



Home Alone 6
The empty campus

I'm sure most of you went home this past weekend to spend time with your family and loved ones and I hope you enjoyed it. However, I was stuck up here on campus the entire weekend, but it was my own fault so I'll just drop it and hope you feel sorry for me. I did have a nice weekend though, especially Friday night out with my friends, but I'd rather not get into that because I don't feel like incriminating them or myself. This weekend gave me some time to think of activities to keep you entertained if you ever find yourself alone on campus.

With hardly anybody in Holmes Hall, they'll need someone to yell out the windows at all the drunks walking along Limestone. If you've never witnessed this, your experience here at UK is incomplete.

The empty campus is a perfect place to try out the Razor scooter or in-line skates you got for Christmas that are too embarrassing to use.

By the way, take extreme caution when walking on campus alone; one person is not enough to keep the squirrels at bay.

This is also a great opportunity to clean up that room of yours. Notice how I say "yours" and not mine. It takes a lot more than boredom and loneliness to get me to clean.

I suggest going out and renting all those movies you were too self-conscious to watch with friends. I really want to see how bad of a movie *Battlefield Earth* actually is.

I should have cleaned out my e-mail account with 834 unread messages, which is good compared to my friend with more than 3,000. I also suggest e-mailing a certain rail editor at your school paper, but that's just a thought.

I know that some of us, especially me, could use a tan on our shimmering white bodies. I need more light shining on my body than my TV alone can deliver.

Finally, the most important rule when you find yourself on an empty campus: CLOTHES ARE TOTALLY OPTIONAL.

-Jonathan Ray
rail_editor@hotmail.com

THE '41'

Tomorrow's weather



39 28
Hi Lo

Oh no! Where did the pretty weather go? Come back, please!

Kentucky Kernel

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ESTABLISHED IN 1892
INDEPENDENT SINCE 1971

News tips?

Call: 257-1915 or write:
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KERNEL

April 16, 2001

EARTH DAY SERIES 2001

ENVIRONMENTALLY FUN

Going to greenways



The Greenspace Commission has proposed a greenway near North Elkhorn Creek and some Indian burial grounds off Newtown Pike.

NICK TOMCEK | PHOTO EDITOR

Rethinking land use: Cities seek to revitalize, protect natural treasures with modern trails

By Becky Heisel
STAFF WRITER

Some host scores of joggers, rollerbladers and casual strollers.

Some provide greenspace to beautify towns.

Some protect wildlife habitat and water quality.

Greenspaces popping up all over the nation serve multiple purposes, but they all have one thing in common:

"They just benefit everyone," said Kathleen Williams, director and president of Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation.

The foundation Williams works for has led the burgeoning greenspaces and trails movement in Tennessee. Sometimes, Williams said, the greenways are in places "where people don't even know a river existed."

"They are exposing people to so much," she said.

Lisa Hite, planning administrator for the Louisville Development Authority, agreed that greenways bring people to unfamiliar places.

"They can see parts of Louisville they can't see from the road," she said.

Louisville has several projects completed and on the way. One project, the Riverwalk trail, travels along parks and suburbs along the Ohio River. A small path on Beargrass Creek called Butchertown Greenway will soon join it.

Hite and other inspired public officials hope to see Beargrass Creek, an urban creek with a list of environmental problems, restored and incorporated into the city's developing greenways system.

"The more greenways we get in and the more connected they are, the more we see people out on weekends and holidays," she said. "We see families out using them, especially on the recreation areas."

That's good for local business and tourist destinations, said at least one person.

"We've been open for about a year and two months, and just about every day people are stopping over for water or ice tea or lemonade," said Trey Dennis, manager at the Java House Harriet Tubman Cultural Center. The center sits near the Riverwalk.

Several outdoor and recreational developments have opened their doors near greenways in Chattanooga, Tenn., Williams said.

The greenways have done much more than add help just a few businesses, she said.

"Downtown Chattanooga was blighted, but because of Tennessee River Park it's had complete turnaround," Williams said.

The 20-mile greenway has the longest pedestrian bridge, called Walnut Street Bridge, in the country, Williams said that because of the bridge, \$30 million has been invested in Chattanooga downtown.

"Their city just had a rebirth," she said.

Lexington to adopt greenway trend

Piece of the pie: Trails could provide new recreation opportunities, boost local economy

By Becky Heisel
STAFF WRITER

In a town where preservation is a fighting word, greenways just might be neutral territory.

The Lexington Greenspace Commission plans to incorporate miles of greenway trails into the city, connecting downtown to the edges of the county and beyond.

"I've just really gotten convinced that this is going to be a great thing for Lexington," said Doug Greene, Lexington's Greenspace Planner and a central figure in the local greenways movement.

