

THE Kentucky Kernel

Monday, January 30, 2006

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Barnhart warns athletes about Facebook photos

Athletic director 'definitely not kidding,' athlete says

By Tim Wiseman and Adam Sicking
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK athletic director Mitch Barnhart gathered all of UK's student-athletes in Memorial Coliseum in a late-night meeting Wednesday and warned them about posting inappropriate photos on the Internet

Web site Facebook.com.

Barnhart had been planning the meeting for a couple of weeks, said UK Athletics spokesman Scott Stricklin. UK has about 500 student-athletes, counting scholarship athletes and walk-ons, he said.

"This was not spur-of-the-moment," Stricklin said.

"He wanted to make sure they knew what was expected of them and that they understood what their responsibilities were as far as

wearing the Blue and White," he said.

"As much as there may have been problems, he wanted to make sure there weren't any problems, to make sure they know people are watching. He wanted to make sure he had their attention."

The Kernel first reported this story Friday afternoon on its Web site, www.kyk-

"He wanted to make sure he had their attention,"

Scott Stricklin
UK Athletics spokesman

Facebook is a social network Web site that allows students, faculty and staff of colleges across the nation to post profiles and pictures, link themselves to "friends" and join social groups. In its Dec. 9 issue, The Kernel reported how UK's administration has been using incriminating Facebook photos to convict stu-

dents of alcohol-related violations. (Barnhart) had some things he shared with them to make sure they knew how he felt about it," Stricklin said. "He keeps pretty good tabs on what's going on, both good and bad."

Softball junior Brooke Marnitz said Barnhart's message carried a serious tone.

"He didn't give any specifics other than he can take away your fi-

See Facebook on page 2

"I never really thought we were going to lose. We just talked to each other and said, 'We are better than this and we are not going to lose this game.'"

- Ravi Moss,
UK senior guard

UK 78, ARKANSAS 76

Jekyll-and-Hyde Cats storm back to top Hogs

Win is fourth-largest comeback victory

By Josh Sullivan
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Even by UK's standards, the first seven minutes of yesterday's contest against Arkansas weren't much of a contest at all.

The Cats missed five of their first six shots from the floor and committed five turnovers, a span punctuated by an impromptu game of dodgeball between UK's Sheray Thomas (the thrower) and Randolph Morris (the intended target) after a defensive rebound.

But the last 20 minutes of the game erased all of that.

The Cats trimmed an 18-point Arkansas lead down to 12 by halftime, and then delivered their most explosive offensive performance of the year in the second half to win, 78-76. In that half, UK (14-4, 4-2 SEC) scored a season-high 55 points and shot 60 percent from the floor to complete the comeback over the Razorbacks (14-6, 3-4).

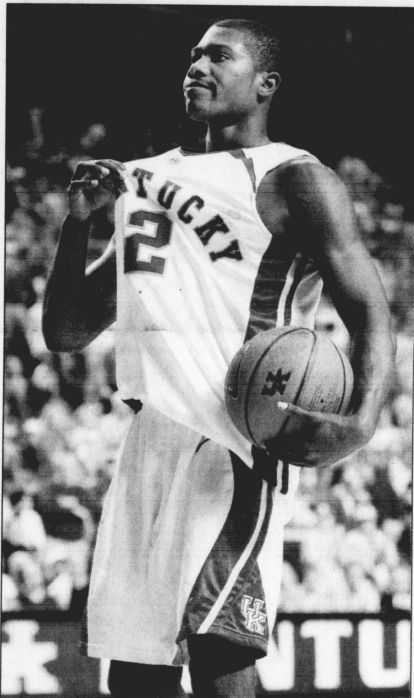
"It was a complete change of halves," UK head coach Tubby Smith said. "We settled down and took care of the basketball."

"I really don't know what Tubby told them at halftime, but they were a completely different team," Arkansas head coach Stan Heath said.

The transformation was triggered on the defensive end, as the Cats hounded the Razorbacks with full-court pressure from the outset. UK forced Arkansas into five turnovers in the first five minutes of the period and cut the lead to six when senior guard Patrick Sparks pushed the ball upcourt after the fifth miscue, pulled up at the 3-point line as a defender raced past him and nailed a 3-pointer.

The shots started falling, but only after the Cats turned up the pressure on Arkansas, said senior

See Cats on page 2



MILLY SCHIFFER | STAFF

Senior guard Ravi Moss tugs his jersey after stealing the ball away from Arkansas late in the second half yesterday. UK outscored the Razorbacks 55-41 in the second half to win.



