

THE Kentucky Kernel

Tuesday, January 24, 2006

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Today's topic for trustees: UK's oversight of SG

Board expected to discuss proposal at afternoon meeting

By Cara Blevins and Sean Rose
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The UK Board of Trustees will examine governing regulation changes that would clarify UK's oversight of Student Government in its meeting today — changes that SG President and student trustee Becky Ellingsworth describes as a "power play." The proposed changes have been brew-

ing mainly since October because of last year's controversial election that delivered a winner more than five months after students voted.

Trustee Jeff Dembo, faculty representative to the board, said the regulation changes aim to ensure that UK students would be guaranteed to have a Board of Trustees representative. The dispute over the March 2005 election prevented the student trustee spot from being filled until days before the board's Sept. 20 meeting.

"I hope the board's discussion tomorrow further emphasizes the need for having a

student trustee at the table," Dembo said. "Whether the vote goes in (Ellingsworth's) favor or not, it should be clear to all, I hope, that having that trustee is critically important not just for the students but for the health of the whole university."

Dembo is a member of the board's student affairs committee that voted 3-1 two weeks ago to put these proposed changes before all the trustees.

The proposed changes would clarify and put in writing, the authority of Vice President of Student Affairs Pat Ferrell to monitor SG's actions to make sure it follows UK's

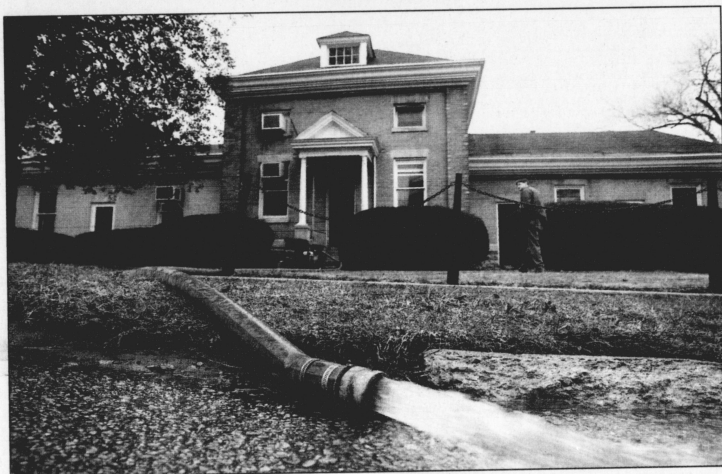
written policy. The provost would also have the final authority over disputes.

The more controversial part of the changes is that the University Appeals Board would have the authority to confirm or void an election if there are violations. If voided, the elections would return to SG for correction.

Dembo, along with staff trustee Russ Williams and trustee Marianne Smith Edge, voted in favor of the changes. Ellingsworth cast the only vote against the proposed changes.

See Trustees on page 2

Basements of rain



A UK Physical Plant Division worker waits for water to pump out of the Insectary and Conservatory Building on Washington Avenue yesterday morning. The basement of the building flooded during heavy rains that started Sunday afternoon and ended yesterday morning. The Insectary previously housed UK's Department of Entomology until the late 1960s.

Over the past two days, much of campus and the Lexington area received a sizable soaking from some wet weather. Fayette County received 3 inches of rain over that time, according to the National Weather Service.

For the month of January, Lexington has received slightly more than 5 inches of rain — up from the normal amount of about 2.5 inches for that time period.

There's no chance of rain until the weekend, according to weather service forecasts.

Education question stumps president

By Joel Havemann
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON — President Bush, caught off guard Monday by a question about cuts in higher-education student loan programs, said the cuts would come at the expense of lending institutions, not students.

Representatives of higher-education associations disagreed moderately, and leaders of student groups took vehement exception.

During a question-and-answer session with students at Kansas State University, sophomore Tiffany Cooper asked, "Recently, \$12.7 billion was cut from education, and I was just wondering, you know, how is that supposed to help our futures?"