"These trails are going to give Lexington a new type of public space to get back together as a community."

Bike and walking trails will connect areas in town, and hopefully encourage people to use them for daily commutes instead of driving.

"Right now in Lexington the only way to travel is by car," Greene said. "We love it, we're stuck on it."

A new demand for greenways could not only provide an alternative to Lexington's crowded streets — it could turn a profit for some local businesses.

Joey Ward, department store manager for Dick's Sporting Goods, thought that sales of biking equipment and hiking supplies, along with workout wear would increase. He believes greenways are a much-needed commodity for Lexington.

"I think there's a void in this town of a lot of outdoor activities such as bike paths and walk paths," Ward said. "All there is to do right now is restaurants. Greenways gives them something to do outside."

The attractive trails could also boost the value of homes located nearby.

"Greenways have a positive influence on land values. It's a comfort amenity," said Matt Miniard, senior residential appraiser, and chief appraiser with Bluegrass Appraisal Service Inc. "(It is) much more comfortable to

back up to a greenway, especially if you have kids."

Of course, that amenity could be a double-edged sword, Miniard said.

If you are going to buy greenspace, then you are going to make homes in Lexington more scarce," Miniard noted. "Less homes, more money to buy them."

Greene said the Greenspace Commission had considered that aspect of greenways.

"We're developing this system on non-developable, unusable land," he said. "We want to reuse and retrofit land here in Lexington, not take it away from anybody."

Some people in greenway communities have also voiced concern about vandalism and other crimes on greenways. The Lexington-Fayette Police Department does not believe the trails will be a safety issue, though.

"We don't have any special concerns about the safety of the greenways," said Major Bill Thompson of the Bureau of Patrol.

Of course, users should be aware of their surroundings, just as they would anywhere else, he said.

Benefits of greenways

Environmental

"Securing a green area just for wildlife space and water quality improvement is so important," said Lisa Hite, planning administrator for the Louisville Development Authority.

"It allows wildlife to migrate, it keeps populations genetically healthy and keeps water cleaner by filtering out pollutants."

Recreation and healthy lifestyles

Greenways offer people the chance to exercise in scenic and natural areas. It's a cheap way to exercise for anyone.

Economic

A 1992 National Park Service study reported the average user spends more than \$11 a day at the Tallahassee-St. Marks Trail in Florida, where approximately 170,000 people visit every year. Businesses in Louisville, Indianapolis and Chattanooga, Tenn., have reported economic benefits of being located close to greenways.

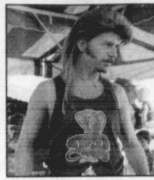
Transportation

Residents of northern Indianapolis suburbs can take the 7.5-mile Monon trail to work downtown. Indy Greenways, the office that operates Indianapolis' greenways, reports thousands of users per day during warmer months.

Floodplain management

Floodplains, low-lying areas where water flows into or floods, can absorb large amounts of rainwater that in heavily-developed areas can cause massive damage to homes. The Lexington-Fayette Urban-County Government identified floodwater management as a major reason to develop a greenway system.

Sources: Greenways, Inc.; Indy Greenways; additional reporting by Becky Heisel.



Eat Dirt

New Spade movie falls short of former endeavors | 2

http://www.kykernel.com

LISTEN UP

Forum will get students to think 'out of the box'

By Scott Sloan
STAFF WRITER

Patriotism may run high in the United States, but Americans are not liked around the entire globe.

Two speakers will address this issue as it relates to the Middle East at a forum tonight sponsored by the UK Student Coalition for Peace.

The forum will primarily address the opposition to the legacy of western imperialism in the Middle East and the state of today's Third World liberation struggles.

The speakers at the forum are Riffat Hassan and Tom Pearce.

Hassan, a professor of religious studies and humanities, currently serves as chairperson of the religious studies program at the University of Louisville. A well-known Islamic feminist, Hassan is a spokesperson for liberal or progressive Islam.

She also serves as a consultant to a number of international agencies and women's organizations.

Hassan was born in Pakistan and said being a Third World person would add a new dimension to the forum.

"I hope that the students will find it stimulating and ... get a different perspective," Hassan said.

Pearce rose to national prominence during the Gulf War as a member of the National Student Coalition Against the War in the Middle East.

Pearce plans on drawing connections with situations that have taken place in Central America and Africa.

He hopes the forum will give students a glimpse into the political future.

"We will be living in a world where the gaps between the haves and have nots is very wide," he said.

Trevor Sanders, a history and French senior and the event's organizer, said the forum will shed new light on the struggles.

