Hoover. The shooting guard has made 45 three-point field goals this season, 28 more than any other Notre Dame player and two more than UK's leader in that category, Tony Deik.

FRONTCOURT



Hoover

Notre Dame doesn't have a LaPhonso Ellis or Monty Williams up front, but the Irish do have some forwards who can put the ball in the hole, most notably Pat Garrity, ND's leading scorer. Still, the Irish may have trouble matching up with the likes of Andre Riddick, Mark Pope and Walter McCarty up front.

BENCH



Kurovski

The Irish's second-leading scorer, Keith Kurovski, is strictly a sixth-man. One of only three Notre Dame players averaging double figures in points, Kurovski hasn't started a game this season. UK freshman Allen Edwards saw 10 minutes of action on Wednesday night, the most he had played since Nov. 30.

ETC.

Notre Dame is known as a giant-killer, but UK has managed to avoid the upset bug against the Irish over the years. The Cats have won four in row and 13 of the past 16 over ND. The Irish didn't beat the Cats since March 5, 1990 in South Bend. Notre Dame coach John MacLeod became the head coach of the New York Knicks shortly after Pitino left the NBA franchise to come to Lexington.



NOTRE DAME stats

Team statistics

ND	Field Goal Percentage	Opponents
485	415	
686	Free-Throw Percentage	633
357	Three-Point Percentage	394
71.3	Points Per Game	63.0
35.0	Rebounds Per Game	36.5
10.3	Off. Rebounds Per Game	12.9
16.5	Assists Per Game	12.3
17.7	Turnovers Per Game	18.3
3.3	Blocks Per Game	3.4
8.1	Steals Per Game	8.7



UK stats

Team statistics

UK	Field Goal Percentage	Opponents
.452	392	
.703	Free-Throw Percentage	720
.382	Three-Point Percentage	271
86.1	Points Per Game	67.4
41.2	Rebounds Per Game	37.2
14.4	Off. Rebounds Per Game	14.1
18.7	Assists Per Game	11.4
15.9	Turnovers Per Game	22.5
5.3	Blocks Per Game	4.9
10.5	Steals Per Game	7.1

SEC coaches pleasantly surprised by Williams' hot Bulldogs

By Brett Dawson
Sports Editor

In the preseason, coaches around the Southeastern Conference were excited about the league's chance to see those considered among the nation's best. They pointed to two returning Final Four teams, Arkansas and Florida, as well as teams like UK and Alabama, sure to be among the nation's elite. And though they also pointed out Mississippi State as being

SEC NOTEBOOK

among the league's NCAA Tournament hopefuls, few of the coaches expected the Bulldogs to sit atop the SEC's Western Division. But that's where Mississippi State is, holding a better record than any of those previously mentioned teams, with the exception of the No. 5 Wildcats. Yesterday, the Bulldogs were a hot topic among SEC coaches on their twice-weekly teleconference. "They have tremendous chemistry," Auburn coach Cliff Ellis

said. "I think in Erick Dampier, they have one of the better big men in the country, not just in our league. It's very difficult to defend Mississippi State because of the great outside-inside combination." The outside part of that double-whammy comes in large part from guard Daryl Wilson, who, along with Dampier, helped boost the Bulldogs to a 21-point win over Arkansas last weekend.

"I can see a certain chemistry developing on the team where they really like each other and they pull for each other and they want each other to do well," MSU coach Richard Williams said. "It's fun as a coach to watch them enjoy themselves and enjoy the success they're having."

Memorial Gym. He likes it. "I think it's a great place for basketball," O'Neill said. "I like those benches at the end of the court. You can get the official every time he comes under the rim."

Conference calls

Before coming to Auburn, Ellis spent the bulk of his career coaching at Clemson, where he competed in the Atlantic Coast Conference. "Though he coached against the

likes of North Carolina, Duke and Georgia Tech, Ellis isn't convinced that the ACC is, as most seem to believe, the best basketball conference in the nation. "Especially not this season, where Duke's well-documented struggles have pulled the league down a notch, Ellis said. "To me, I think the SEC is the strongest league this particular year," Ellis said. "I'd be thoroughly disappointed if the SEC doesn't get six teams in the NCAA (Tournament)."

Kappa Kappa Gamma Congratulates Its New Officers

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Gym Cats' eyes are on Tigers

UK looking for respect

By Kip Perkins
Contributing Writer

If ever a movie theme song were applicable to gymnastics, the theme for tonight's Gym Cat meet would be "Eye of the Tiger."

Well, maybe "Eyes on the Tigers" would be more appropriate as the Cats set their sights on the visiting LSU Tigers in Memorial Coliseum tonight. Showtime is 7:30 p.m.

The Cats, ranked 12th nationally, are on the verge of national respect in women's gymnastics.

Gym Cats vs. LSU
Tonight, 7:30, Memorial Coliseum.

A win over South-eastern Conference rival LSU would be one giant roundoff backhand-spring in the right direction.

Fifth-ranked LSU (5-1, 1-1 SEC) is coming off its meet of the season, posting a score of 195.55 at top-ranked Alabama last weekend.