"The education budget was cut?" Bush responded. "Say it again. What was cut?" After more give and take, Bush finally said the cuts would come from banks and other lending institutions. Students, he said, would be held harmless.

See Loans on page 2

Bush embraces domestic spying

By James Gerstenzang
LOS ANGELES TIMES

MANHATTAN, Kan. — President Bush said Monday that National Security Agency spying on U.S. citizens and soon-to-expire elements of the Patriot Act were legal means to fight terrorism, in a public embrace of the programs aimed at turning them to political advantage.

In a speech and question-and-answer session, Bush offered his lengthiest public explanation of the NSA eavesdropping, which the administration has taken to calling the "terrorist surveillance program" since it was revealed in December.

He said a Supreme Court ruling in June 2004 found that a Congressional resolution passed shortly after the Sept. 11 attacks gave him the authority to act to protect the country from terrorism.

"It means Congress gave me the authority to use necessary force to protect the American people, but it didn't prescribe the tactics. It said: 'Mr. President, you've got the power to protect us, but we're not going to tell you how.'"

"If I wanted to break the law, why was I briefing Congress?" he said. Bush spoke for an hour and 41 minutes, perhaps his longest speech and question-and-answer session as president.

His audience was made up of local residents, students and soldiers from Fort Riley who nearly filled Bramlage Coliseum, a sports arena at Kansas State University.

Bush spoke for nearly 45 minutes about the war in Iraq and his anti-terrorism programs, and then took questions covering not only Iraq but student loans, the future of Social Security, beef exports, what he was doing to eliminate nuclear weapons, and the movie "Brokeback Mountain."

His visit to Kansas coincided with a speech in Washington by Lt. Gen. Michael V. Hayden, the deputy director of national intelligence, who vigorously defended the domestic surveillance operation.

The speeches kicked off an aggressive effort by the administration to present the eavesdropping as a crucial element in what it calls the global war against terrorism. Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales is expected to speak about the spying program today, and Bush plans to visit the National Security Agency headquarters outside Washington tomorrow.

Newsroom: 257-1915

Ford lays out plan that lays off workers

By Sholm Freeman and Amy Joyce
THE WASHINGTON POST

Ford Motor Co. yesterday detailed a sweeping restructuring plan that would shut 14 factories and eliminate as many as 30,000 jobs, or nearly a quarter of its North American workforce, over the next six years.

The announcement at Ford follows a major overhaul by General Motors Corp., which plans to cut 30,000 workers by 2008 and close all or part of 12 plants. Overall, the U.S. auto industry has shed 200,000 jobs, or 15 percent of its workforce, in the past five years.

Despite years of comeback plans and reorganization blueprints, GM and Ford, the pillars of the U.S. auto industry, have decided they have no choice but to shrink their way back to profitability in the face of the unrelenting pressures of a global market. Toyota Motor Corp., Honda Motor Co. and Nissan have made steady inroads, adding new U.S. plants and hiring thousands of autoworkers into non-union jobs.

Ford, the nation's second-largest automaker, employs about 123,000 workers in its North American operations. That division lost \$1.6 billion pre-tax in 2005, precipitating its second financial crisis in five years.

Renowned 'Iron Willie' transforms ordinary junk into extraordinary art

By Charlinda Turner Brashear
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

After seeing a flattened iron on the street, nationally renowned artist Willie Cole never looked at art the same way.

Chances are, if you visit Cole's "Afterburn" exhibit at UK's Art Museum, you'll never look at your old iron the same way again.

Cole — known to some as "Iron Willie" — will have his work exhibited at the UK Art Museum during the first half of this semester.

Cole's exhibit, titled "Afterburn" will run from Jan. 29 thru March 19 and features selected works from 1997 to 2004. Cole's unusual nickname stems from his artistic creations crafted from objects, many of which are steam irons.