"Both speakers will make people step outside of the box and ... turn things on their head," he said. "It will definitely open people's minds."

Sanders said the speakers will complement each other.

"They're going to bring different perspectives together and weave ... a vision of the conflict," he said.

KUDOS

Kernel summer and fall editors selected

STAFF REPORT

Ashley York, a journalism junior, was named 2001-2002 Kernel editor-in-chief by the Kernel Board of Directors Thursday.

She said she couldn't be happier.

"I'm absolutely delighted — I love the Kernel," she said. York said she has several ideas for the next academic year.

"I'm especially looking forward to working closer with the staff," she said. "It's going to be a great year."

York is an assistant news editor and will take over the leadership at the Kernel from the current editor-in-chief, her sister Amanda.

"I am very proud of my sister and look forward to seeing the Kernel grow under her leadership and guidance," Amanda York said.

Also on Thursday, Scott Sloan, a journalism and political science sophomore was named 2001 summer Kernel editor-in-chief.

"It will be an incredible summer, covering the administrative transition from Webington to Todd," he said.

Sloan is currently a staff writer. The Kernel will interview students for section editor and beat reporting positions this Thursday. Ashley York said she encourages anyone interested to apply.

Applications for section editors and beat reporters for the summer and fall are available in the Kernel newsroom and business office. The Kernel is located in the basement of the Grehan Journalism Building.

"If you are remotely interested in journalism, the Kernel strongly encourages you to come by and talk with someone here," Ashley York said.



Ashley York

SOMEWHERE ACROSS THE SEA.

The Americanization of Bridget



Renee Zellweger slips into an English accent alongside Hugh Grant in the film version of the best-selling novel *Bridget Jones's Diary*.

PHOTO FURNISHED

By Paul Haker
STAFF WRITER

Another best-selling British novel that was big on both sides of the Atlantic has been turned into a movie with an American playing the lead role. *Bridget Jones's Diary* is based on the novel by Helen Fielding, which is based on her column in London's "Independent" newspaper.

Renee Zellweger comes off her Golden Globe win in January with a movie that might garner another nomination, deserved or not. Although she worked with the same dialogue coach that transformed Gwyneth Paltrow into an English-woman for *Shakespeare in Love*, Zellweger's British accent is the worst since Madonna decided she was British.

Thankfully, she's the only American cast in a major role. Appearing to enjoy himself more than in previous films, Hugh Grant does a superb job as Bridget's boss and lover Daniel Cleaver. The clever casting lies in Colin Firth, who plays Mark Darcy. In the novel, Bridget's character obsesses over a character in a British miniseries, who also

happens to be named Darcy and was played by Firth.

The film starts off with a hung over Bridget attending a New Year's party with her parents. Her mother introduces her to Darcy, famous barrister, or lawyer, who is wearing an embarrassing Christmas sweatshirt made for him by his mother. After she mocks it, Bridget decides she hates Darcy. She then decides to start a diary because she felt unless she changed her life, she would die alone, destined to be eaten by dogs. She also resolves to lose weight and to give up drinking and smoking as she sips her wine and lights a ciggie.

After Cleaver comments on Bridget's attire, or lack thereof, in the work place, Bridget imagines herself married to Cleaver. She then manages to get drunk and sleeps with Cleaver at a party where Darcy is also in attendance.

Predictably, Bridget finds herself caught between two men who had fought over a woman before. At first, the movie keeps pace with the novel but quickly neglects to update the viewer on Bridget's weight and alcohol units consumed throughout each day, which gave the book a

unique twist.

The movie also leaves out some of the more amusing moments, such as when Bridget finally gets to the perfect weight and everyone tells her how horrible she looks.

Although Zellweger tries her best, she isn't the best one suited for the role. She never seems quite embarrassed enough in instances where she's dressed as a Playboy bunny at a fancy party, botches her first story as a reporter or in her immodest clothing sliding down a fireman's pole. Calista Flockhart, who has been compared to Bridget Jones several times as "Ally McBeal," would have done a much better job with probably a better accent. Hiring Helen Baxendale of "Friends" fame would have given the film a cast that was entirely British.

Despite Zellweger's daft accent and immodesty, the film was enjoyable and the predictable end had an unpredictable route of arriving there.

If the movie makes enough money and the cast has another go, the supporting cast will have another chance to outshine Zellweger's American acting. Bigger.

Rating: B-

PLAY SOME SKYNYRD, MAN

'Dirt' sinks to new depths

By Matt Mulcahey
SCENE EDITOR

I have never walked out of a movie. Never. And I've seen some all-time turkeys at the multiplex. I sat through *Cabin Boy*, *Clifford*, *Almost Heroes* and *Double Team* without skulking out.