KEITH SAMLEY | STAFF

Sophomore guard Rajon Rondo passes around Arkansas junior guard Ronnie Brewer during the second half of UK's win yesterday. Rondo finished the day with 14 points, four rebounds and five assists to help UK to a 78-76 win. Most of Rondo's production came in the second half, when UK erased a 12-point halftime deficit and outscored Arkansas 55-41.

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Contrite Cats capable of contention

For 20 minutes, UK was an NCAA Tournament two seed.

The Cats scored 55 points, forced nine turnovers and held Arkansas to no baskets and four points for a seven-and-a-half-minute stretch while scoring 19 points themselves.

In the process, they turned a 57-51 deficit into a 70-61 advantage.

This after dropping a stinker of a first half, which included 23 points scored, being out-rebounded by five, going two for 11 on 3-point field goals and falling behind by as much as 18.

Herein lies the mystery: Why, pray tell, was there a deficit in the first place? How can one so dramatically outplay a team for a substantial amount of game time after getting outplayed before that?

No one seems to be able to put a finger on it — even the players.

"We had to wake up, really," senior guard Ravi Moss said. "We were too lackadaisical in the first half

See Johnson on page 2



Chris Johnson
SPORTS EDITOR

UK primary healthcare provider sold

Agreement made with Humana; sale needs state and federal approval

By Shannon Mason
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The health care provider for more than 75 percent of UK's employees began changing hands Thursday, but CHA Health's new parent company said the only difference will be in the name.

Humana Inc. announced Thursday that it had signed a letter of agreement with CHA HMO Inc. to acquire the Lexington-based company. Not only do the majority of UK employees receive health insurance through CHA Health, but UK is CHA Health's major shareholder, holding 84 percent of its shares, said UK spokesman Jay Blanton.

About 9,700 of the more than 12,000 UK employees currently have CHA as their health insurer. The remaining employees go through Humana already, Blanton said.

The sale should not affect any of UK's employees, he said.

"UK has a long-term contract with CHA," Blanton said. "And that long-term contract will be honored by Humana."

Blanton said it would take several months for the sale to become official because it has to be approved at state and federal levels.

"It's a standard process," he said.

When the sale does become official, Blanton said UK would receive revenues as a result of the sale, but those terms have not yet been disclosed.

"Those funds will plug back into the operation of the hospital," Blanton said.

Dr. Michael Karpf, UK's executive vice president for health affairs, heralded the sale as beneficial for UK's medical system.

"This transaction will help ensure that all our resources at UK HealthCare are completely focused on our mission of caring for patients through the best clinical care and most advanced medical research," he said in a press release.

If employees have any questions regarding the sale and how it affects them, they are encouraged to look at UK's Human Resources Web site at www.uky.edu/HR, said Gail Carbol, UK's benefits manager.

Carbol said employees have no reason to worry. "Nothing at all is going to change," Carbol said.

E-mail smason@kykernel.com

UK partnership helps state save on inmate health care

By Shannon Mason
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Quality health care for inmates in Kentucky's state prisons is moving in an "e-direction" thanks to the Kentucky Corrections Health Services Network.

The network, a partnership between the Kentucky Department of Corrections, UK and Correct-Care, a private health management firm based in Lexington, implemented a wireless electronic medical records system last summer and is planning on launching a related e-consult program within a month, said Dr. Phil Roeder, professor of family and community medicine in the UK College of Medicine.

This partnership allowed for the state to save more than \$9 million in the first fiscal year, said Dr. Scott Haas, medical director for Kentucky Department of Corrections.

KCHSN was developed as a way to control secondary or specialist care for the state's inmates. Before the partnership, the state's 13 prisons and 75 jails each decided how to provide health care, including secondary care.

Working under these conditions, Haas said the Department of Corrections sometimes paid more for inmates than what the same procedures would cost for the average person.

"We were spending more than we wanted without a choice," Haas said.

In October 2003, the Department of Corrections went to UK for help in setting up a hospital net-

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Newsroom: 257-1915

Cats

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guard Ravi Moss. UK's comeback from the 12-point halftime deficit was the fourth best in school history.

"It all starts on defense," said senior guard Ravi Moss, who scored nine of his 11 points in the second half. "You can shoot the lights out, but if you don't guard anybody you're still going to get beat."

The Cats traded baskets with the Razorbacks for the next several minutes and were still down by six after pre-season SEC Player of the Year Ronnie Brewer hit a 3-pointer with 8:20 to go. But the UK defense was unshakable for the rest of the game, holding Arkansas without another field goal until 1:38 remained. The Hogs tallied four free throws during a 19-4 run that put UK up 70-61.

Moss said he never lost faith, even after the Cats dug the 18-point hole.

"I never really thought we were going to lose," he said. "We just talked to each other (at halftime) and said, 'We're better than this and we're not going to lose this game.'"