Cole credits his upbringing for much of his fascination with domestic objects. Cole, who was raised by his mother and grandmother, said he was often given the

See Cole on page 3



Artist Willie Cole critiques student work in the UK Art Museum Friday. Cole is the opening lecturer for UK's spring Visiting Artists and Scholars Series.

Trustees

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Williams and Edge described the changes as clarifications.

"There won't be much talked about in the meeting itself," Williams said. "Student government will still run the elections. The university appeals board is given the authority to void an election if there are challenges or irregularities but then they send it back to student government for review. It's just a clarification of the current policy."

The University Appeals Board overturned the March 2005 SG decision, which gave presidential candidate Will Nash the SG presidency. Nash won the election by 171 votes over Ellingsworth. She subsequently sued UK and won the election in a lawsuit in Fayette Circuit Court.

Calls to Ellingsworth were not returned, but she has said previously that she has a huge problem with University Appeals Board's authority under the new changes.

Ben Carter, SG chairman

of the operations and evaluations committee and senator said the changes take control away from the students.

"What concerns me most about these revisions is the clear conflict of interest," Carter said. "By giving Dr. Terrell such explicit oversight of student government, the Board of Trustees will in effect give the administration control over one of the votes on the Board of Trustees."

"I view this as a very dangerous precedent for students, faculty etc."

SG presidents are the only student representative on the Board of Trustees, there was no representative until Ellingsworth was named president.

Dembo said he and all the trustees welcome student input on the matter.

The Board of Trustees is expected to put the regulation changes on the agenda to be voted on during its March 7 meeting, said Edge, chairwoman of the student affairs committee. The board is required to look at governing regulation changes twice.

Williams said proposals that get this far are usually

approved.

Provost expected to be officially confirmed

Several trustees also said they expected the board to vote to approve on the selection of Kumble Subbaswamy as UK's new provost.

Over Winter Break, President Lee Todd ended a nine-month search for a new provost by naming Subbaswamy as his choice to permanently replace former Provost Mike Nietzel. Interim Provost Scott Smith, dean of the College of Agriculture, has filled in for Nietzel since he left to become president of Southwest Missouri State University in July.

"One of the things he'll have to do is understand where we are and where we need to go and what the gap is between those, especially factoring into it how much money the legislature does or does not give us," Dembo said.

Subbaswamy previously taught at UK from 1978 to 1997 and held several leadership positions over that time span.

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Loans

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"We're not cutting money out of it," Bush said. "In other words, people aren't going to be cut off the program. We're just making sure it works better."

Becky Timmons, director of government relations for the American Council on Education, said the president had it half-right. "When you take (\$12.7 billion) out of the program, you can both hit the lenders and make students and parents pay a lot more when they repay their loans," she said.

Student groups were unwilling to concede even that much. "The cuts will mostly come from charging higher interest rates to students and

parents who are struggling with higher education costs," said Jasmine L. Harris, legislative director of the U.S. Student Association, a student lobbying organization.

Interest rates on the two main loan programs — one for students, one for parents — are written in law but subject to different interpretations.

Loans to students carry market-driven rates, now 4.7 percent while students are in school and 5.3 percent once they have graduated. Under current law, both rates will go to 6.8 percent as of July, with all repayments going to the lending institutions that provided the loan. Under a spending-cut bill that is one final House vote away from enactment, the rate would also be 6.8 percent — but the difference between the market-driven rate and the legislated rate would go to the government, not the lending institu-

tions.

Student groups believe that the excess should go to them, in the form of lower interest rates. "Students and their parents will be paying their loans back at higher-than-market rates so that the government can pay for tax cuts for the very rich," said Luke Swarthout of the State Public Interest Research Groups' Higher Education Project.

Interest rates on loans taken out by parents, now at 7.1 percent, would go up to 7.9 percent under current law and 8.5 percent under the spending-cut bill.

"Students and their parents will be paying more," said Robert Shireman, executive director of the Institute for College Access and Success at the University of California, Berkeley. "Whether to blame the bill or a prior Congress is a matter of opinion."