I didn't walk out of *Joe Dirt*, but I should have. I stayed until the end because that's my job. I sit through terrible, boring, unbearable movies to tell you how horrendous they are so you don't have to find out for yourself.

Most people have better things to do with their time than suffer through a bad movie. I, however, do not. So instead of just telling you "For the love of God don't see this movie" I'm actually going to write about the plot and throw out some clever diatribes for your entertainment.

Joe Dirt is the story of a quintessential redneck's search for his parents who abandoned him at the Grand Canyon when he was eight. Apparently, Dirt (David Spade) just kind of wandered the land for the duration of his childhood like some kind of Johnny Moron Seed.

The story unfolds in flashback as janitor Dirt reveals his tale of woe on the air to a radio shock jock (the usually funny Dennis Miller going down in flames).

Being the film was executive produced by Adam Sandler, the brand of humor in store shouldn't come as any surprise. But no matter how idiotic and mindless Sandler's films, they are usually funny.

Joe Dirt is not. The film basically consists of

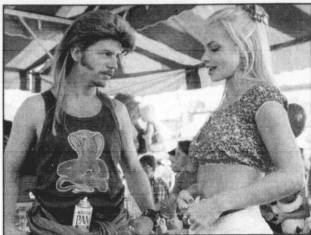


PHOTO FURNISHED

David Spade and Jaime Pressly are part of an incest subplot in the new ode to bad taste *Joe Dirt*.

fart jokes (cow farts, no less), frozen airplane poop jokes, mobile home septic tank jokes and dog testicle jokes (think Jeff Daniel's tongue from *Dumb and Dumber*).

Spade's character, with his mullet wig (don't ask), acid-wash jeans and Def Leppard T-shirt, is more pathetic than humorous. Spade only plays one character well: the smart ass. The same character that worked in *Tommy Boy* and to a lesser extent in *Black Sheep*, *Senseless* and *PCU*. The same character he plays on "Just Shoot Me." The only character he's ever played with any success.

Since I had to sit through the entirety of this fiasco, I came up with some of my own little games to entertain myself. I tried counting the excrement jokes, but just couldn't keep up.

For a while I tried to think of comedies that are worse than this one. *Hot to Trot*, the *Police Academy* sequels, *Carrot Top in Chairman of the Board*,

Chevy Chase movies from the last decade, etc.

After that I tried to decide at exactly what point Fred Ward stopped being a respected actor (*Short Cuts*, *The Player*, *Henry & June*, *The Right Stuff*) and started appearing in movies like *Road Trip* and *Joe Dirt*.

At the end, I came up with some new movie laws. One: No matter how god-awful a movie is, Christopher Walken is fun to watch.

Two: David Spade should stick to being a smart ass.

Three: Carson Daly and Kid Rock should never again be allowed to appear in a movie.

Even the type of low-IQ rednecks that the film lampoons won't find it funny. They'll find themselves scratching their mulleted heads on the way to their Trans Am thinking "There goes an hour and a half of my life and seven bucks. I could've spent on Pabst Blue Ribbon."

Grade: F

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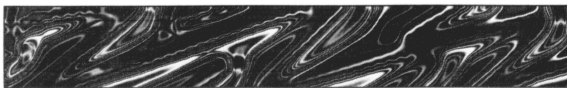
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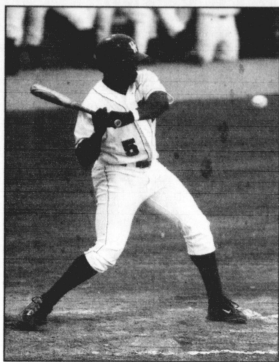


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UK 6, VANDY 4

UK takes series 2-1



FILE PHOTO

UK shortstop Vince Harrison hit a home run against Vanderbilt on Friday. Harrison was four for 12 on the weekend as UK won the series two games to one.

By Ron Cox
STAFF WRITER

With their 6-4 win on Friday, the UK baseball Wildcats won the three-game series with the Vanderbilt Commodores after a 7-1 victory Sunday at Cliff Hagan Stadium.

"I really feel like Friday and today we put it all together," UK coach Keith Madison said. "We had solid defense, got good pitching and hit the ball well."

The Bat Cats (17-22, 5-13) got a brilliant pitching performance from left-hander Bryan Felkel (3-0), who picked up his third win in as many starts.

Felkel went six innings allowing two hits and one unearned run while striking out three.

making his longest appearance of the season. "Felkel had a good fastball, and when he locates his fastball he's very good," Madison said. "It was good to see him give us six (innings). That was a big lift for us."