After getting out-rebounded by five in the first half, the Cats went on to finish the game with a 37-31 edge on the boards, despite fielding a four-guard lineup for much of the second period.

"Usually we can play well up-tempo, but when they subbed in four guards it hurt us," Brewer said. "Even with small guys, they were getting rebounds."

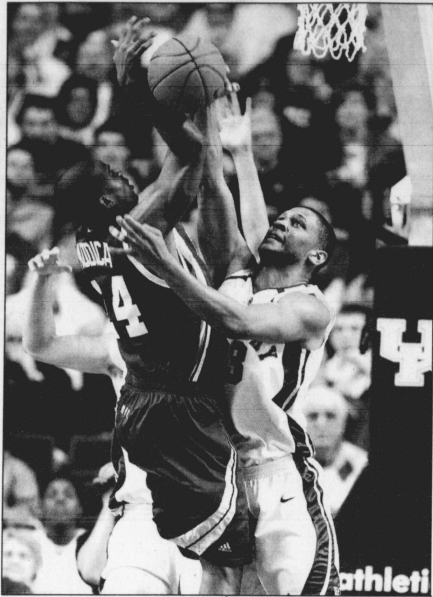
Several UK players took turns fueling the offensive blitz. Junior forward Shery Thomas came off the bench and hit four of five shots from nine points and snagged four rebounds, scoring seven points early in the second half to keep the Cats close.

"Shery played huge," Sparks said. "He went to the offensive glass, he hit his shots. He played well all around."

After playing limited minutes in the last two games because of foul trouble, sophomore center Randolph Morris managed to stay on the floor and dominate on the inside, leading the Cats with 19 points and eight boards.

"We're glad to see Randolph get back to leading us in rebounding," Smith said.

UK's starting backcourt of Sparks



Sophomore center Randolph Morris blocks a shot attempted by Arkansas senior guard Jonathon Modica during the second half. Morris finished with 19 points in UK's win.

and sophomore guard Raion Rondo combined for 23 points (21 in the second half), five steals, 13 assists and one turnover. Sparks tied his best passing performance as a Wildcat with eight assists.

"A lot of guys were open today and I just made a lot of extra passes when I could have shot, but I found a teammate who had a better shot," Sparks said.

Smith said he was encouraged by the second-half offense, but the Cats

still need to work on getting out of the gate as smoothly as they finished yesterday afternoon.

"We've got to figure out a way to get a better start, obviously," he said.

"We dug ourselves a big hole but we just came together and played for each other," Sparks said. "Once we put two halves like that together, we'll be tough."

E-mail

Johnson

Continued from page 1

... I don't understand why we really can't come out, without giving them 16- or 18-point leads."

"It's become our m.o.," UK head coach Tubby Smith said. "We seem not to play with much intensity in the first half."

"Nobody knows," junior forward Shery Thomas said. "That's the mystery... it drives Tubby nuts, the fans nuts, the players' parents nuts, us nuts."

"At the beginning of the game, I didn't think we had much of a chance to get back in it," Smith said. "But the kids showed a lot of grit, a lot of moxie."

One guess would be that the team knows it can slack through a good percentage of its conference games without giving its best effort, and still come out with a W.

Like it did against South Carolina, and like it did against Auburn. Like it did yesterday against the Razorbacks.

Facebook

Continued from page 1

nancial aid or suspend you indefinitely," Marnitz said. "No matter what the coaches say, he said it's under his discretion."

"He made it seem like he was definitely not kidding around," she said.

Barnhart expressed concerns about the bad publicity that could result from misconduct displayed on the Internet, Marnitz said.

"I think some people, their conduct is not what it should be, and that upset

him the most," Marnitz said. "He doesn't want the athletic department to become a headline. You see a lot of people jump on, 'Oh, an athlete did this.'"

"He's just trying to protect the athletes, the school and the department," she said.

Student-athletes should respond to this warning, Marnitz said.

"I hope people take him seriously," she said. "I hope they open their eyes."

Gymnastics senior Staci O'Keefe said Barnhart told the student-athletes he doesn't want to ban their use of such Internet sites as Facebook.com.

"He just doesn't want anything portrayed that shouldn't be," O'Keefe said. "He told us to look at what's on the Internet, and if it's not representing UK

well, then it shouldn't be out there."

O'Keefe said she doesn't think many people are having to make major changes.

"It's not like people are erasing everything," she said. "I'm not changing anything."

Stricklin said the meeting served as a reminder of the responsibilities that come with being a student-athlete at UK.

"Five hundred individuals between 18 and 22, there's always the need to remind all of them," Stricklin said.

"We have people who are monitoring these sites. So don't put anything up there you don't want to know."