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TECHCHECK | not just for geeks

It's all about the Pentiums, baby

In the past few weeks it seems that the technology world has been turned upside down. First, Intel announced the end of the "Intel Inside" marketing campaign that had been Intel's marketing front since 1991. Intel will now use "Lead Ahead" as their slogan.



Roger Chui
TECH COLUMNIST

Intel has now gone on to introduce a new line of mobile processors, called Intel Core Duo. These processors are a great improvement over Intel's current mobile line, Pentium M. Core Duo chips have two processors on every chip, so each chip has twice the processing power as the previous generation. In addition, each chip is even more power efficient than the Pentium M line. This means improved battery life and better multimedia performance for users on the go. We can expect to see laptops with the Intel Core Duo chip sometime next month.

However, possibly the biggest announcement was Apple's introduction of their new Intel product line at MacWorld 2006. Macintosh CEO Steve Jobs showed off

two new Apple products featuring the Intel Core Duo processor: a new iMac, and the MacBook Pro, a new laptop, which is replacing their PowerBook line. The introduction of these two products heralds the end of Apple's 15-year dedication to the PowerPC architecture, IBM and Motorola.

The new Intel-based Apple (Mactel, in techno-slang) computers are touted to be twice as fast as the iMac G5 and four times as fast as the Powerbook G4. However, this is not completely true. Most Mac software is not compatible with Intel, but for applications that are not yet compatible, Apple uses a compatibility layer, code-named Rosetta.

The Rosetta stone, as you might know, taught us how to read Egyptian hieroglyphs using Greek. In much the same way, Rosetta tells the Intel chip how to read the PowerPC software, but at the cost of some speed. Thus, Web browsing, iTunes and other applications native to Intel processors will perform faster, while programs that have not yet been updated like Photoshop, Final Cut Pro and Office may take a performance hit. Ultimately, users with Intel Macs will have to purchase new software designed for the Intel processors for best performance.

The new iMacs are available for \$1,299 for a 17-inch

screen and \$1,699 for a 20-inch screen. The MacBook Pro will ship in February at a starting cost of \$1,299.

However, Intel isn't the only one running the show. Rumors have surfaced that Dell will move away from Intel and start offering AMD chips. AMD (Advanced Micro Devices), has competed with Intel in the processor market for over two decades, and up until recently has been an underdog in the business. With the introduction of the Athlon processor a few years ago, more users, especially gamers, have been switching to AMD processors due to the lower cost and better performance.

The world's largest computer manufacturer, Hewlett-Packard, already offers AMD processors in their computers, but the purported AMD-Dell deal would mean the United States' largest computer manufacturer was also joining the AMD bandwagon by offering the more budget-friendly processors.

So what does all of this mean? Basically, if you are thinking of buying a computer right now, wait a month or two. Most likely, you'll end up with a much better computer for much less money.

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Cole

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task of fixing broken objects, and became interested in the object's "life."

His work with irons in particular was inspired by a single moment.

"I saw an iron on the street that had been run over by a car. That changed my life," Cole said.

Cole said the crushed iron reminded him of an African mask. He then began to work with irons, and, for over two years, never had to purchase an iron for his work. Cole always seemed to find old irons whenever he needed them.

"That's why I feel the iron chose me," said Cole, referring to the title of the lecture he gave last week at Lexington's Downtown Arts Center.

Local artist Georgia Henkel attended the lecture. She also plans to attend the "Afterburn" exhibit.

"I've never seen anyone make art out of the burn marks of an iron before," said Henkel.

"The found (object) art pieces he does are most interesting to me," said Carla Moore, a Docent — a teacher who's not a faculty member — at the UK Art Museum.

The domestic objects Cole works with are often crafted into exotic-looking art pieces. For example, Cole

has crafted ironing boards into an art piece resembling Zulu shields, titled "Domestic Shields." The largest piece Cole has ever created was made from an old 20-foot fiberglass sailboat.