After allowing Kevin Geshke to start the game off with a single, Felkel held the Does hitless until Chris Broadus knocked a single with one out in the sixth inning.

"In the fifth inning, I started getting really tired," Felkel said. "They threw me back out there in the sixth, and I gave it all I had. That last pitch was one percent of what I had left."

The Does only run came in the second inning. With a runner on first and two outs, catcher David Wallace whacked a line drive to UK right fielder Gordon Tyler.

Tyler misjudged exactly where the ball was and it smacked him on the head. John Kaye was able to score from first and Vandy took an early 1-0 lead.

And as it always seems to happen, the player who commits a seemingly costly error has a chance to make amends, and this case was no different.

Tyler was the first to bat for the Bat Cats in the bottom half of the same inning, and he sent a Chris Mauls pitch over the left field fence, tying the game at one.

"You feel the pressure after you make a big error," Tyler said. "When I came to the plate, I took advantage of a good pitch."

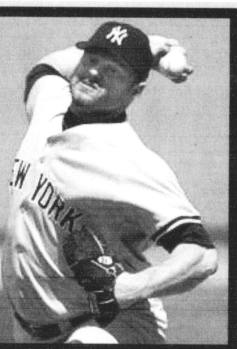
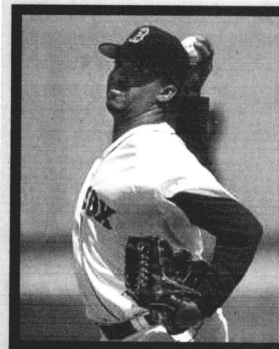
The Cats scored one in the next inning, and two more in the fifth, making it a 4-1 game.

Sophomore Joseph Blanton came in to relieve Felkel, and found himself in a tight spot in the eighth. With two outs, Vandy collected three straight infield singles to load the bases.

But Blanton, who picked up his second save, got John Kaye to ground harmlessly to Vince Harrison, who pitched the ball to Brad Pickrell for the force out at second.

The Cats sent eight batters to the plate in their half of the eighth, with three crossing the plate for a final score of 7-1.

Next up for the Bat Cats will be a couple of in-state rivals. First, a road game against the Louisville Cardinals on Tuesday at 6 p.m. followed by a home game against Western Kentucky on Wednesday at 6 p.m.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pair of aces

Pedro Martinez, of the Red Sox, and the Yankees' Roger Clemens went head-to-head Saturday. Martinez allowed two runs on six hits with ten strikeouts in seven innings. Clemens allowed two runs on five hits in six innings. Alfonso Soriano's 10th inning homer won the game, but Boston took a 2-1 series lead after Sunday's 5-4 win. The teams finish the four-game series at Fenway Park at 11:05 a.m. for Boston's Patriots Day.

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Campus Calendar

April 16 - April 22, 2001

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Call 257-8867 for more information.

Mon 16

MEETINGS
*Freshman Prayer, Campus Councils for Christ, Spm, Episcopal Church
*UK Male Six Team Mtg., 8:30pm, 2nd Floor Commons, Markler 303A, unless otherwise indicated
*United Student Against Smoking Mtg., 7pm, 228 Stud. Ctr.

SPORTS
*UK Male Club, 5-8:30pm, Alumni Gym Left

LECTURES
*Zai Hecker "House of the Book", 5:30pm, Perms Hall Rm 209

SPECIAL EVENTS
*Solid State Performing Medicine Society, 8:30 Club, 7pm, Stud. Ctr. Warehouse Theatre
*From the Heart, Palestine, and the Middle East: Securing the Movement Against the Learning Agency of Women Transformation and Today's World: American Struggles, 8pm, 817 Young Library Auditorium

ARTS/MOVIES
*UK Women's Club, 8pm, Singletary Cr. RH

INTRAMURALS/RECREATION
*UK Aikido Club, 8-9:30pm, UK Alumni Gym Left

Tues 17

MEETINGS
*Orientation for Intercollegiate & Shooting, 12pm, 101 Student Ctr. Wm. West, 100 Westwood, 10:15-10:30am, 201 Young Hall

SPORTS
*UK Female Club, 5-8:30pm, Alumni Gym Left

LECTURES
*Solid State Performing Medicine Society, 8:30 Club, 7pm, Stud. Ctr. Warehouse Theatre
*From the Heart, Palestine, and the Middle East: Securing the Movement Against the Learning Agency of Women Transformation and Today's World: American Struggles, 8pm, 817 Young Library Auditorium

ARTS/MOVIES
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INTRAMURALS/RECREATION
*UK Aikido Club, 8-9:30pm, UK Alumni Gym Left