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Inmates

Continued from page 1

work and CorrectCare was selected through UK's bid process to become the third member of the partnership.

CorrectCare functions as a network manager, ensuring availability of doctors, providers and services.

UK functions as the network monitor, overseeing the network manager, monitoring and evaluating project effectiveness and developing clinical and applied research projects.

"We've done all that we can to control the cost of specialty care," Haas said. "Now we need to control the cost and quality of care inside the institutions."

This is where the "e-phase" of the partnership comes in, allowing physi-

cians outside to treat inmates still in their correctional institutions, saving money on inmate transportation and guards.

Through the electronic medical records system, e-consults will now allow primary care physicians to send specialists information they need to diagnose patients' conditions, including notes, photographs and other data.

This provides inmates with secondary care without ever leaving the institution, Roeder said.

"What used to take four to six weeks can now take place in four to six days," Haas said. "We can improve the quality and efficiency of care, and it is more cost efficient."

The electronic medical records system also allows files for each inmate to be centrally located and efficiently handled.

"If you don't have an electronic system, then how do you keep up with

records?" asked Roeder. "On paper: You keep paper files filled with information."

The wireless electronic medical records system is currently up and running in four of the state's 13 prisons: Blackburn Correction Complex in Lexington, Little Sandy Correctional Complex in Elliott County, the Kentucky State Reformatory in LaGrange and Luther Luckett Correctional Complex in LaGrange.

Kentucky's only all-female facility, the Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women in Pewee Valley, is scheduled to implement the system starting Feb. 15, making it the fifth state prison on the system, said Haas.

All of Kentucky's 13 state prisons should be on the system by April 1, Haas said.

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MUSIC
REVIEW

Dance rock trio at the apex of genre

By Nathan Thacher
KERNEL MUSIC CRITIC

It seems like now is as good a time as any for contagious, exuberant pop rock to achieve vast accessibility and charm. The New York group We Are Scientists fits this description quite well, though their charm has more of a geeky quirky quality.

The trio sits among very lofty company on the apex of the dance rock wave, offering many sharp, stylish songs of rhythmic perfection with its newest release.

"With Love and Squalor" by Keith Murray (guitar, vocals), Chris Cain (bass, vocals) and Michael Tapper (drums, vocals, and owner of the most well-suited name ever) have put together a fine album that will only appeal to those weird people who like to be cheered up by their music. If this music is playing at a party, everyone's chances of hooking up with someone they don't know are increased 70 percent (hey you can't argue with science).

And let me get this out of the way: The band has a sound that treats fairly close to the groovy tendencies of Franz Ferdinand or Kaiser Chiefs. But I hesitate to pigeonhole We Are Scientists within those restrictions, because the group explores different areas with vocals and

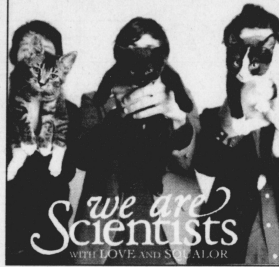
strings in between the familiar choruses that sound like its aforementioned contemporaries. The band is free from the pretension that marks other groups, and achieves an equal stylishness that doesn't seem forced.

The ceaseless assault of taps, booms and bangs combined with those delicious guitar hooks makes for very tight, throbbing songs that are bound to get you on the dance floor. And if you've

ness and uncertainty, in other words, a perfect backdrop for a senior prom. There's some great vocal harmony on "Worth the Wait," "Lousy Reputation" and "Cash Cow" amid a furious punk-friendly drum clinic and the guitar running fierce circles around the bass. The strings and drums chug forward with a confident swagger, leaving a flossam of shaken booties in its wake. "Can't Lose" and "Textbook" are a welcome

break from the frenetic pace that marks the rest of the album, much more relaxed and slightly wistful in tone. Without these tracks interrupting the pace, the album would seem tired and repetitive by the end. In these tracks, the band is in less of a hurry, and a more focused, and ultimately more impressive, sound emerges.

The tracks mesh fairly well aside from the two "bummer tracks" I mentioned, and as such, it is a quintessential party disk. Even with this in mind, it's easy to appreciate the precision of the instruments and coyness of the lyrics even if you're not sharing it with 50 other people who can't hear each other speak. And if that doesn't sell it to you, the kittens on the album cover certainly will.



We are Scientists
WITH LOVE AND SQUALOR

heard the first track "Nobody Move, Nobody Get Hurt," then you've already taken their best punch. The first track is a perfect tone-setter, and once you get into the carefree spirit of the album, it's hard to get out of it.