The Tigers are led by Kristy Savoie and Aida Canoas, both of whom scored over 39 in the all-around competition last weekend.

"I really don't know anything about (LSU's team)," said UK coach Leah Little. "I know they're in the Top 10 (and) they're great this year."

Team member Robin Ewing was not familiar with the LSU team either.

"I don't know anything about their freshmen," Robin Ewing said. "I know they're a good team."

Little believes the Cats have the potential to beat LSU if they stay on the beam, execute well and perform well under pressure.

Consistency will be the key to improving their score of 189 at the Purina Cat Classic in Missouri, Ewing said.

While Ewing and junior stand-out Jenny Hansen must perform at their usual level, Little is looking forward to an improving supporting cast.

Sophomore Kristy Toups returns to competition this week and freshmen Jennie Maxwell and Beth Cluxton are coming off strong performances at



MEANINGFUL MEET The UK Gym Cats look to gain some national respect when the LSU Tigers come to Memorial Coliseum tonight. The meet begins at 7:30.

the Cat Classic.

Little is also looking for improved performance on the bars and another strong performance on the vault.

"It's a big rivalry," Ewing said.

"Always has been." And if the Cats want to keep their eyes on post season competition they have to keep their eyes on the Tigers.

"As soon as we get done with

the Missouri meet, the first thing we did when we got on the bus, we started pumpin' for LSU," Cluxton said. "We've been pumpin' all week. "We will beat them."

Tide rolls in to face Kats tomorrow



STRETCH FOR IT UK's Vonda Jackson goes for a rebound during Wednesday night's game against Marshall. The Lady Kats face Alabama tomorrow.

By Jason Dattilo
Assistant Sports Editor

After a one-game reprieve from the rigors of the Southeastern Conference, the Lady Kats get thrown back in the fire tomorrow

as No. 19 Alabama invades Memorial Coliseum.

While UK (10-11, 3-5) is coming off its largest victory of the season, a 91-58 trouncing of Marshall Wednesday night, the Cats have lost four straight SEC

games. Alabama (15-7, 4-4), which lost to No. 2 Tennessee by 51 points on Sunday, also needs a victory to solidify its position in the conference standings.

"This time of year is always a critical point for teams in the middle of the conference," UK coach Sharon Fanning said.

If the Kats are going to halt their current conference slide, they are going to have to slow down Alabama's high-powered offense. The Tide comes into tomorrow's game with nation's fifth-ranked offense.

Alabama has even cracked the century mark on five different occasions this season.

"This is a team that is really good in transition," Fanning said. "They look to push it up and down."

Guard Niesha Johnson is Alabama's leading scorer.

The senior from Clinton, Miss., averages 25 points, six rebounds and five assists per game.

Johnson's all-around play has earned her one triple-double and two double-doubles on the season.

"(Alabama) definitely looks to Niesha Johnson on the perimeter," Fanning said. "She has tremen-

dous range. Niesha is comfortable five feet behind the three-point line. She's one of the best guards in the SEC."

The Tide's other leading scorer, Yolanda Watkins, averages 15 points and nine rebounds a contest. Watkins has recorded an amazing 10 double-double games this year.

To compete with the Tide, the Lady Kats will have to maintain their sharp-shooting ways.

Against Marshall, the Kats shot a season-high 51 percent from the floor.

But Alabama and Marshall are two totally different teams.

"You have to remember that we're playing against a different kind of team," Fanning said. "It'll be a whole different ballgame. We need to be patient with our offense and get good shots."

For the first time this season, UK center Karri Koach will enter a game as the Lady Kats' leading scorer. Koach, who averages 13.3 points per game, is just a fraction of a point ahead of All-SEC forward Stacey Reed.

Another key player in UK's offensive attack is freshman Kim Denkins.

The former reserve center was inserted into the starting lineup at the power forward spot by Fanning against UNC-Asheville three games ago.

At 6-foot-2, Denkins brings size and scoring ability to the UK lineup. Denkins is averaging 6.9 points and 5.4 rebounds in limited action this season.

Note:
Tomorrow's game will break a tie in the 17-year-old series between Alabama and UK. So far, both schools have won eight games.

Lady Kats vs. Alabama

Tomorrow, 4 p.m., Memorial Coliseum.

Records: UK 10-11, Alabama 15-7.

Series: Tied at 8.

UK divers advance

Staff report

Two UK women advanced to the Southeastern Conference diving finals yesterday at the Lancaster Aquatics Center.

UK junior Tina Johnson placed second in the preliminary meet, scoring 451.70.

Fellow Cat diver Jenny Baker placed fourth. Baker, a junior, finished with a score of 432.50.

Johnson and Baker were among the top eight divers that qualified for the finals.

Tennessee's Tracy Bonner won the preliminary meet, scoring 467.55. Other UK top performers were freshman Beth Leake, who placed 18th and freshman Bobbi Hamilton, who finished 22nd.

On the men's side, Kevin McMahon, a junior from LSU, won the men's preliminary event by scoring a 507.70.