Wed 18

MEETINGS
*UK Male Club, 5-8:30pm, Alumni Gym Left

LECTURES
*Solid State Performing Medicine Society, 8:30 Club, 7pm, Stud. Ctr. Warehouse Theatre
*From the Heart, Palestine, and the Middle East: Securing the Movement Against the Learning Agency of Women Transformation and Today's World: American Struggles, 8pm, 817 Young Library Auditorium

ARTS/MOVIES
*UK Women's Club, 8pm, Singletary Cr. RH

INTRAMURALS/RECREATION
*UK Aikido Club, 8-9:30pm, UK Alumni Gym Left

Thurs 19

MEETINGS
*UK Male Club, 5-8:30pm, Alumni Gym Left

LECTURES
*Solid State Performing Medicine Society, 8:30 Club, 7pm, Stud. Ctr. Warehouse Theatre
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INTRAMURALS/RECREATION
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Sat 21

MEETINGS
*UK Male Club, 5-8:30pm, Alumni Gym Left

LECTURES
*Solid State Performing Medicine Society, 8:30 Club, 7pm, Stud. Ctr. Warehouse Theatre
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UK
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Sun 22

MEETINGS
*Newman Center Mass, 9am, 11:30am, 5pm, and 8:30pm
*Nelson Baptist Church, Hillside/Jewish Stud. Org., 12:30pm, Manhattan Bagel on Richmond Rd.
*Phi Sigma Pi Mtg., 7pm, 230 Stud. Ctr.
*8:12 University Worship Service, 8:12pm, Southside Church of Christ
*Bible Study: Jesus the One and Only, Uplink Campus Ministries, 5-7pm, Calvary Baptist Church
*Romans Bible Study, 8:30pm, Baptist Stud. Union Chapel

SPORTS
*UK Aikido Club, 5-7pm, Alumni Gym Left

ARTS/MOVIES
*Floyd Collins Musical, 2pm, Guignol Theatre, call 257-4929 for tickets
*Senior Recital, 8pm, Singletary Cr. RH
*Jazz Concert, 8pm, Singletary Cr. RH

INTRAMURALS/RECREATION
*UK Aikido Club, 1-3pm, UK Alumni Gym Left
*Recreation Night, Uplink Campus Ministries, 7pm, Calvary Baptist Church Rm. & Outreach Ctr.
*Tennis Doubles & Mixed Doubles Tournament



A bug of a time...

Bug wars finds win for roaches

SAN DIEGO - Cockroaches 1, Tenants 0. Eighteen bug bombs meant to rid an apartment of cockroaches set off an explosion that ripped open its ceiling, shattered windows and tore cabinets from kitchen walls.



PHOTO FURNISHED. Too many bugs.

No one was injured, though three people were in a bedroom of the 700-square-foot apartment when a pilot light set off fumes from the bug bombs Wednesday morning. The tenants were shielded by a closed door.

"I was half asleep and heard this loud 'bang, bang!'" said Edo Beneberu, 17. "That got me awake." While the explosion caused \$50,000 in damage, it didn't appear to do much to the cockroaches, which were seen crawling around the apartment as firefighters packed up.

Pay up, big guy...

Overdue child support must be paid

AKRON, Ohio - Charles Costanzo flinched when he received an overdue child support bill in the mail this week, then he flinched again when he saw the stamp to mail it would cost him twice as much as the bill. Costanzo wanted to call and question the practicality of paying 15 cents, but there was no phone number attached. He mailed his payment this week.

"You don't know how weird it is to write a



PHOTO FURNISHED. Every bit counts.

check for zero dollars and 15 cents," he said.

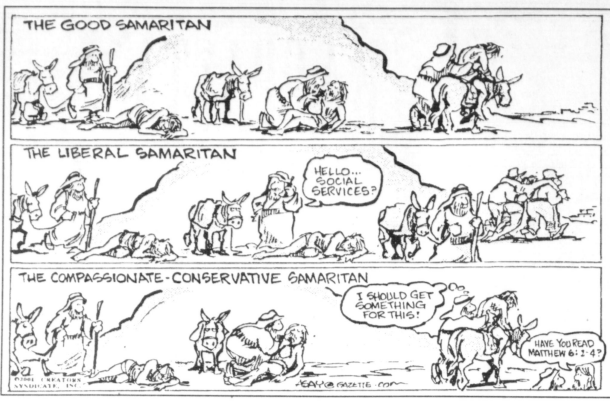
Costanzo wasn't the only one shaking his head. "It's ridiculous the state would send out a bill for that (amount)," said John Galonski, legal division director of Summit County's Child Support Enforcement Agency. Jon Allen, spokesman for the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, said Tuesday that the charge was an administrative fee and that the federal government requires the state to collect all overdue support payments.

