

KENTUCKY KERNEL

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UK football player arrested on stalking charge Friday

By Kenny Colston
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UK junior safety Ashton Cobb was arrested Friday on charges of stalking, terroristic threatening and harassing communications, according to Lexington Police.

The Aliquippa, Pa., native was arrested from his home on State Street at 4:35 p.m. Friday. Police received a complaint from Cobb's ex-girlfriend, leading to his arrest.

The university has suspended Cobb, Brooks said in his post-game news conference Saturday after UK's 41-3 win over Western Kentucky. He declined to comment further. Cobb was not in uniform during Saturday's game.

"He is suspended by the university and he has a hearing (in court) on Monday," Brooks said. "And that's all I'll say on that."

Cobb emerged from spring practice to claim the starting job at strong safety, a spot he held until last week. On Tuesday, head coach Rich Brooks moved sophomore Matt Lentz to the top position on the depth chart, benching Cobb. Cobb has nine tackles on the year and one fumble recovery that he returned 28 yards for a touchdown against Louisville. As a sophomore, Cobb made 42 tackles as a reserve, good enough for second among all UK defensive backs in 2007.

"It's crazy because he's on the football team, he's a big guy, but you just don't make those kinds of problems," junior running back Alfonso Smith said after Saturday's game. "I'm sure he'll learn from this and we're going to stand behind him as a team and keep him in our prayers."

Judge postpones gaming case

By Jill Laster
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FRANKFORT — During a hearing Friday, a judge issued a continuance on a case to would give control of 141 gaming Web sites to Kentucky.

Franklin Circuit Judge Thomas Wingate gave a continuance on the state's case to shut down the sites in Kentucky Friday to give himself and the representatives of Web sites more time to analyze and file motions on the state's push to take control of the illegal sites, he said.

Wingate scheduled a hearing for Oct. 7, and legal motions from both sides are expected to file this week.

Kentucky seized the domain names of 141 illegal gambling Web sites as a result of a ruling last week in Franklin County Circuit Court. Kentucky is the first state to take such a step, according to a news release from

Gov. Steve Beshear's office.

Such a move lacks legal precedent, lawyers representing the Web sites argued Friday. The court also lacks the authority to rule on such a case, they said.

"No one has said the jurisdiction is as broad as the Commonwealth has made it here," said Alison Lundergan Grimes, a lawyer representing Netherlands-based goldencasino.com. "You have to follow proper procedure."

Attorneys representing Kentucky's Justice and Public Safety Cabinet said Kentucky had the jurisdiction to protect its borders. They also pushed multiple times for names of those who own the gaming sites.

Grimes and others did not give names. When addressed by the prosecution, Grimes reiterated that she represented the owners of goldencasino.com without elaborating.

Between 10 and 20 spectators watched Friday's hearing from the gallery, including gaming organization representatives and community members. 2007 UK alum Jay Springate, an online gamer in attendance, said "it would be naive to think there won't be a political backlash" from the state's case.

"I'm outraged by the actions of the governor and disappointed that he'd be wasting (taxpayer) money when we're in an energy crisis, a financial crisis," Springate said.

Some gaming Web sites have denied Kentuckians access by notifying current account holders and not allowing new Kentucky users, said Jennifer Brislin, spokeswoman for the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet. The Web sites are being blocked based on the IP addresses of the users.

One example cited by the

cabinet is goldencasino.com, which notified account holders Tuesday that users' accounts were being closed and the site will "no longer accept play from residents of Kentucky."

Whether Kentuckians who continue to use the Web sites will be targeted by Kentucky hasn't been brought up, Brislin said.

"That's nothing that's been discussed," Brislin said. "That's not something I know the cabinet or the Commonwealth will pursue."

Justice and Public Safety Cabinet Secretary J. Michael Brown said after the hearing the state will push for damages due to the state's loss in gaming revenue, although recovering money is not the focus of the suit.

"I think the key issue is whether Kentucky stands defenseless in the face of legal activities," Brown said. "I think the answer is no."

NEWS BRIEFS

SG to host new library hours forum tonight

Student Government will host a forum Monday on W.T. Young Library's limited hours of operation.

During the forum, at 8 p.m. in the Student Center Small Ballroom, participants will discuss the recent changes to the library's hours of operation. Due to budget cuts, the W.T. Young Library closes at 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday instead of offering 24-hour service.

The forum will most likely be limited to students, said SG President Tyler Montell. During the discussion, Montell said he wants students to learn about the issues and brainstorm solutions.

Somewhere UK needs to have a late-night spot for students with no Internet access, even if that space is smaller than the W.T. Young Library, Montell said.

Within the next few weeks, Montell said he would like to hear the university's plan to address library closures.

"I want the university to say, 'We've evaluated the problem. We've come up with some kind of solution,'" he said.

UK issues advisory after exposure report

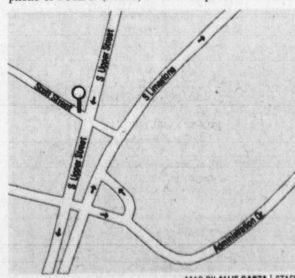
UK Police issued a safety advisory after a report of indecent exposure in the Scott Street area of campus on Friday.

A male driving a gray sedan reportedly exposed himself to a female subject while asking for driving directions, according to a UK news release.