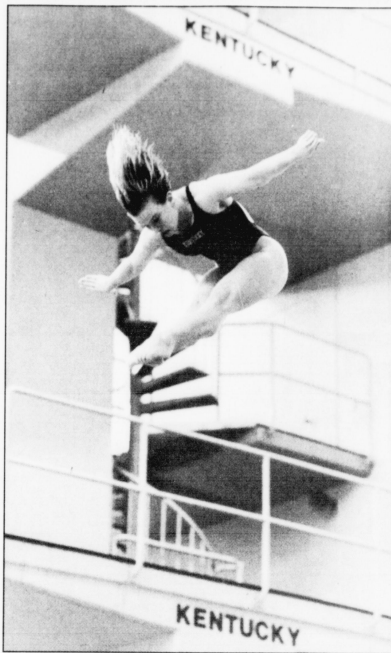
Johnson

McMahon narrowly defeated Rafael Alvarez of Alabama by 1.40 points.

Top UK divers were Paco Rivera, who barely missed qualifying for the finals.

Rivera, a freshman, finished ninth with a score of 461.10. Wildcat junior Tom Tretter placed 17th, scoring 384.20.

The SEC Diving Championships continue through Sunday at the Lancaster Aquatics Center.



HELENA HAU *Kernel staff*

PLAYING HOST The Southeastern Conference's top divers are in Lexington this weekend to compete in the SEC's diving championships.

Cats swing into action

By Brett Dawson
Sports Editor

They call the tournament the Southern Challenge, and it could prove to be just the beginning of the challenges the UK baseball team will face this season.

The Wildcats travel to Charleston, S.C., this weekend for games against The Citadel, Virginia Military Institute and Georgia Southern. The three games will be the first this season for Keith Madison's inexperienced Cats.

UK had better get accustomed to playing on the road.

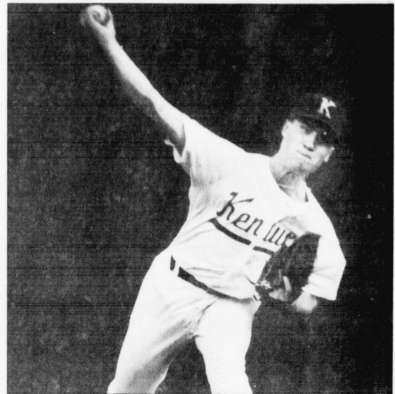
Thirty-six of the Cats' first 50 games will be played away from Cliff Hagan Stadium at Shively Field.

Madison has long been an advocate of moving the start of college baseball to mid-April, thereby having the season continue throughout the summer.

"I know Coach (Rick) Pittino wouldn't like to play his first 12 or 15 games on the road, and Coach (Bill) Curry wouldn't like to play his first four games on the road," Madison said. "No coach likes that."

And it could be especially tough on this year's team, Madison said, due to its lack of experience after losing key performers like Jeff Abbott, Poogie Jones, Brian Reed, Troy Trumbo and others from last season's 32-25 squad.

"Young players have a harder time understanding that it's a long season, and that if you drop a few games early, you can bounce back



JAMES CRISP *Kernel staff*

GET IT STARTED UK pitcher Greg Reid will get the starting nod for Sunday's game, the third for the Cats in this weekend's Southern Challenge.

and finish strong late in the season," Madison said. The Cats will start the season today with a game against The Citadel at 6 p.m.

UK will start right-handed pitcher Curtis Whitney against The Citadel, against which the Cats lead the series 2-1.

The most highly-anticipated UK freshman debut in quite some time comes on Saturday, when frosh pitcher Scott Downs makes his first start against VMI.

The freshman left-hander was undefeated as a four-year starter at Louisville Pleasure Ridge Park High School. Downs was 13-0 with an 0.43 ERA and 175 strikeouts as a senior at PRP.

"He's the first left-handed starter that we've had in our rotation in a long, long time," Madison said. "Even though he's just a freshman, he has good stuff. We're expecting good things from Scott."

SPORTSbytes

Men's tennis tops Clemson

UK freshman Dan Spaner held off Clemson's Brian Salazar 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 to clinch the Wildcat men's tennis team's 4-3 win over Clemson at the Hillary J. Boone Tennis Center yesterday.

UK captain Ford Lankford deadlocked the match at 3-3 with

a three-set decision over Charlie Rasheed. The UK senior broke Rasheed's serve in the sixth game to go up 4-2 in the decisive set.

"We played a very good match," UK coach Dennis Emery said.

"I'm so pleased with Spaner and Lankford. They both played very tough against a much-improved Clemson team."

Mercer to play in Frankfort

Ron Mercer, the most highly-

coveted high school player in the nation, will play tomorrow night at 7:30 at the Frankfort Civic Center.

Mercer will lead Mouth of Wilson, Va., Oak Hill Academy in a game against Frankfort High School. Tickets cost \$5 at the door.

The 6-foot-7 Mercer is considering UK and Tennessee as his primary college choices. Vanderbilt, Florida and Miami (Fla.) may also be in the running.