-Source: AP Wire -Compiled by: Amanda Thompson

Write for the Kernel!

KALOGUE

MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2001 KENTUCKY KERNEL



READERS' FORUM

Expressions

Untestable intelligent design theory sides more with creationism

Ahhh, intelligent design appears again, but this time with the endorsement of the Kernel's editors. I just wish the editors would have done some research before throwing their political endorsement to intelligent design. A little lesson in history and science would have helped quite a bit as well as knowing some politics.

Intelligent design has been around for quite awhile. Paley's very famous example goes back to the early 1800s, and that argument has been a part of some creationist scripture ever since. Strictly speaking, intelligent design is creationist. This would have been clear with the Kernel's editors. But quibbling about that aside, the real issue is about science.

Science explains the world. These explanations are testable. If you cannot test them then it is not science. So if we look at any creationist (including intelligent design) argument we have to ask ourselves, is it testable? This leaves us with one of two answers:

1) It is testable. In this case we can see what predictions the intelligent design explanations generate and see if they match. This seems fair, since all explanations in science have to be held up to the same rigid standards. Of course if you look at the large amount of data that can be used to test the intelligent design explanations, the answer seems quite clear. But sometimes by doing this you run into the second answer.

2) It is not testable. Now it is outside the realms of science. We cannot test it, we cannot know. Now many things that we cannot see can be tested (big bang, genetic inheritance, evolution) because they generate definite predictions. If intelli-

gent design does not generate definite predictions, it cannot be tested and is not science.

Teaching creationism (or intelligent design) in the school is not a step in the right direction. It is slipping religion in the back door and violating some church and state type thing.

I'm glad Bush thinks that children should be exposed to various theories and ideas. Why not expose them to flat earth theory? Or blending inheritance? Because they are not supported by the data. And if you want to think of intelligent design as a potential explanation, you have to know that the data far does not support it and it is in the same boat.

So I'm glad the Kernel endorses intelligent design, it gives them something to do.

What is up for you guys next, endorsing Lysenkoism?

DAMON ORSETTI BIOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENT

Clay McDaniel

KERNEL COLUMNIST

Looking back and moving on

I cut out an article some time ago - in the New York Times, no less - about diversity on the Barney show. The author was pleased with the effort, but dismayed by the lack of androgynous kids on the PBS television show. That's right, the author was upset that sexually ambiguous children were not singing, "I love you, you love me," at the end of each episode.

I read garbage like this all the time, but I rarely stash them away in my long-term memory, not to mention my filing cabinet. I only held onto this one because I knew that one day, someday, I could dredge it up from the recesses of this hole I call an office to prove that, on a relative scale, I'm not all that bad of a writer.

Seriously, I have written some dimwitted stuff before, but nothing even in the same stratosphere as quotes for hermaphroditic children. The article came to mind as I was sitting on the back porch thinking about the 20 years, 11 months and some odd days I have existed on this meager little planet. Every year about this time I try to re-examine my priorities and make sure I haven't lost sight of who I am or who I want to be. This year, it appears that I have.

I've been disappointed with the outcome of some of my business prospects. I haven't been writing as much as I used to and I haven't been getting to know my God like I should. I've been worrying more and more about money, and I absolutely hate worrying about money. I would rather spend every day worrying about the Cub's World Series prospects than worry about money. So, I was blue. And nothing pulls me out of the doldrums quite like bad journalism. To know that someone gets paid to essentially write crap comforts me in my out-

look for the future. I figure if they can do it, I can do it. Heck, I could probably do it better.

Now I'm not so blue anymore. No, I'm not all that excited about dropping the "under 21" label from my driver's license, but I suppose doing so will have its advantages. I guess I'll finally be able to cram into that sedan can they call Two Keys.

And now people will realize that most of the time when I say I don't want to go out, I genuinely mean it and am not just covering for my being underage.

I foresee downsides as well, though. Foremost among them, I won't be 20 anymore, and I've had a pretty darn good time being 20. Most of my good friends live within spitting distance, school is going just fine and I think I may be finding a way to make the neighbor's dogs disappear without a trace.

These things won't change with my age, but 21 will be the year I graduate, and the year in which I must decide my post-graduation plans. I also think I heard something about putting away childish things. I'm not sure what that means, but it doesn't sound good.

Wisdom comes with time, though, and fretting about the aging process would be the ultimate exercise in futility.

Besides, no one says that growing old necessarily means growing up. As long as the world still has back porches, television still has "Looney Tunes" and I still have this keyboard on which to hunt and peck my time away. Mother Nature can throw at me whatever curve ball she wants - even androgynous children playing hot scotch with a purple dinosaur.