The lyrics are booze-soaked, fun-loving and lusty throughout "With Love and Squalor," even though they pensively discuss indecisive-

ness and uncertainty, in other words, a perfect backdrop for a senior prom. There's some great vocal harmony on "Worth the Wait," "Lousy Reputation" and "Cash Cow" amid a furious punk-friendly drum clinic and the guitar running fierce circles around the bass. The strings and drums chug forward with a confident swagger, leaving a flossam of shaken booties in its wake. "Can't Lose" and "Textbook" are a welcome break from the frenetic pace that marks the rest of the album, much more relaxed and slightly wistful in tone. Without these tracks interrupting the pace, the album would seem tired and repetitive by the end. In these tracks, the band is in less of a hurry, and a more focused, and ultimately more impressive, sound emerges.

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features@kykernel.com

Dame's cinema night reels in local filmmakers

By Keith Brooks
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The growing arts scene in Lexington will attempt to reach UK students and people around Lexington tonight during the free show "Independent Filmmakers Night" with a screening of locally produced cinema.

The Dame will host the event after last month's success of the series. The event offers a palette of film shorts and several feature films, all of which are created by people from Lexington.

Michael Powell, a journalism senior and publicist for the Dame, said the event helps promote artists and offers alternative entertainment for the Lexington community.

"We had a bigger turnout than what we thought we would have, which is why we're doing it again," Powell said. He mentioned that originally, he thought it was unconventional to host a film show in a music venue, but decided it was an ingenious idea after the amiable response from last month's screening.

"Sixty-five people on a cold Monday night came out to watch films. That definitely promotes yourself as an artist," Powell said.

Since Lexington does not host a film festival, the show

serves as a way to connect its citizenry with independent material, which can be inaccessible at times.

"We wanted to use the resources we had to show that there was cool stuff around Lexington," Powell said. "I would venture to say that people who come out on a Monday night want something different."

Billy Blackwell, producer and co-owner of the independent filmmaking company "Can Too Productions," will be part of the event tonight. Blackwell and Jacob Ennis of Tuckwood Productions run "Moonlight Cafe," an arts and entertainment show which hosts local talent every Friday night on WKYT-TV in Lexington.

Blackwell said artists in Lexington have no practical methods of displaying their talents on a larger scale.

"We feel like we're doing a really good thing for Lexington and for UK students as well," Blackwell said. "I think that a lot of people are starting to get tired of the Hollywood big-budgeted movies."

Blackwell is currently working on an independent film called "Stash," a suspense thriller about an Eastern Kentucky boy's flirtations and troubles with dealing marijuana. Along with his show and events hosted by the

Dame, Blackwell said he thinks reception from audiences will be pleasant.

"You're getting real people putting real movies out there with their art," Blackwell said. "I think that's why people are turning to independent films."

Powell remained optimistic about the outlook of the arts scene in Lexington. Several UK students have submitted their work to the show in the past, and the show is always looking to showcase local talent, he said.

"UK students are more than welcome to submit stuff," he said. "It's nice to know that there's a creative scene in Lexington."

The "Independent Filmmakers Night" begins at 8 p.m. at the Dame, located on 156 West Main Street. For more information, please contact Michael Powell at (859) 948-6009 or visit the Dame's Web site at www.dameky.com.

E-mail
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Opinions

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IN OUR OPINION

Sex crimes ordinances shouldn't be needed

Urban County Councilman Bill Cegelka wants to make life harder on convicted sex offenders living in Fayette County.

He has proposed ordinances designed to limit where offenders can live in Lexington. If passed, registered sex offenders requiring supervision would be prohibited from living within 1,000 feet of public parks, pools and playgrounds.

Current state law already restricts sex offenders from living within 1,000 feet of schools.

Of course, Cegelka is currently running for county attorney, so it figures that he would propose such seemingly universally popular ordinances. With the recent high-profile abductions and murders of Sarah Lunde and Jessica Lunsford in Florida, sex crimes legislation is white hot in this election year.

Certainly no one is going to take up for sex offenders. Sex crimes, especially those against children, are among the most detestable of all crimes. Those who commit such acts should be punished to the fullest extent of the law.

Therein lies the problem. If such restrictions are to be placed on released sex offenders, why are they out of prison in the first place? Convicts are sent to prison to be kept away from the public while they are supposedly reformed. The fact that sex offenders face restrictions on where they can live once released reveals a fundamental problem with statutory prison sentences — branding them with a scarlet letter that no other of-

fender seems to get from society.

Instead of placing restrictions on residency, wouldn't it make more sense to lengthen the time they serve in prison?

Studies vary on recidivism rates for sex offenders. One thing is clear, however: not all sex offenders are child molesters. Should a 19-year old man convicted of statutory rape of his 16-year old girlfriend face the same restrictions as a child molester?