The man is described as white, in his late 30s or early 40s, about 5'11" and of medium to heavy build, according to the release. He also has short brown hair, a medium complexion and some facial hair.

He was last seen wearing a dark T-shirt and dark shorts, driving a newer four-door gray sedan.

As of Sunday night, no arrests have been made. All sightings of someone matching this description should be reported to UK Police by dialing 911 from a campus phone or RUKPD (48753) from a cell phone.



MAP BY ALLIE GARZA | STAFF
Map of South Upper Street, South Limestone and Scott Street, where an indecent exposure was reported Friday.

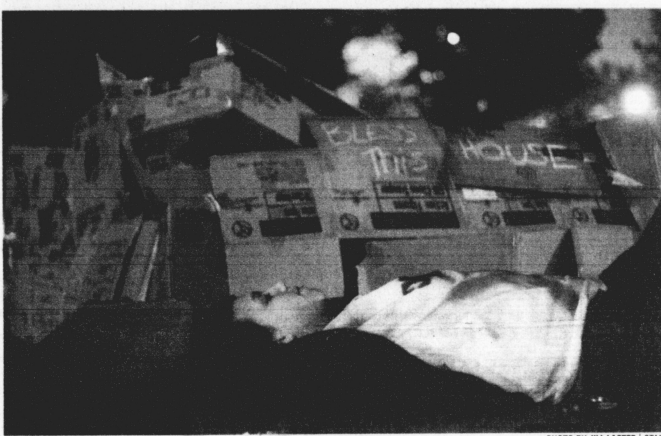


PHOTO BY JILL LASTER | STAFF
Eastern Kentucky University junior Amy McCoy rests next to her cardboard shelter during Saturday's "Displace Me" event on Haggin Field.

"Displaced" on Haggin Field

Students build imitation refugee camp to raise money, awareness

By Hannah Ockerman
news@kykernel.com

With hundreds of cars leaving the football game and the bright lights of the W.T. Young Library overhead, Haggin Field may not have looked much like a refugee camp. But that didn't stop students from sleeping on the field to support a cause.

About 50 people participated in "Displace Me," aimed to draw attention to the country of Uganda, which has been dealing with the effects of a long war.

The event, in its second year at UK, raised over \$400 in donations, said event coordinator Jessica Kane. The money will help build schools, hire teachers, buy textbooks, and provide clean water and sanitation for the Lacor Secondary School in Uganda.

During the event, sponsored by Invisible Children UK, students built shelters out of cardboard boxes to show the living conditions of those in displacement camps in Uganda. The students slept in the shelters overnight and were served crackers and water by organizers to mimic scarcity of food in the camps.

Dressed warmly, students used the time to participate in activities such as watching the "Invisible Children" documentary, about displaced children in Uganda.

Though it was chilly, participants kept a positive attitude, Kane said.

See Displace Me on page 8



PHOTO BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF
Stephanie Smider, a special education freshman, sprays paint a stencil of Africa onto a T-shirt while students set up cardboard houses on Haggin Field during Displace Me on Saturday night.

World's food inequality focus of dinner

By Ashley Gatlin
news@kykernel.com

A group of students will find out Monday night that counting calories is not just for people trying to lose weight.

For the fourth year, UK's Honors Program is providing a dinner for the World Food Issues classes (HON 111 and 115).

During the dinner, at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the E.S. Good Barn, about 65 students in three World Food Issues classes will be given different amounts of food

depending on which country they are representing.

The poorest countries will be served a cup of rice and a glass of water, and the middle-income countries will get rice, beans and a drink. The richest countries that typically eat more meat and sugar will be served Kentucky Fried Chicken, complete with all the sides and soft drinks.

Other students are invited to attend, although there will not be enough food to serve additional people, said Todd Pfeiffer, professor of one of the World Food

Issues classes.

The World Food Issues classes deal with the eating habits of different people around the world. The first class in the series deals with the historical aspect of eating habits and how habits have become what they are today.

The dinner is designed to simulate how different people around the world eat, Pfeiffer said.

Students will be able to personally experience who is overfed and who is underfed by the amount of calories they intake per day, he said.

SUDOKU

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Horoscopes

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

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 7 — They say opposites attract, so don't get into a snit if you encounter a person who seems to be simply contrary. Listen, watch and smile. You'll be irresistible.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 6 — It will take enormous determination to get even your regular chores done. Or you could hire somebody else to do them. Even on a tight budget, it's justifiable.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is an 8 — You and your loved ones want so many things. You have great fantasies. You can't afford everything now, so set priorities. Devise a plan.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) —

Today is a 5 — You don't always have to be sick to use one of your sick days. Maybe you just need to catch up on your reading. That's a good excuse.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is an 8 — A new topic holds your attention, possibly to the detriment of all your regular chores. Better call and reschedule your deadlines.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Looks like the money's coming your way, but don't tell anybody. Wait until the contract is signed, which shouldn't be very long.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is an 8 — You're gaining confidence, and that's good if you don't overdo it. Sure, you're great. Also be a nice person. But don't gamble with the rent.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 5 — It's perfectly normal for you to want to hide out every once in a while. Go to your secret place, hang out your sign and lock the door behind you. No visitors allowed.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

— Today is an 8 — Meetings will go well, if you limit the time each person has to express his or her great ideas. Two minutes each is good. If you don't set limits, they'll ramble on forever.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 6 — Assume more responsibility. It probably won't mean more work. It could mean more money, but that's not a sure thing either. Do it because you're needed. And because you're good.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 9 — Sure, there might be a few complications arising later on, but this is a marvelous time to begin just about anything. You've waited long enough.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 5 — You'll be able to do the numbers to figure out where you stand. This is not your favorite job, but it's good to have it done. And you should have the patience now. Hang in there.