Oakley accused in lawsuit

NEW YORK — New York Knicks forward Charles Oakley has been accused in a \$2.5 million lawsuit of hitting a security guard during a special event at Tavern on the Green when asked to show a ticket.

Chris Nunez, 23, said in court papers that the basketball player arrived at the glitzy Central Park restaurant last June 16 and entered without showing a ticket,

over the objections of security people.

Nunez's court papers said he asked the All-Star forward to step out of the room and Oakley "responded with abusive and derogatory language, and thereupon struck plaintiff upon the neck."

The blow left Nunez in pain and "unable to remain gainfully employed," according to papers filed Wednesday in Manhattan's State Supreme Court.

MSU's Price injured

STARKVILLE — Senior forward Brian Price will miss at least one game for No. 21 Mississippi State because of a sprained ankle.

Price, who has started all 19 games so far this season for the Bulldogs (15-4), injured his left ankle in the second half of Wednesday's night's 67-61 victory at LSU. He will not play in tomorrow's game against Auburn.

Compiled from staff, wire reports.

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DiVeRSions

Research shows 'X' is a dangerous high

By Chris McDavid
 Senior Staff Writer

Searching for facts about Ecstasy can be absolute agony. Many users will tell you how it lives up to its name, while medical experts and drug counselors can list a million good reasons to steer clear. There has been little research done in the United States on the drug, and even the local branch of the Drug Enforcement Agency admitted to knowing little about it.

Ecstasy is known in the scientific community as 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), and more simply as "X" among its users. Invented around the turn of the century, it gained popularity in the early '80s with the yuppie crowd who could afford it as one of several "designer drugs," or structural analogs of drugs already placed under the Controlled Substances Act.

Because it was not technically identical to its parent compound amphetamine, it was legal until 1985 when it was named a Schedule I drug by the Drug Enforcement Agency, along with drugs such as LSD and heroin.

In other words, X can be the quick ticket to jail. There are a small number of psychiatrists who have advocated the use of Ecstasy in therapy on the belief that it increases confidence and trust as well as lowering defenses.

But the overwhelming support for X stems from the British rave scene where the drug is a staple. While popular in large cities such as New York and San Francisco, X is still a limited supply throughout most of the U.S., though it is popping up in local cities like Louisville and Cincinnati.

This increasing availability can probably be attributed to the limited skill it takes to produce. According to the Journal of the American Medical Association (italicize), illicit labs are often set up in kitchens by someone with minimal knowledge of chemistry, leading to a potentially contaminated product.

So what does X actually do? Ecstasy has been shown in animals to destroy serotonin-producing neurons which regulate aggression, mood, sexual activity, sleep and sensitivity to pain.

The upside for many users is that using X creates a highly sexual experience where the user has seemingly unlimited energy and is endlessly happy. The desire to touch and taste is overwhelming, as is the desire to be with those you care about.

"Initially, the user feels mellow, calmed, more in touch with reality. It's a very enticing drug."

However, according to Leukefeld as well as literature from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the other side of this coin is not pretty: confusion, depression, paranoia, severe dehydration, muscle tension, nausea and faintness.

The prolonged activity the drug causes may compound these effects, and in conjunction with poor ventilation of clubs where the drug is often taken, can result in body temperatures rising to fatal levels. No statistics are available for the U.S., but in Great Britain this has led to around 30 deaths.

Users either simply collapsed or began to convulse while dancing, and by the time they were noticed, it was too late. "X" is exactly a cost-effective drug—it has been known to sell for about \$35 per hit locally.

Ecstasy
 User experiences effects of drug on New Year's Eve

From PAGE 1

king, so Mia and I race to the dance floor, feeling completely uninhibited. My heart is pounding in time with the music as I move with an abandon that I have never felt before. Cheryl has her boyfriend backed against a wall, kissing his body, completely oblivious to the crowd dancing around her. Jeff has disappeared while Alison is making out with a gay man on a sofa in the lounge.

2 a.m.
 My body is still tingling, but the frenzy is gone. Everyone else is still tripping. I am the first to come down, and I'm desperate not to be alone. All my friends seem to have paired off except for Jeff. He looks like hell and is sulking in a corner. Stephen has started to come down as well, and to keep a buzz, he begins ordering cocktails from the bar.

4 a.m.
 Last call at the bar, and I am completely sober despite still having a case of the touchy-feelies. I feel like a balloon that someone pulled the plug on. I have lost all of my air, though most of the others are still going. We drag ourselves out to the car, and I drop off Stephen, who can barely walk and hasn't talked for the past hour. Alison and her friend are at a party that is still going. After arriving back at Alison's apartment where I was staying, I passed out in her bed.

Noon
 I wake up as Stephen, Alison and her roommate return from the party. They had fallen asleep there. I learned that Jeff had felt abandoned the entire night and had been completely unhappy. Stephen passed out at the party and was still in a daze from mixing alcohol with the drug, not exactly the most attractive behavior.