Another problem with Cegelka's proposed ordinances is practicality. Sure, the Council can mandate that sex offenders can't live within 1,000 feet of schools, playgrounds, etc. But what's going to stop them from driving the same child-abundant locations?

Federal courts are currently debating the constitutionality of laws affecting sex offenders. While it makes sense to place convicts as far away from children as possible, it's unclear whether such laws violate the offenders' civil rights. The Constitution does, in fact, apply to sex offenders too.

As reprehensible as sex crimes are, we simply can't see the value of further restricting the lives of sex offenders once they're released from prison.

Instead of placing arbitrary perimeters around areas frequented by children, concerned citizens should be proactive in learning where sex offenders live, so they can ensure their children are not exposed to such vile persons.

Rose Street construction will be worth the mess

By late February or early March, Rose Street will be cut off from South Limestone Street as part of a \$450 million Chandler Medical Center expansion project.

This first phase, which also includes building a new parking structure between Transcrip Avenue and Conn Terrace, will yield benefits upon its completion in 2007.

Although Rose Street, a major traffic artery through campus, will be closed from Donovan Hall to where it currently empties into Limestone, the change will make pedestrian travel safer through campus. The original design of the street was awkward in and around campus. UK's campus in half, and forcing thousands of students through

the years to cross the busy thoroughfare.

Connecting Virginia and Huguleet Avenues will more than compensate for the loss of the Rose Street route.

UK students, faculty, staff and Lexington residents should welcome this project with open arms, despite the fact that the construction will be inconvenient at times.

There's no doubt it will improve upon our medical center, which is a defining factor in attaining Top 20 status. Although the final project isn't scheduled to be complete until 2020, we can all look forward to well-needed changes in and around campus in the coming months and years.

COMBINATION OF CHURCH AND STATE



BRAD STURGEON, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mine Kentucky responsibly

This past Saturday I traveled to Eastern Kentucky with members of Kentuckians for the Commonwealth to visit a mountaintop-removal coal mining site in Pike County. There we talked to local residents who live surrounded by mining operations that have caused flooding, mudslides, and the pollution of streams and lakes in their community. We saw a supposedly "reclaimed" mining site that had only sparse grass and bushes and no trees, years after mining operations had ceased.

The residents also told us that coal trucks often drive overloaded, violating state weight limits for coal hauling. This is more dangerous not only for other drivers on the road but also for the truckers, in addition to causing damage to county roads that has to be repaired using taxpayer dollars.

Another problem is valley fills, caused by coal companies dumping mining waste into valleys and streams. This can cause flooding and has contaminated the local supply of well water and acidified the lake where the people used to swim and fish.

This visit really opened my eyes to the problems caused by coal companies not following the law, and the need for legislation to buckle down on overloaded coal trucks and the dumping of mine wastes into headwater streams.

Students can contact their representatives and encourage them to support HB 83 (the "Stream Saver" bill) and legislation to enforce weight limits on coal trucks.

Coal mining may be a "necessary evil" for Kentucky, but measures should be taken to do it in as responsible a way as possible.

JOHANNAH OLDIGES
elementary education sophomore

UK women deserve front page

It was a pleasant surprise to see that the Lady Cats have been allowed some front page space after their gutsy win over the No. 1 Tennessee Lady Vols and perhaps one of the best coaches to ever walk on a basketball court—men's or women's.

The support from their fellow students and own university newspaper has been lacking. Under third-year coach Mickie DeMoss, the team has gotten off to a great start and is no longer a pushover for other teams in the SEC. They are talented, competitive, hard working and winners.

MARY SUE JOHNSON
department of psychology

America has assassinated King's radical ideals

Nearly 40 years after a bullet stopped the heart of the civil rights movement, the lingering mythology surrounding Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s death demonstrates the inherent schizophrenia plaguing postmodern American history as well as the obfuscation of King's true relationship with the U.S. government.

There exists a conspiracy theory suggesting James Earl Ray, a comically inept, small-time crook, couldn't have possibly pulled off the shot that killed King. Furthermore, only two of Ray's fingerprints were found on a Remington Model 760, which ballistics tests could neither prove nor disprove its function as the alleged murder weapon.

From here, things tend to seriously break down. One "alternate history" involves a mysterious man named "Raul" who, having supposedly acquired the rifle from Ray, acted as the gunman. Yet in 1994 an actual "Raul" was found living in upstate New York, but was quickly exonerated when no evidence could be found to link him to the crime.

Another story accuses Lloyd Jowers, owner of a bar located across the street from the motel where King was shot, of paying a hit man \$100,000 to carry out the murder. The man Jowers hired was not James Earl Ray, of course, but has not been able to find him, either.