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Leighton's untold story

THE DISH

The Gossip Girl's parents — once imprisoned — turned life around for their daughter

Gossip Girl fans expecting Leighton Meester to flash a glimpse of her conniving character Blair Waldorf's — deliciously bitchy behavior were bound to be disappointed at the Sept. 20 Kids for Kids Celebrity Carnival in New York City. Grinning through the event, which benefited the Elizabeth Glaser — Pediatric AIDS Foundation, the actress, 22, told Us that playing the hit teen drama's pampered troublemaking princess was a challenge. "I clearly wasn't an 'Upper East Side kid,'" admitted Meester, who brought along boyfriend Sebastian Stan. "It's hard for me to relate to people who were born with silver spoons in their mouths."

Indeed, Leighton Meester's April 9, 1986, arrival into the world was anything but privileged. Her mother, Connie, was pregnant with Leighton when she entered federal prison in Fort Worth, Texas, and, at 29, gave birth while she was just beginning a 10-year sentence for her involvement with a drug ring that smuggled tons of marijuana into the States. At 26, Leighton's father, Doug, had also been arrested and had served time for marijuana possession with the intent to distribute.

"Anything that her — mother and I did that was questionable occurred — before she was born," Doug, who split with Connie, now 51, in 1992, tells Us. "She got where she is today because she's talented and obviously motivated." Says Connie to Us: "She's very gifted, she's very talented, she's very intelligent. I love her dearly."

But the lessons of her parents' sins have stayed with her, Leighton tells Us. "It's more like my parents' past, not mine," she says. "But it

makes me very — nonjudgmental and open-minded. And I think it just makes me appreciate the things that I have now."

Today, Doug works in construction and Connie is a screenwriter, but the lives they lived when Leighton was born could make for a juicy true-crime novel. As early as April 1980, according to court documents, while Connie's family was — living in Valdosta, Georgia, she helped smuggle — 1,200-pound shipments of marijuana through her mother's magazines.

"Every question I've ever asked her — life questions, personal stuff like boyfriend advice — she's always had the right advice for me."

By age 11, "I realized acting was what I wanted to do," Leighton tells Us. Her dad "stayed in Florida while my mom took me to New York." But Leighton is quick to say that Connie was never a stage mom. "Every time I went to an audition, she always said, 'If you don't want to do this, we can leave right now.'"

In 1999, at 13, she scored a one-scene gig on Law & Order as a dead teen's classmate. Looking for more acting work, Connie took Leighton to California and enrolled her in Beverly Hills High. She didn't exactly fit in with her wealthy classmates at school (other famous alumni include — Toni Spelling and Angelina — Jolie). "Most people there have a lot of money, and my family really didn't," Leighton says.

"They'd be making fun of my clothes or my bag or whatever." And then, in 2007, came her big break: the snobbish Blair on the CW's Gossip Girl, which Leighton fought hard for, even dyeing her then-blonde hair brunette in the middle of the audition process to win over producers.

and they made a fresh start in Marco Island, Florida.

"We had a normal house and station wagon," Doug tells Us of their early days together. In Marco Island, Leighton was able to form a strong bond with her mom, who, along with Doug, became a real estate agent. "I swear, that woman knows everything," says Leighton, who tells Us she first became interested in Hollywood glamour by flipping through her mother's magazines.

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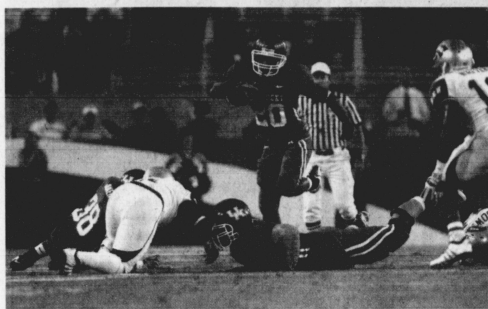


PHOTO BY BRAD LUTTRELL | STAFF
Sophomore running back Derrick Locke carries the ball against Western Kentucky during UK's 41-3 victory at Commonwealth Stadium on Saturday. Locke had a 100-yard kickoff return for a touchdown.

UK runs over Western in first ever meeting

By Bobby Reagan
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Before UK and Western Kentucky collided Saturday night at Commonwealth Stadium, UK head coach Rich Brooks knew the Hilltoppers were on a mission to make a statement.

During his weekly news conference on Monday, Brooks said he wanted to make sure the only statement made by WKU (2-3) would be the fact that it is the program's first visit to Commonwealth Stadium. With the No. 2 Alabama Crimson Tide looming next week, the Cats did just that.

"I think we made some progress," Brooks said. "Did we make as much as I want? No. But, the good news is we're 4-0 and we couldn't expect to be better than that."

The Cats (4-0) were able to get it done with a dominating defense and the help of the self-proclaimed "Fantastic Four" of Derrick Locke, Tony Dixon, Alfonso Smith and Moncell Allen to defeat Western Kentucky 41-3. All four running backs found the end zone Saturday night in front of 70,731 fans at Commonwealth Stadium.