Driving back to Lexington that day, I felt completely at peace with myself and in love with the world, a feeling that would last almost a full two days after ingesting the little yellow tablet.

Pat proves guitar genius again

By Eli Humble
 Staff Critic

With his new release, *We Live Here*, Pat Metheny has once again proven that not only is he among the better jazz-fusion players around, but that he is simply one of the best all-around guitarists on the planet.

We Live Here features everything a Pat Metheny album should: mild, but steady grooves, atmospheric keyboard touches, human voices that don't really say anything and lots of astounding guitar work.

One minor addition to his sound is that of "hip-hop" type rhythms. The end result is so good that it really doesn't sound that different. In fact, this new dimension seems to make his playing flow even more smoothly. Don't worry; he doesn't rap or anything.

The first track, "Here to Stay," magnificently floats into the clouds. Metheny flies in his own unique style that sounds like no one else. It uses every bit of the fretboard; low, rumbling phrases are complimented well by lightning-fast but emotional solos.

Up next is "And Then I Know," which is more of the same, and that means it's good stuff.

Metheny paints beautiful, peaceful soundscapes that can put a smile on your face like a new age Dickey Betts.

Fans who may have been surprised (or possibly frightened) by his last outing, *Zero Tolerance*

For *Silence*, an album of manipulated guitar noise, will be glad to hear that Metheny is back to business as usual. As *Zero Tolerance* used the guitar as the sole instrument to create spooky volcanic rubble, *We Live Here* is clearly a conventional band effort.

"To the End of the World" unfolds like a gorgeous candle-lit dinner.

Keyboardist Lyle Mays, a long-time Metheny collaborator, lends his fingers very well. The tension slowly builds over nine minutes before erupting in a clap of thunder. Then, it subsequently jumps back on track to allow Metheny to take it home.

If you want to hear some serious guitar, look no further than "Episode d'Azur." Metheny cuts to the chase and jams until the wheels come off.

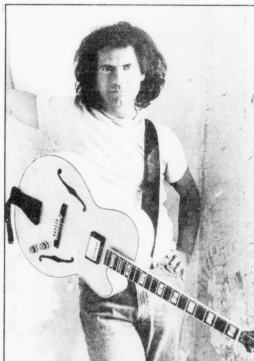
"Something to Remind You," however, features his more delicate side, much like he did on his 1987 release, *Still Life (Talking)*.

And on the album's closer, "Stranger in Town," his playing will make you forget how to spell Steve Vai's name.

One thing to keep in mind: although Metheny is obviously talented and gets most of the attention, his band members still do an impressive job supporting him, as well as flexing their own instrumental muscles.

The rest of the band provides an excellent canvas for Metheny. After all, the band's name is the Pat Metheny Group.

Overall, *We Live Here* is one of the better



Pat Metheny Group just released its latest *We Live Here*. The band will be at UK in March.

MUSIC REVIEW

★★★★½

We Live Here
 Pat Metheny Group
 (Geffen)

RATINGS
 ★★★★★ Excellent
 ★★★★ Good
 ★★★ Fair
 ★★ Poor

Sherman's Alley by Gibbs 'N' Voigt **Good Grief**

Oh, no! A madman has killed Oswald! Now fork over the candy, pops.

Nothing says "holiday" like something from the gourd family. What are you supposed to be?

Let's roll, Ghem. The party is about to start and we still have to pick up Mona.

How clever. You each get some of my fresh Halloween squash. Just don't eat it all tonight.

They were out of Statue of Liberty outfits. I'm the Grand Collee Dam.

Nice costume, Brooks. What's Mona going as? A Dolly Madison snack cake?

Very amusing. Actually, she's going as one of the "Peanuts" adults. She's gonna stand out of sight and squawk at everybody.

SEE ME! IT'S ME!

READ DIVERSIONS FOR ALL THE LATEST FROM THE WORLD OF SEX, DRUGS AND ROCK N' ROLL

Club offers chance to be a cosmopolitan

By Thomas McIntosh
Staff Writer

If you're a student who wants to meet lots of new and different people, go on exciting trips, and generally have all-out fun without spending a lot of cash, then UK's Cosmopolitan Club is right up your alley, its members say.

"The Cosmopolitan Club gives a chance for international and American students to get together," said Mark Spears, a participant training assistant in Bradley Hall.

The Cosmopolitan Club, or Cosmo Club, as it is known by its members, began in the 1940s and is primarily a cultural and social club that currently boasts about 70 members from 20 different countries.

"Basically we do fun things, like camping, caving, rafting, skiing, and having parties," said Asel Abdul-Aziz, a interior design junior from Iraq, who has been president since last semester.

"The nice thing is that members are usually not from the same country, it's really diverse," Abdul-Aziz said.

Current activities include a ski trip to Gatlinburg, Tenn., later this month, and a Valentine's Day Dance that will be held tomorrow in the Augustine Chapel on Rose Street from 10 pm to 2 am, Spears said.

The Cosmo Club supports their various outings by having fundraisers, such as the European Pastry Cafe which is held in the Student Center for one week.