The most bizarre speculation implicates the FBI, CIA, the Memphis police, Army in-

telligence and even Lyndon Johnson of having a hand in the murder.

William Pepper, Ray's last in a long line of lawyers, claimed the government hired a Mafia boss to carry out the hit and that a team of Green Berets were on standby to finish the job, should the sniper miss. Like all the aforementioned theories, this tale is worthy of an X-Files episode with plot holes; nothing could be proven beyond mere conjecture.

Why do these theories persist? Do we, when faced with seemingly random and inexplicable acts of tragedy and violence, persist in requiring explanations despite all appearances to the contrary? What if those explanations raise more questions than answers?

Perhaps it is a deep and widespread distrust of government that allows these theories their enduring popularity. The JFK Magic Bullet Theory, The Illuminati, Area 51. The View—all are attempts to explain the inexplicable.

Unlike the Greeks, we have the omnipresence of mass media to contend with, whose kaleidoscopic lens fragments and distorts so much of what we know that the Socratic method is made fundamentally impotent.

But where fact and fiction separate, our focus becomes clear enough to see that not only is there a credible body of evidence that legitimizes such paranoid thinking, but there also exist a host of creepy parallels between King's 1960s and our 21st century.

For years, King was a target of intense government surveillance, mainly at the behest of America's most sadistic law enforcement official, J. Edgar Hoover.

After receiving approval in 1963 from At-

torney General Robert Kennedy to bug King's home and offices, Hoover's FBI issued a report which stated, "The attached analysis of Communism and the Negro Movement is highly explosive...it can be regarded as a personal attack on Martin Luther King...it is labeled TOP SECRET."

Domestic wiretaps in times of war? The government cracking down on dissent? Hmm, that sounds familiar.

Shortly before his death, King realized that the victories of the Civil Rights movement were hollow at best, and what was truly needed to change things for the better wouldn't come in the form of vapid legislation, as evidenced in this excerpt from his 1967 speech "Beyond Vietnam":

"We are spending all of this money for death and destruction," King said, "and not nearly enough money for life and constructive development...when the guns of war become a national obsession, social needs invariably suffer."

This is not the Martin Luther King commonly portrayed in America's elementary and high school history classes, but the one who equated war and poverty; the one who saw the American system of capitalism as inadequate to utopian democracy.

"You can't talk about ending the slums without first saying profit must be taken out of slums," he said in a private address to his staff in 1966. "There must be a better distribution of wealth and maybe America must move toward a democratic socialism."

It was this kind of political advocacy that earned King the ire of mainstream press outlets and politicians alike.

Time, which had named King its "Man of the Year" just years prior, derided the speech as "demagogic slander that sounded

like a script for Radio Hanoi."

The Washington Post followed suit: "(King) has diminished his usefulness to his cause, his country, his people."

And to think this was in an era without Fox News.

If there is a cover-up, it is not one involving government boogymen, but faulty history textbooks; not one of conscious manipulation by The Man, but of a gradual sanitization of some of King's more radical philosophies.

War, torture, the perpetual slashing of domestic spending, the cosmic gulf between rich and poor; poverty, etc. have become so chic in the 40 years since King's death that it seems as if it has taken more than a bullet to undo all he had done.

Because bullets have been replaced by misinformation as the new weapon of choice, it no longer matters that there are no human beings in sight who are willing to absorb bullets for advocating mainstream dissent. Our prophets no longer have to be killed in order to be silenced.

Yet I realize this is starting to sound a little crazy, so before I donate another \$20 to MoveOn and check my apartment for listening devices, I'll leave you with a few words King spoke to a crowd the day before a bullet took him from this earth:

"I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over, and I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know that we, as a people, will get (there)."

It is my sincerest hope that the next 40 years prove him right.

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

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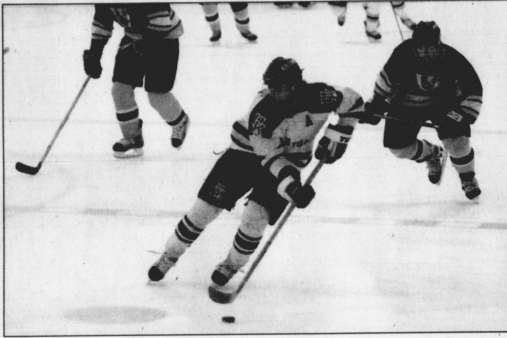
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Cool Cats' goal barrage sinks Commodores



MIKE BARNES | STAFF

Sophomore forward Mike Barnes tries to avoid Vanderbilt defenders during UK's 11-2 win on Saturday at the Lexington ice center. Barnes scored three goals in the contest, two coming in UK's six-goal second period.