Kernel Columnist Clay McDaniel is a finance junior. His views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.

CONTACT US

E-mail



Send us your letters and comments by e-mail to dialogue@kykernel.com

Snail Mail



Send your letters via the postal service for only \$34 - it's that cheap. Send your thoughts to 035 Grehan Building Lexington, KY 40506-0042

Length & style

Letters should be approximately 250 words; opinions should be no longer than 600 words. All material should be type-written and double-spaced.

Include this info

Include your name and major classification (for publication). For verification include your address and telephone number, which will be kept confidential.

The Kernel reserves the right to edit all material received.

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IN OUR OPINION

Insuring our health

Scandal: Insurance hike leaves some without the proper coverage

America's next great university is starting to show a few chinks in her armor.

Unless you live under a rock, you surely know that our University has decided to raise health insurance costs for all non-faculty employees by nearly 42 percent, thus rendering the expenses of medical care prohibitively high for many staff members. Many employees with children and / or spouses will have to drop them from their coverage, increasing the number of the medically vulnerable in our community and endangering perhaps their very lives.

Why do this? It certainly isn't very politically savvy, image-conscious or ethically responsible. Health care costs haven't risen astronomically in the Lexington area in the past fiscal year. Fiscal Affairs isn't headed by Torquemada. So why?

No one is willing to answer this burning question. William Fortune, the president of the Faculty Senate, demanded that the University issue a public statement on the issue. The Kernel has attempted repeatedly to engender some sort of public debate, either by interviewing those in the Benefits department that have a voice in the raise or by printing a statement issued from a relevant office - all to no avail.

We certainly aren't alone in the opposition. Nearly 6,800 signatures were collected last week by Russ Williams, the staff representative on the Board of Trustees, in protest to the increase. Many staff members - upon whose backs the University quite literally rests - have threatened to strike, protest or quit.

Imagine UK without the Physical Plant Division, housekeeping staffs or maintenance crews. Imagine an environment where nothing is ever cleaned, fixed, maintained, replaced or built - not very conducive to learning, is it? Not very "great," either.

Stephen Rosch

GUEST COLUMNIST

Polls: Plague or promised nation

Over the past year or so, I have come to a realization about how people interact with the world. I guess that I started to figure it out during the whole election thing.

I have always been a big supporter of third-party and independent candidates, and last year was no exception. As I campaigned for my candidate of choice, many voters claimed that my candidate couldn't win and was a wasted vote.

We live in a society of polls. There are polls being taken everywhere for everything. In magazines, TV shows and newspapers there are polls about popular TV and movie stars, attitudes about sex, politics and just about anything else you can think of.

In fact, polls show most Americans don't think that it is right for a president to vote with the polls. This was a common criticism of former President Bill Clinton.

Yet we vote with the polls all the time. We love taking polls, and we love watching or reading the results of polls.

We have become a nation of polls. The problem is that polls appear to cheapen the strength of the individual. In fact, people today have less faith in the individual than ever before according to some poll somewhere.

People have become one tree in a forest so to speak and when we fall, no one is around to hear us. This has become so evident, that even the '80s TV show "Knight Rider" had to change its focus. The show's original idea was that "one man can make a difference." The '90s short-lived version of the show titled "Team Knight Rider" says it all.

The fact is that most people aren't feeling "empowered." They think of themselves as "just one person," and not as a member of a community.

A few columns ago I mentioned

the '60s and how people back then really knew how to protest.

They got into groups and formed human chains. They got into groups and made posters and marched, and they got into groups and had wild sex orgies with lots of drugs.

The key characteristic that we can learn from them is that they got into groups. Whatever they did, they did it in groups, and each person had a function as part of the group.

Today we are all about "I can do it." We talk about how one person can't make a difference. The "numbers" are against us, the "polls" show that we will fail and statistically the "odds" are astronomical. To hell with all that crap! Didn't Confucius once say that, "A vast journey begins with a single step?" (I think I read that off a fortune cookie once.) Groups are made up of individuals. Imagine that!

Now, as individuals, we cannot control the actions of others. We are only able to control our own actions (unless you have some cool super power or something).

Therefore, we must "be the change we wish to see in the world," as Gandhi put it. In this sense, the world is what we make of it and things are only the way they are because we have allowed them to be that way.

It is here where many people will go on and say, "The Man" is too powerful, has too much "big money" and that's just the way the world "is."

The truth is that we as individuals make up the world as a whole. If we as individuals choose a course of action, attitude or a vote, it has much more of a chance of changing the end result.

It really is amazing how that works.

Guest Columnist Stephen Rosch writes for The Quad (West Chester U.). His views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.

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