Cole said he imagines a fictional people called the "Cult of the Domestic"



COURTESY UK PM
Willie Cole is known for his use of domestic appliances in his art work. "Perm-Press," pictured above, was sculpted from irons.

when creating his work with irons. He thinks about how to visually represent the people, their gods and the manifestation of those gods'

power. To Cole, the scorch marks of the iron are the real "evidence" of that power.

Though he does not think his work is a laughing matter, Cole's presentation was laced with humor.

"At first, I wouldn't mix brands," Cole said jokingly of his steam iron sculptures. Later necessity forced him to mix brands to compose his pieces, he said.

Cole's current work experiments with the medium of high-heeled shoes. The work that will be on display at the UK Art Museum will consist of many different pieces of Cole's work, not only his "iron period." This includes sculptures, paintings and several other forms of art. The "Afterburn" exhibit will feature pieces made from items such as sinks, faucets, bicycle parts and concrete lawn jockeys.

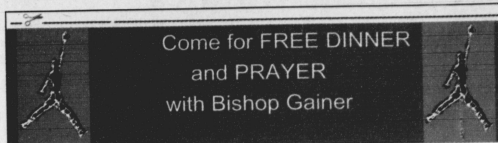
Much of Cole's art has African themes, and that will ideally draw a broader crowd to the exhibit, said Kathy Walsh-Piper, director of the UK Art Museum.

"We're hoping we'll get more of the African-American community to come to the exhibit," Walsh-Piper said.

Tickets to the "Afterburn" exhibit are \$5 for the public, \$3 for senior citizens and \$4 for groups. Admission is free for UK Art Museum members, as well as all students and UK faculty, staff and alumni.

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GO CATS! BEAT THOSE TIGERS!



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Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement
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CAMPUS CALENDAR

VISIT THE WEB SITE FOR EVENT DETAILS OR TO POST YOUR OWN UK EVENT.

The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement. Registered Student Orgs. and UK Depts. can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information it to appear. Call 257-8867 for more information.

Tuesday 24 th	Wednesday 25 th	Thursday 26 th	Friday 27 th	Saturday 28 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •BINGO, 7:00 PM, Student Center Cat's Den •Alpha Phi Omega Active Meeting, 7:30 PM, Student Center, Room 359 •Alpha Phi Omega Co-ed Service Fraternity Informal Meeting, 6:00 PM, Student Center Room 359 •James W. Stuckert Career Center Drop-In Hours, 3:00 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center 408 Rose Street •Soc. of Telecom. Scholars Meeting, 5:00 PM, Maggie Room, Grehan Building •Fencing Club Practice, 8:00 PM, Buell Armory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Vagina Monologues Auditions, 7:00 PM, Fine Arts Black Box Theater •James W. Stuckert Career Center Drop-In Hours, 3:00 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center 408 Rose Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Student Center Film Series, 10:00 PM, Center Theater •Table Tennis Tournament, 7:00 PM, Student Center Cats Den •Fencing Club Practice, 8:00 PM, Buell Armory •Dancer Registration Meeting, 5:00 PM, 211 Student Center •UK Relay for Life Team captains Meeting, 8:00 PM, WTYoung Library Gallery •RSA General Assembly Meetings, 5:30 PM, 359 Student Center •Non-Traditional Student Organization meeting, 7:25 PM, Pazzo's •James W. Stuckert Career Center Drop-In Hours, 3:00 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center 408 Rose Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Student Center Film Series, 10:00 PM, Worsham Theater in the Student Center •Comedy Caravan, 8:00 PM, Student Center Cats Den •Concert—Bluesgrass music, 7:00 PM, Worsham Theatre •ICF Free Dinner and Fellowship, 7:00 PM, CSF Building (across from Cooperstown Apt.) •James W. Stuckert Career Center Drop-In Hours, 3:00 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center 408 Rose Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Swing Dance, 8:00 PM, Arthur Murray Dance Studio, 1801 Alexandria Dr., Lexington, KY •Student Center Film Series, 10:00 PM, Worsham Theater in the Student Center
				Sunday 29 th
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UKUFO, 10:00 PM, Seaton Field

Opinions

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IN OUR OPINION

Religious studies deserve a department

The study of religion at UK will receive a boost thanks to a \$500,000 donation from a Lexington couple.