Redshirt freshman kicker Ryan Tydlacka, who replaced junior Lones Seiber on place-kicking duties, put the Cats up 3-0 on the first UK drive. In light of UK's kicking woes from two weeks ago, the boot earned an ovation from the crowd comparable to the showing by J.B. Holmes and Rajon Rondo in the east end zone in the first quarter.

"One good thing that happened offensively is that we scored on our first possession," Brooks said. "It was a field goal, but we scored."

Dixon became the first of the running back committee to find his way to the back of the end zone on a 1-yard plunge in the second quarter. The score topped off a seven-play, 38-yard drive and put the Cats up 10-0.

However, the Cats began to struggle with dropped passes and a lack of production for the majority of the first half. The Cats came out rolling in the second half on offense, but not before Locke made his presence known.

After Western's Tanner Sievert kicked a 50-yard field goal for the Hilltoppers, Locke returned the ensuing kickoff 100 yards to give the Cats a 17-3 lead and the momentum back in their favor.

"I knew if we could score right before half then get the ball back and do it again, it'd be icing on the cake," Locke said. "The momentum changed big time and it just worked out so scored on that return."

It was the Alfonso Smith show to start the third quarter as he sparked the Cats to a four-play touchdown drive. Smith began the drive with a 17-yard carry before snapping off a career-long 35-yard touchdown run to put the Cats up 24-3.

"We knew we had to come out strong the second half and put these guys away quick," Smith said. "Our line blocked great and the hole was there for me to hit."

Hartline had his most successful drive of the game, going 4-of-6 for 39 yards and a touchdown at the end of the third quarter. Hartline was able to set up a play-action pass for a 2-yard touchdown

throw to Allen.

The defense, which continued its impressive start to the season, didn't give up a touchdown for the third time this season. In fact, they were able to hold the Hilltoppers to minus-five passing yards in the first half. WKU finished with only 15 passing yards, the lowest total against UK since the Cats held Vanderbilt to three passing yards on Nov. 5, 1994.

"This is new Kentucky," junior defensive end Jeremy Jarmon said. "We just go out there and play and have fun."

Jarmon, who set the tone of the game with a sack on the first play from scrimmage, said there is a swagger among the defense along with a close-knit bond. The UK defense has held all four opponents this season without a rushing touchdown. It is the first time the Cats have accomplished that feat since the final four games of the 1994 season.

"We have a bond because we feel like we're one unit," Jarmon said. "If something happens to one guy someone is going to step in because we're closer than we have been in the past."

The Cats will have to maintain their swagger defensively, and a new sense of confidence on offense to succeed in the Southeastern Conference, sophomore quarterback Mike Hartline said. Hartline finished the game 19-of-30 for 172 yards, including a touchdown and an interception.

"Personally, I felt I played a little sloppy and made some mistakes," Hartline said. "But, we're 4-0 and to win like this going into SEC play gives us even more confidence."

During a day of upsets, Cats make it through with ease

Shakeup Saturday was ruthless. Eight Associated Press Top 25 teams lost, including three top-10 teams. Florida lost to Ole Miss 31-30 in all places. The Swamp, Georgia, in front of 90,000-plus fans decked out in all black in Athens, Ga., got absolutely slaughtered by Alabama. Wisconsin, another top-10 team, thought it was going to escape Ann Arbor, Mich., with its first win at Michigan in over a decade. Then the Wolverines scored 20 unanswered points in the fourth quarter and walked away with an unbelievable victory.

If only Southern California had played on Saturday. The top-ranked Trojans were shocked at Oregon State on Thursday night, but apparently that was just a preview of what was to come.

Saturday, in other words, was brutal. If you played, you weren't safe. If you played the odds in Vegas, your pockets were definitely not safe. It was just one of those days.

The good news: UK escaped Shakeup Saturday with relative ease, as it should have. The Cats took it to in-state foe Western Kentucky from the start, thrashing the former Football Championship Division (formerly Division I-AA) team 41-3.

UK did it with yet another dominating defensive performance. The Cats defensive unit surrendered just 157 yards of total offense. Only 15 of those came through the air, the lowest total since the Cats allowed three passing yards against Vanderbilt in 1994.

They also didn't allow a touchdown for the third game of this young season. In all they've given up two, which account for 14 of the anemic 22 points opponents have tallied on the Cats thus far.

More good news: The running game finally showed up. UK's quartet of running backs broke through with 188 yards on the ground Saturday night, and each found the end zone. When they weren't finding the end zone, UK was finally making its field goals. Redshirt freshman Ryan Tydlacka, making his first career start at place kicker for the struggling junior Lones Seiber, nailed both his field goal attempts, including one from 45 yards.

Add in quarterback Mike Hartline's steady, albeit unspectacular performance, and you've got a pretty long list of things to feel

good about after the first part of the season. "I'm just pleased to get the win," UK head coach Rich Brooks said. "The first phase of our season is complete, we're 4-0 and we couldn't expect, I don't think, to be any better than that obviously."

Now for the bad news: Although the score was 41-3 — a romp by all means — it wasn't always pretty at times. The offense put together its most complete game so far, but it still looked sluggish at times.