By Ryan Wood
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Technically, his team held the lead, but Cool Cats' head coach Rob Docherty was not pleased with how his team was finishing its offensive opportunities.

"The first period, we tried to make too many passes and make all the goals look good," he said. "We finally realized, let's just shoot the puck and chase it."

Much to Docherty's satisfaction, UK shot more often and more effectively, scoring 10 goals in the final two periods en route to an 11-2 win over the Commodores.

"I had confidence in these guys," he said. "I was more worried that we were over-confident because Vanderbilt wasn't supposed to be the strongest opponent that we had faced ... (it's) always a big factor if you take a team too lightly."

The Cool Cats (15-12-2) came out firing in the second period, getting six

goals from four different players.

UK's avalanche of scoring started after winning the opening face-off of the second period.

Sophomore forward Mike Barnes ended up on a breakaway one-on-one with the Commodore goalie.

"You look up, you see the goalie ... you want to do whatever comes to mind," Barnes said. "See, what he does and put it in."

His first goal of the game came at the 19:30 mark. Two more would follow on the evening for Barnes.

"I know this team could score some goals," Docherty said. "Overall, the second period was a good period."

But Barnes wouldn't be the only player for UK with the hat trick.

Scoring once in every period, sophomore forward Kevin McQuade also lit the lamp three times Saturday.

"You really don't know what's going through your head until after the goal," McQuade said.

Scoring hasn't been the problem for UK. The Cats have outscored their opponents in the last three games by a combined score of 30-11.

But McQuade said there's room for improvement.

"We definitely have stuff to work on," he said. "Our offense looked fine, but as a team, we didn't play defense at all."

Docherty said he looked forward to facing Western Illinois in a two-game series next weekend, when he hopes his squad can play for 60 minutes like they did for 40 minutes this weekend.

"We're going to get better," he said. "We have four more games to play some good hockey."

"They're a good bunch," Docherty said of his team. "The way they're clicking ... I wish I could play 20 more games with them."

E-mail

rwood@kykernel.com

SPORTSBRIEFS

Tennis smashes Maryland, holds off Texas A&M

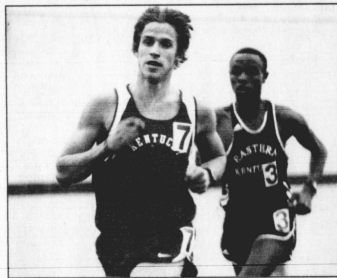
UK (5-0) recorded two victories over two ranked teams this weekend in College Park, Md. No. 39 Maryland fell to No. 13 UK 5-2 on Friday, while No. 29 Texas A&M dropped a 4-3 decision Saturday.

In the win over the Aggies, Danielle Petrisko and Carolina Escamilla won their doubles match, as did Danielle Petrisko and Caroline Winebrenner to seal the doubles point. Kim Coventry, Lara Maurer and Petrisko each won singles matches, worth a point apiece, to clinch the 4-3 win.

Against Maryland, four Cats took their singles matches and the doubles tandems of Lara Maurer and Carolina Escamilla and Danielle Petrisko and Caroline Winebrenner took home match wins to clinch the doubles point.

Grunebaum drafted

Former UK goalkeeper Andy Grunebaum was drafted third in the Major League Soccer supplemental draft Friday by the Columbus Crew. Grunebaum, named All-Conference USA and All-Great Lakes region this season after posting a 0.97 goals against average, was the first keeper selected Friday and is scheduled to report to Columbus Jan. 29. The Crew finished last in the MLS Eastern Conference in



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

Junior John Richardson competes in the men's 300 meter run during the Rod McCravy Memorial track and field meet Saturday. Richardson finished third overall in the event.

2005.

Gymnasts sweep meet

No. 13 UK is off to the best start in program history (7-0) after earning victories over No. 24 North Carolina, Maryland and James Madison in Chapel Hill, N.C., yesterday. Junior Krystle Cook, who has finished first or second in the all-around at every meet this season, took second with a 38.850 score. The Cats take on No. 3 Alabama (9-0) this Friday at Memorial Coliseum in a match of two undefeated teams. The Crimson Tide were runners-up at the NCAA Championships last season.

Records set at McCravy Memorial track meet

Meet, personal and NCAA provisional records were all set this weekend at UK's Rod McCravy Memorial at Nutter Field House. The UK men's 4x400 relay team set a meet record and an NCAA provisional with a 3:09.81, which is also a season best. Freshman Gordon McKenzie set a personal best, and won the 60 meters, with a time of 6.73. Freshman thrower Ashley Muffet took the shot put and weight throw competitions. Muffet's 49 feet, 9.75 inch toss in the shot put earned her third in school history.

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