The Cosmo Club meets in the basement of Bradley Hall. Membership for the club is \$5.

"Last semester, the Office of International Affairs said they didn't need the room, so we use it as a lounge room," Abdul-Aziz said. "We have a few pieces of furniture, shelves, and we may get a computer database."

This "Cosmo Lounge" is also homebase for the Cosmo Club's bi-weekly meetings.

Cosmo's next meeting will be Wednesday at 7:30.

COSMOnauts
For more information on the Cosmo Club, call Mark Spears at 237-3347, Marvin Bosman at 237-5811, or attend the club's next meeting, Wednesday at 7:30 in Bradley Hall.

"We usually get new people at every single meeting. It's really a multicultural group and we encourage everyone to come," Abdul-Aziz said.

Cosmo member Julia Schubert, a library science graduate student, heard about the club in International Student Orientation when she moved here from Germany in August.

"It's really interesting to have fun with all different kinds of people," Schubert said.

Schubert says her best experience with the Cosmo Club was camping at Mammoth Caves, where everyone sang their countries national anthem around a campfire.

"I've met a lot of people and it's nice to go somewhere else for the weekend, get out of Lexington," Schubert said.

Schubert says that "it doesn't make a difference whether we are from one country or different countries, just as long as we have fun."

O.J. case brings more gore

By Linda Deutch
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — O.J. Simpson averted his eyes and a prosecutor warned the victims' relatives, "You don't want to look," as the most gruesome photos yet of the bloody, crumpled bodies were shown to the jury in full color yesterday on a 7-foot screen.

The photos of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman were the backdrop as the first police officer on the scene early on June 13 took the stand, offering new details that may enable the defense to cast doubt on the estimated time of the murders at Ms. Simpson's condominium.

Among those details: A container of Ben & Jerry's ice cream was melting in the kitchen, and candles were burning in Ms. Simpson's bathroom as the tube, full, as if she had been planning a candlelit bath when death came to call.

But under prosecution ques-

tioning designed to anticipate another Simpson line of defense, Officer Robert Riske stressed that he never stepped in the blood, that he warned others not to tread on it and that he didn't touch any evidence.

He also described finding bloody footprints, as well as a knipecap and — perhaps most significant — a single bloody glove near a bush.

The defense has suggested that a racist detective moved one of two bloody gloves from the murder scene and planted it on Simpson's estate. The defense also claims police handled the evidence so sloppily that it can't be trusted.

Riske, under questioning by prosecutor Marcia Clark, gave the defense an opening when he was asked if he had been trained at the Police Academy in how to preserve a crime scene.

"They kind of gloss over it," admitted Riske, a patrolman with four years of experience at the time of the crime. He said he

learned the task on the job, handling some 15 homicide cases.

Under cross-examination by defense attorney Johnnie Cochran Jr., Riske also acknowledged that some investigators walked near the bodies and other evidence without wearing shoe booties or gloves, and that the phone inside Ms. Simpson's condo wasn't dusted for fingerprints before he used it.

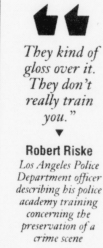
The melting rate of ice cream is expected to be a key defense point as Simpson's lawyers try to show that the victims were not slain at 10:15 p.m., as the prosecution contends, but later in the night when the former football star was on his way to the airport for a flight to Chicago.

Riske recalled that he found the cardboard container of Ben & Jerry's ice cream on a banister at about 12:35 to 12:40 a.m.

"And at that time the ice cream had not fully melted," Cochran asked.

"No, not in my opinion," the officer said.

Cochran tried to use Riske to show evidence was tampered with. The officer, viewing photos of the crime scene, said it appeared that the envelope and glove were in different positions at different times.



Robert Riske
Los Angeles Police Department officer describing his police academy training concerning the preservation of a crime scene

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Judge allows lawyer to deny fat jurors

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Prospective jurors can't be rejected because of race or sex. But it's OK for a lawyer to remove a woman if he thinks she's too fat or doesn't like her clothing, a state appeals court says.

A prosecutor's explanation that he removed one juror because she was "grossly overweight" and wore "a little tiny skirt that doesn't fit her" was legally adequate, the 1st District Court of Appeal ruled.

That prosecutor, Alameda County Deputy District Attorney William Tingle, said he removed a second juror in that attempted murder case because she wore braided hair, which he considered "some what radical," and dropped a third because of "braids, obesity, size, manner of dress."

He told the trial judge he was uncomfortable trying a serious case before jurors with those characteristics. The judge accepted the lawyer's explanation as a valid, non-racial reason for rejecting the juror. The appeals court upheld the decision last week.

Tingle also said the jurors were young and there-

fore lacked "life experience."

All three prospective jurors were black, as is Tingle and the defendant, Larry Gilbert.

The appeals court said Tingle had satisfied legal standards by giving non-racial reasons for removing the jurors. The ruling noted a 1989 state Supreme Court decision that allowed a prosecutor to remove a juror who was "overweight and poorly groomed, indicating that she might not have been in the mainstream of people's thinking."