Hartline overthrew E.J. Adams in the first quarter for an early interception. He almost did the same thing in the second. And when he was on target, his receivers weren't always catching them.

And 41 points is impressive, but one of those scores came via a Derrick Locke 100-yard kickoff return. Two other drives started in Western's territory.

More bad news: It was just Western. Not to dog on the program, but the Hilltoppers are not even two years removed from the Football Championship Subdivision. One of UK's other wins came against Norfolk State, who actually plays in the FCS. The other two wins are nothing to write home about either. But ultimately, the real bad news didn't even happen from inside Commonwealth Stadium. Alabama, the team who might have highlighted Shakeup Saturday's huge wins, man-handled the nation's preseason No. 1 team. The Crimson Tide blitzed Georgia for 31 first-half points before holding on to a 41-30 victory.

To quote a famous saying: They're baaaaaack.

"We know Alabama is a tough team," safety Marcus McClinton said. "Alabama is getting back to (being) the old Alabama."

If that's the case, and Alabama is even half as good as it looked Saturday night, then is UK good enough to even hang with the Tide?

As I've emphasized all year long, the Alabama game is UK's first true test. What happens in Tuscaloosa, Ala., could swing UK's season one way or another. The Cats have improved through their first four games, as was indicated Saturday night, but will it be enough?

"We're going to go to a place down in Alabama that is going to be very, very difficult, obviously," Brooks said. "Could be two undefeated teams on CBS next week, and the good news Kentucky is one of them."

To be undefeated after Shakeup Saturday is good news indeed.

Eric Lindsey is a journalism senior. E-mail lindsey@kykernel.com.



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UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Parent Association

Despite missing a top player, the Cats defeat Alabama

By Alex Risen
arisen@kykernel.com

The Cats (3-5-2, 1-0-1 Southeastern Conference) opened their conference schedule against the Auburn Tigers (4-4-2, 0-0-1 SEC) and Alabama Crimson Tide (6-3-1, 1-1-0 SEC), without one of their top players.

Sophomore forward Laura Novikoff was forced to sit out against the Crimson Tide on Sunday after she suffered a broken nose against Auburn on Friday.

Novikoff, who leads the team with five goals, caught the back of an Auburn defender's head while trying to head the ball in during the second overtime against the Tigers with just 3:22 remaining during the Cats 0-0 tie.

"I just went up for the ball and wanted to end the game," Novikoff said. "Instead of hitting the ball I hit the defender's head and now I have to wait for a mask before I can play again. I should be back on Friday against South Carolina."

The absence of Novikoff did not slow down the Cats offense however, as they defeated the Crimson Tide 2-0, in a physical battle.

UK was able to draw five fouls on Alabama in the first half, one of which led to the first of UK's scores.

Senior midfielder/defender Kristin Kover buried a penalty kick past Alabama goalie Kara Gudmens to put UK up 1-0 with 10 minutes remaining in the first half. The kick was awarded after Gudmens tripped UK forward Klondra McGee inside the box.

"I was just excited to get my first goal of the season and put us up 1-0," Kover said. "Klondra did all the work, I just finished it."

UK outplayed Alabama as the Cats earned six corner kicks to the Tide's one. The Cats also outshot the Tide 17-8.



PHOTO BY KRISTIN SHERRARD | STAFF
Sophomore forward Giuleana Lopez battles for a ball during UK's 2-0 win over Alabama on Sunday.


Sophomore forward Giuleana Lopez put the Cats up 2-0, 12 minutes into the second half on an assist from senior defender Kate Hughes. "Katie just put in right between the goalie's legs and as soon as I saw it I thought free ball," Lopez said. "I knew I could just slam it into the net so I made sure I put it away. I was excited to get my second goal and I think I'm getting comfortable now."

The Cats defense flexed their muscles by not allowing a shot on goal until there was nine minutes remaining in the half and posted their second consecutive shutout.

"We're coming together now," UK head coach Warren Lipka said. "Sydney posted two shutouts this weekend and our backs and midfield are really starting to get comfortable. It's

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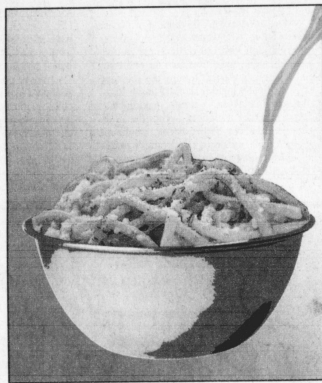
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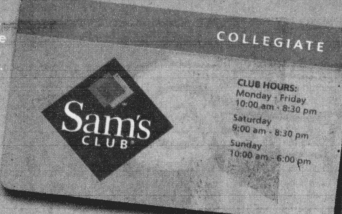


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■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

State's online control opens doors for future regulation

Kentucky has found itself in the fold of what could turn out to be an international online gaming dispute. And it's dug itself into a pretty deep jurisdictional debate.

The Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet claims the state has the jurisdiction to protect its borders, the Kernel reported Wednesday — including all that goes on within its boundaries.

In efforts to protect its citizens and its economy, the state government filed a suit to force 141 online gambling sites to block access to Kentucky users or relinquish control of their domains, the Wednesday article stated, meaning no citizen using the Internet in the state can gamble on these sites.

But international gambling Web sites, which Kentucky is trying to seize operation of by court order until they stop operating within the state, disagree. In fact, they say the state has overstepped its authority.

"No one has said the jurisdiction is as broad as the Commonwealth has made it here," said Alison Lundgren Grimes, a lawyer representing Netherlands-based goldencasino.com in a Kernel article Monday. "You have to follow proper procedure."

Protection is something citizens can get on board with, but this level of control of something like the Internet, which all people around the world have a fundamental right to see and use to their discretion, causes worry.

"This really ought to be a national discussion — the Internet is national and international," said UK media law professor Richard Labunski in Wednesday's article.

The Kernel agrees. In a state that thrives on the Thoroughbred racing industry — an industry deeply rooted in gambling — it is a bit hypocritical for Gov. Steve Beshear to want to outlaw one form of gambling in an effort to protect another. Horse racing does help the state's economy, yes. But it's hard to think that online poker is going to be the downfall of Keeneland Racetrack or Churchill Downs.

But perhaps more worrisome than the governor's attempt at "protecting" the state's citizens by limiting these gaming sites, is the desire to put any sort of limitation on Kentucky residents' Internet use.

Once these restrictions start, it's hard not to wonder where they'll stop. Soon will it be against the law to purchase items from Amazon or eBay because citizens aren't buying locally? Will the government cite economic or protection concerns then as well? And will it continue? In a state economy that thrives on the coal industry, will anti-coal blogs soon come into question?

Regulation may begin with these 141 gambling Web sites, but if passed, this suit opens big, heavy doors — hard-to-close doors — of what could be restricted for Kentucky citizens.

■ LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Madness crowd proves how great UK's fans are

Through the years UK basketball fans have shown time and time again why they are the most spirited and die-hard fans in the country. Big Blue Madness every year is one of the main ways they show their pride and this year was no different.

Tents lined the perimeter of Memorial Coliseum days in advance of tickets for the October event going on sale Saturday at 7 a.m., and thousands more anxiously sat at their computers logged on to the Ticketmaster Web site hoping to get lucky. I chose to do the latter and was fortunate enough to grab four tickets just seconds after the clock hit 7 a.m. However, I was not surprised when I got an error on the Web site and my order was lost. Two minutes later I tried again and no tickets were to be found. Some 23,000-plus seats were filled in minutes.

As disappointed as I was to wake up for no reason at 6:30 a.m., which is unusual for me, I also realized this proves UK basketball has the greatest following in the nation. I won't be sitting in Rupp Arena on Oct. 10, as the players get introduced and the crowd is going insane, but I will still be proud to be apart of the greatest fan base in college basketball.

Brandon Mattingly
journalism junior

Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Brad Bowling. 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

Cartoonists Needed

The Kernel is looking for a cartoonist 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.

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Columnists Needed

The Kernel is looking for a columnist to write 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 columnists of all interests will be considered.

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NATE BEELER, The Washington Examiner

U.S. Citizens need to know what's really important for election vote

One of the defining characteristics of humanity is the variety of skills among its members. Some people are artisans adept at using their hands to create.

Others use their mind to design robots to travel and explore other planets. Not everyone can excel at every possible human pursuit though, which leaves us dependent on others to keep society operating at peak condition.

However, in America, it is important that everyone has some competency in certain areas. To function well, people need to be able to read and perform mathematics at certain thresholds, but more importantly, they need to be able to think logically. America is a democracy. As such, it is dependent on having an intelligent voting base making decisions, or else massive problems begin to arise. Unfortunately, our country is currently mired in a cycle of cunning politicians continually running a ruse on a poorly informed populace.

Solid decision-making requires that the thinker have enough information about the subject to understand the issue. When it comes to modern politics though, the average person simply does not have even the basic knowledge necessary. Studies have gone so far as to suggest that only two out of every five Americans can even name the three branches of government. Without even knowing such a simple fact, how can

one possibly hope to understand any of the complexities of modern government that should form a voting opinion?

It would be a disaster if a group of people who didn't even grasp Newton's three laws were asked to design a new car. They simply do not have the basic learning to think wisely on the issue. However, this is exactly the type of scenario happening in modern American politics. And as a result of people not understanding the real issues, politics has devolved into a maddening game of trickery and waste.

People, when lacking enough information, will seek out some alternate means to make a decision they feel they can justify. The modern politician is happy to oblige this need. Instead of focusing their campaigns on their specific opinions people may not understand, today's elections encourage politicians to focus on all the things that really mean nothing. One of these is the fact that every politician is obsessed with proving to the public that they are just like the average Joe, even when clearly they are not. George W. Bush won the Presidency twice by accomplishing this, despite the fact that his family history suggested he was clearly not "just like us".

By framing their campaigns in such a way though, politicians have also invited negative feedback through the same channels. When Barack Obama had a bad game of bowling, it became a political issue. People openly debated if he could relate to the common man. In an election for the presidency of the United States, whether someone can roll a ball well down a greased lane does not matter, but it does since almost everyone can relate and have an opinion on that issue.

It is much more likely that a person

understands the game of bowling than the current economic crisis. So politicians and the modern media, both wanting the public's attention, give the people what they like and understand. It is a lot easier to grab someone's attention on TV with a debate on Sarah Palin's appearance than an intensive discussion on her views concerning free trade.