A jury that included one black convicted Gilbert of robbery and attempted murder for shooting a man in the back in 1992.

Defense lawyer Julie Schurmer said she would appeal to the state Supreme Court.

Tingle told The Recorder, a legal newspaper, that he has certain standards for judging black jurors, and believes young, large black women tend to sympathize with defendants.

The jurors were removed during peremptory challenges, in which each side gets to dismiss a certain number of prospective jurors without stating any reasons.

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Viewpoint



Give students a choice

Kernel logo with 'KerNerCKY' text. Below it, 'Established in 1894 Independent since 1971'. Then 'EDITORIAL board' with a list of names: Brian Bennett, Trent Knuckless, Lance Williams, Mary Madden, Perry Brothers, Stephen Trimble, Ty Halpin, Matt Felice, Carrie Morrison, John Kelly.

There is a reason why many students don't enjoy living in residence halls. That reason is a stifling lack of freedom. Rules restricting noise, alcohol and opposite-sex visitation are just a few examples. And now, if a Residence Hall Association proposal is approved by the administration, students will have even less choices to make. RHA is asking students if they would pay an extra \$72 for a new cable service for all residents, providing voice mail for every room and adding several features such as call waiting to every phone. On the surface, this proposal sounds pretty good. After all, the services offered are popular ones, and the cost does not seem too high. However, when you look under the surface, the proposal is a little troubling. As Brad Eggert, RHA president, said, one drawback of the proposal is that all of the services would be mandatory. In other words, every student in every residence hall would have to pay \$72 a semester more for the services, regardless of whether

they wanted the features. What about students who don't own televisions? Or students who have answering machines and don't want voice mail? Sorry, but they'd have to pay up, too. "I understand that some people who don't have televisions in their rooms don't have any use for the cable television, and I understand that some people already have answering machines and don't feel voice mail is necessary," Eggert said. "But we're talking about future residents here, four years down the road. When those students come here, this is something that is going to make residence life something to them. So students today should cough up an extra \$72 so that students in the future would be more attracted to residence halls? Hmmm. Hey, Brad, we got a better idea. If you want to make residence halls more attractive, don't charge students for services they might not want or even be able to use. Give them some choice.

IN OUR OPINION

Don't drop hints, because I'll miss them every time

A friend of mine, this girl he was attracted to (though I was not aware of this at the time) and I were hanging out in the courtyard one night around midnight, telling odd stories and throwing lumps of grass at each other. He seemed just a little less friendly than usual — his jibes were particularly pointed — but I thought he was just hassling me good-naturedly, so I stayed around and traded barbs for a while, because contests of wit and verbal legerdemain are good fun as far as I'm concerned. Later, he admitted to me that he had been trying with all of his might to persuade me to show off so he and his friend could become better acquainted (i.e., romantic-like), but that I was being so colossally dense that I didn't catch his meaning. I told him he was an idiot. I apologized for not leaving him alone, because I didn't want to get a friend's way, and I certainly didn't want to impede a fellow male's quest for conquest, but I reminded him that he never did make it clear what he wanted. What was all the artifice for, anyway? How very difficult would it have been for him to pull me aside and say, "Hey, John, I'm trying to get to know this girl a little better, and it'd be really nice if you'd well, you know, extricate yourself."

malicious with a point. Every now and then, some disturbance in the Force will percolate through my thick head, and I'll suspect that someone is trying to hint at me, but usually, I have no clue. Sometimes, I can be so lost in the ozone layer that I suspect that someone is trying to hint at me, but usually, I have no clue. The easiest way to hide something from me is to place it directly in front of me; I will end up searching for hours. On the rare occasion that I do figure out what's going on (a situation rarer than my sister likes her steaks cooked), I will specifically and obstinately do everything that I can conceive of to avoid doing what I'm being hinted to do. I don't get the opportunity very often, but it's tremendously fun watching people squirm, thinking, "Damn, why doesn't that idiot Abbott get a clue!" Ah, but in this case, I do, and I don't care. I can wait just as long as you feel it necessary to avoid being straightforward. Do me the honor of speaking plainly to me, punk. I suppose it's naive to think that people, generally duplicitous creatures, are going to be honest with me unless I figuratively put a gun to their heads, but a boy can dream, can't he? Dreams are an attractive refuge when the world starts to suck too much. Maybe I'll get stung for this tendency toward lofty idealism, but that'll be my problem, not yours. People who wish I'd leave them alone, and do everything short of whacking me soundly over the head with a lead pipe to try to get rid of me, soon discover how disturbingly oblivious I can be, and are eventually forced to cast about for a suitable length of paper. I wish they wouldn't do this to me, because not only are they wasting their time constructing these elaborate plans to shoo away me, they're also wasting my time by fooling me into thinking that they enjoy my presence. I'd much rather spend time with people who want to have me around. Both of them (Hi, mom! Hi, dad!).



John Abbott, Kernel Columnist

Every now and then, some disturbance in the Force will percolate through my thick head, and I'll suspect that someone is trying to hint at me, but usually, I have no clue.