The media is the prism through which American society views the political spectrum, and by politicians encouraging the discussion of true non-issues, they have invited the media to do the same. It works well for both though, since such topics are where they can find common thread the largest percentage of the population. Why waste time trying to appeal to the well-informed voters when they are such a small part of the overall electorate?

Democracy is founded on the need for responsible citizenship, and when that does not exist, the exact problems we have now come to exist. Nothing will change the shape of political discourse in America except better education on civic matters from the bottom up. If one doesn't understand the basics in a subject, they will not only be unable to understand the complexities, but they will be unengaged by them and will not even attempt to grasp them. Unfortunately, unless the people of this country decide for themselves that they want to improve our democratic process, nothing will change. Politicians need to appeal to the people, and as long as we allow them to make their pleas away from the facts and ideas that matter, we will receive nothing else.

Tim Riley is a mechanical engineering senior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

'Green' needs to have real meaning

The social movement characterized by a respect for the environment and a desire to minimize the human degradation of the earth's plants and animals, known today as the green movement,

has been apart of the American cultural consciousness since the eras of Thoreau, Emerson, Muir and other 19th century conservationists.

The establishment of Earth Day in 1969 was the hallmark of the environmental movement in the 20th century and the release of Al Gore's documentary, "An Inconvenient Truth," in 2006 gave the green movement the energy and public awareness needed to finally become part of mainstream society. The success of grass-root organizations in making cities more environmentally friendly, with Portland, Ore. and Oakland, Calif., are excellent examples of the tangible, positive effects inspired by the recent wave of eco-consciousness among American citizens.

Here at UK, a proposed green fee has been supported by students and the current Student Government. Sustainability issues have received the attention of the administration, although adequate funding for these issues is lacking. On a national level, advertising and labeling products as "green" has

increased immensely in the last several years. The presidential campaign of Barack Obama, who supports alternative energy and other environmental issues, has particularly energized the trend toward going green, especially among college students.

But what exactly is the green movement? Along with being a synonym for several complex and varied ecological philosophies, a popular T-shirt suggests, "Green is the new Black." This begs the question: If green really is the new black, does it risk having the same fate as the peace sign, a symbol which in the 1960s and early 1970s made a radical and coherent political statement, only to become a ubiquitous and relatively meaningless logo that adorns everything from purses to pocketknives?

The biggest downfall of the recent green fad lies in its apparent justification of consumerism, which is ultimately what has put our planet in its present condition, however bleak or rosy you believe it to be. The most environmentally friendly way to live, although impossibly difficult, is to consciously consume as little as possible from sources as close as possible. However, this green idyll is unattainable, as well as undesirable, for the majority of Americans.

Instead, many people have chosen to purchase products labeled as being green or with a "going green" slogan printed on them to show their support for the movement and make a choice they believe to be environmentally friendly or sustainable. Although there is certainly no harm

caused by this, upon scrutiny it causes one to ponder if the vast array of green products have cheapened the philosophy, "reduce, reuse, recycle," with the order being of importance, that lies at the heart of the environmental movement.

It is doubtful that green products have been so heavily marketed only to fulfill the needs of millions of consumers who have had an epiphany and gained a deeper ecological perspective on consumption and that the planet and will accept no less than 100 percent green products. It stands to reason that, as usual, corporations both large and small are taking advantage of an opportunity for profits by tweaking their products and marketing a novel idea to customers that makes them feel good about what they're buying.

Again, there is not necessarily any harm done, but it is perhaps akin to taking one step forward and two steps back, as it allows people to feel accomplished by being passively green, often without thoroughly examining the root causes of environmental problems. On the other hand, there are people who genuinely incorporate the green attitude into as many aspects of their lives as possible and who do so for the rest of their lives. Unfortunately, when green is the new Backstreet Boys and no longer a common feature on television, magazines and clothing, these true believers in green will likely find themselves and their cause as lonesome and isolated as pristine old-growth forests east of the Mississippi River.

Mark Wetherington is a journalism senior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.



MARK WETHERINGTON
Contributing columnist

'Guitar Hero' gives rock a pulse in generation of new music

Since the turn of the millennium, rock music has been on its deathbed. But its revival may have arrived in the form of a video game.



MATT MURRAY
Kernel columnist

In a decade where hip-hop and R&B music dominates the Billboard Top 40, Activision's "Guitar Hero" series has created a place for rock music to be appreciated again.

The music industry is constantly changing with the introduction of new technology such as the YouTube Web site and peer-to-peer file sharing programs, and "Guitar Hero" has shaped a new way for the struggling industry to generate revenue.

Just how successful has "Guitar Hero" been? According to Rolling Stone, the series has sold over 20 million copies since the original "Guitar Hero" was released in 2006. That is the equivalent of going 20 times platinum in the scheme of record sales.

The series also seems to have the support of some of the genre's greatest, most respected artists, so much so that Aerosmith agreed to allow a version of the game to be made that solely included their songs and songs by bands that had either influenced them or opened for them on tour. Not only was it a huge success, but it also made more money than any album they had ever released.

The beauty of what "Guitar Hero" accomplishes is multidimensional. Not only does it bring back old classics, but it's also a new outlet for exposing the songs of newer, lesser-known artists. Rather than just listening to the songs it lets users interact with these songs, while at the same time gaining a sense of respect for the musicianship behind them. Many of its tracks have become household titles when they otherwise may have just fallen by the wayside had the music industry remained in the same state it was three years ago.

While album sales have been suffering, "Guitar Hero" allows users to purchase new songs as they are added to its online store. This means that music releases are no longer confined to the boundaries of CD releases. First were records, then tapes, CDs, MP3s and now music can be purchased in video game format. Metallica's "Death Magnetic" marked the first time an album could be purchased in playable form on the same day as its actual CD release. Two weeks after its release, "Death Magnetic" rests at the top of the Billboard Top 200, beating out R&B and hip-hop artists Ne-Yo and Nelly, who otherwise may have claimed the top spot.

In a generation where a single by Metallica or Aerosmith would sound out of place in the top 40, sandwiched in between MileY Cyrus and Chris Brown, "Guitar Hero" is the new haven for rock, and every fan of the genre has a new hope of its revitalization thanks to the series.

Matt Murray is a journalism sophomore.
Email features@kykernel.com.

Hip-hop to headline events throughout the week on campus

By Kelly Wiley
features@kykernel.com

Mondays can be depressing, but when the week is devoted solely to music, it might make it a little easier to get through. That is what the Cats Den is hoping for when it kicks off hip-hop week Monday.

"Name that Tune" trivia will start off the week Monday night at 7 in the Cats Den. Jeremy Ridgeway, co-organizer for hip-hop week, said the trivia will explore pop culture within the hip-hop community to see which students know the most.

"We want to give those who know hip-hop the chance to showcase their skills and show the knowledge of what they know," Ridgeway said. "It will be a learning experience going back to the beginning of hip-hop."

Zeph Bostow, an English junior, said the event should be really interesting and the intensity of the trivia really depends on what kind of hip-hop music they pick. If it is more radio hip-hop then it should be easier, but if it is going to be indie or various other subgenres of hip-hop

then it will be more challenging for students.

On Tuesday, the poet Black Ice will showcase his skills in the Cats Den at 8 p.m. Ridgeway said he is well-known in the poetry community, and for students that know poetry this will be a good combination of poetry and hip-hop.

Wednesday students can show off their skills at the "Top MC Battle" in the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center at 8 p.m. Students can put their talent to the test in front of an audience to see who is the best.

"This is a free style battle where two people are face to face, and they freestyle about

stuff that comes to the top of their head," Ridgeway said.

Students can free style about whatever they choose, Ridgeway said. It can be issues that are going on currently in the world or even what the other person looks like.

Thursday will be "Hip-Hop Beyond Beats and Rhymes" at 10 p.m. in the Student Center's Worsham Theater.

Ridgeway said he hopes the week will cause students to think about the hip-hop community and the different forms of music found within hip-hop. He wants this to be a community event where students from all backgrounds feel welcome.

Hip-hop week events

Monday	Wednesday
What: "Name That Tune" trivia	What: "Top MC Battle"
When: 7 p.m.	When: 8 p.m.
Where: Cats Den	Where: Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center
Tuesday	Thursday
What: Poetry reading by Black Ice	What: "Hip-Hop Beyond Beats and Rhymes"
When: 8 p.m.	When: 10 p.m.
Where: Cats Den	Where: Worsham Theater

DISPLACE ME

Continued from page 1

"Without passion there, it would have been quite miserable," she said.

Junior Ashley Crawford, who went to last year's event, said it was watching the "Invisible Children" documentary that motivated her to try and help Uganda's displaced children.

"Once you hear about it, it's a cause you can't help but

get involved in," Crawford said. "The war and aftermath has been going on for 23 years and nobody's heard about it. It's shocking that it has been going on for so long."

At about 2 a.m., participants observed 23 minutes of silence. The silence represented the 23 years of war and post-war effects on the country of Uganda.

Kane says her favorite part of the night, next to the minutes of silence, was when a man came and played bongos. He came in the early

morning, so students woke up to the sound. He continued to play as everyone packed up and started to leave.

Kane, a senior, said while she won't be here to put it on, she absolutely expects the event will take place next year.

Sitting in his cardboard shelter with five friends, freshman Andy Lewis said he was there to support an important cause.

"It's a global issue, and I think people need to really pay more attention to it," he said.

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Monday 29 th	Tuesday 30 th	Wednesday 31 st	Thursday 2 nd	Friday 3 rd	Saturday 4 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Real Men Wear Pink, www.UKAGR.com •Solar Car Team Meeting, 7:00 PM, DV Terrell Engineering Building (Behind Funkhouser) •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League •National Student Exchange Info Session, 3:00 PM, 102 Miller Hall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League •Honors Program Student Council Meeting, 7:30 PM, Student Center 231 •Interviewing 101, 12:00 PM, Raymond Bld, Room 112 •Real Men Wear Pink, www.UKAGR.com •NABJ Meeting, 5:00 PM, Maggie Room, Grehan Building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Real Men Wear Pink, www.UKAGR.com •ART@NOON: THE ART OF MATTHEW JOUETT, 12:00 PM, Rose St & Euclid Ave •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League •Fellowship of Christian Athletes, 8:00 PM, Room 211 of the Student Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Interviewing 101, 3:30 PM, Career Center •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League •Campus Crusade for Christ, 7:30 PM, Centre Theatre in the Student Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League 	<p>Sunday 5th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UK Trap and Skeet Practice, 7:00 PM, Bluegrass Sportsman League