READERS' forum

More respect should be shown for St. Patrick

To the editor: I am writing in regards to an article written by Sports Editor Brett Dawson in the Monday edition of the Kernel. Mr. Dawson was trying to give praise to instate ball players, such as Vondale Morton. Morton is a great player and deserves all of his accolades. Dawson had to praise him at the expense of another school. That other school was my alma mater, Maysville Saint Patrick. It was upset by his comment, "My 10-year-old cousin could post up St. Patty's center" for two reasons. The first was the way he made St. Patrick sound inferior, not to Lexington Catholic (as a team) but to Vondale Morton (as an individual). I am not trying to

take anything away from Morton, but basketball is a team sport. St. Patrick must have been doing something right or they would not have won the 10th region or made it to the second round of All "A" State Tourney. For that, St. Patrick also deserves some praise. The second reason his comment upset me is because of the lack of respect. Not because he showed no respect to the ball team, but the disrespect he showed to the school by calling it "St. Patty." (Patty is short for Patricia, Pat is short for Patrick. If you wanted to refer to it in a more informal sense you should have called it St. Pat). St. Patrick is a Catholic school in an Irish Catholic Diocese. Hence, the name St. Patrick (after the patron saint of Ireland). The reference of St. Patty shows disrespect to the ideals that the school was founded upon. This lack of respect also is reflected upon in the Catholic faith. St. Patrick (the man) was extremely holy and he too deserves some respect. I was hon-

Residence halls a perfect home

To the editor: After reading Michelle Gibbons' article on Tuesday about "homeless" students at UK, I wanted to make sure that you were aware that for 5,000 students, the University residence halls are home. Many make the choice to continue living in the halls after their first year at school. A perfect example is the young lady in the article, Teresa Bruneau. She chose to return to the residence halls this year. I agree that the off-campus housing guide will be very beneficial to many students, especially to those individuals who are not very familiar with the Lexington area. However, not all of the 5,000 residents will need it. A good number are very happy in their "home away from home."

Todd Curtis, Marketing freshman

Brad Eggert, Residence Hall Association president

Chancellor should be selected on qualifications

Currently, some people are calling (more like terroristic threatening) for blacks and women to be included in the search for a new chancellor for the Lexington Campus. Who cares if the most qualified people make the final list as long as that list is politically correct? Don't get me wrong, I know that there are plenty of truly-qualified black and female candidates who would excel at the job. That is not what bothers me. I feel that the most qualified individual, best suited for the job should get the job, irregardless of race and gender. Not someone meeting the secret politically-correct formula of race, gender, political views and hatred of Western culture. The ultimate goal of U.S. society, since the Civil War and the suffrage movement, is to ensure

that everyone is judged on their merits, not their physical appearance. This belief in color and gender blindness, advanced by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., means that everyone should be admired for what they have accomplished and the content of their character, not valued as a means to fill a quota. How more demeaning and belittling can the liberal elite be when they contend that people need quotas to be competitive in American society? This notion only reinforces perceptions of differing abilities between groups; it does not help tear down these stereotypes. These "elite" intellectuals need to realize that personal accomplishment is what raises one's self worth, not a quota. People need to know that they have earned their position, not have it handed to



Chris Payne, Contributing Columnist

them because of race or gender. UK can step into the forefront of this movement by insisting that only candidates who display exceptional ability make the finalist list. This new-found dedication to having the best administrators and faculty that UK can recruit will only reinforce the stated desire to provide the best services. Instruction available. This is not a step back; rather it is a giant leap forward in cultural thought. UK will become a beacon to the nation that says excellence does pay, hard work is rewarded and that preferential treatment will not be tolerated for anyone. UK should break free from the shackles of the Council on Higher Education, laughing at the attempt to impose quotas on the administration, faculty, staff and students of the eight-stated supported universities. To meet the 1996 targets, with the budget as tight as it is, UK will have to replace current employees with minority employees for no reason other than their race or gender. If they meet the CHE-mandated goals, UK will lose its soul to "improve" its cultural appearance. Making it another faceless victim of the PC inquisition. But if UK does "Stand Out," it should not become the willing accomplice to liberal social engineering and all the pitfalls which seem to follow. Universities are supposed to bring out the better qualities in individuals, not stifle

INFORMED SOURCES "JESUS LOVES this I know. And I think he watches the show."

Rush Limbaugh, conservative commentator, quoted by a spokeswoman, after learning that a Christian television station dropped his show because some viewers were offended by his occasionally off-color humor.

TALKback!

Readers may submit letters to the editor as guest opinions to the Viewpoint page in person or by mail. Address your comments to "Letters to the Editor", Kentucky Kernel Editorial Editor, 035 Enoch F. Grehan Journalism Building, UK, Lexington, Ky. 40506-0042. Send electronic mail to KERNEL@ukcc. Letters should be approximately 250 words; guest opinions should be no longer than 850 words. Include your name and major classification (for publication), as well as your address and telephone number for verification. Frequent contributors may be limited, and we reserve the right to edit all material.

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