Dr. Carol Cottrill, a pediatric cardiologist, and her husband, Tom Rolfe, a retired religion teacher, donated the funds for the endowment of the Cottrill-Rolfe Catholic Studies chair. The state has pledged to match the donation, and the teaching position could be filled within two to three years.

Since UK already offers classes in Islamic and Judaic studies, adding a Catholic studies chair serves to enhance the intellectual diversity of courses offered by the university. Teaching religion at a public university is perfectly acceptable as long as professors approach the topic from an academic standpoint and don't venture into proselytizing.

Currently, religion classes fall under the realm of the College of Arts and Sciences. Islamic studies courses are taught by professors from other departments, while the College houses an endowed professorship in Judaic studies, with an other professorship in Jewish history planned for the future.

Rolfe said he and his wife donated the funds because of the impact of religion on American culture. "I think it's a great part of our background of Americans. I think it should be something that will add to the university and the community."

"Hopefully ... there will be a religious study program for all religions at the university," Rolfe said. We agree.

That UK has no religious studies department is a fact of which many students are probably unaware. We hope the formation of a Catholic studies chair will spur the

university to create a full religious studies program. As long as the department is balanced, it would serve to add a worthwhile field of study for UK students of the future.

Current interdisciplinary departments such as women's studies and African-American studies draw from faculty elsewhere in the university, so the creation of a religious studies department would not necessarily mean bringing in a plethora of new faculty. Professors of history, philosophy, classics and the previously mentioned Islamic and Judaic studies programs would comprise the faculty of the new department.

A combined religious studies program would allow interested students to focus on those courses, instead of making them secondary to their major. It might be assumed that talented students interested in a degree in religion have gone elsewhere because UK lacks their intended major. The new department and its associated major could draw in those students, thereby improving UK with a wider diversity of academics and students.

UK owes Cottrill and Rolfe its gratitude for their generous donation. If nothing more, the creation of the Catholic studies chair will serve to improve the intellectual diversity of courses offered at UK. We hope the university will take the reins and create a religious studies program. Religion is, after all, an eminent presence in the history of American culture. As College of Arts and Sciences Dean Steven Hoch said, "We're talking about teaching people the great intellectual traditions and the significance of religious life across the centuries."



AARON SMITH, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Maybe my PC and I should just be friends

I'm in a one-sided love relationship. We used to spend hours listening to music, playing games and enjoying each other's company.



Hilly Schiffer
KERNEL COLUMNIST

It's all over now though. We don't spend time together working on homework and looking at pictures anymore.

In fact, our relationship has crashed. My computer has inevitably had too much of me and has decided to stop contributing to its part of the relationship.

I'm in love with my computer, but I'm afraid it does not love me back. After watching a "Sex in the City" episode where Carrie Bradshaw loses all of her computer documents, I decided it would be smart to start backing up everything on my computer. One night, I finally had an evening where I could start backing up all of my pictures and documents, so I pushed the "on" button and waited for my computer to boot up.

I waited longer but still nothing. It wouldn't let me log in. After several tries at restarting the computer and troubleshooting as much as I knew, I made the desperate call for help. "Well, that does not sound good," said the service-line oper-

ator. "What do you mean? All of my stuff is gone?" I asked. "Well, I could work on it, but I can't guarantee that you will have all of your documents that were saved in your 'My Documents' file," he said.

I don't remember the next several seconds after he told me the news. I felt sick. I had spent the past three years spending time making this computer feel like mine by filling it with my pictures, essays and music. Now they were lost in megabyte land.

I felt empty, as if all of my college memories had been taken away from me. This computer was my first purchase totally dependent upon my own bank account. It took all of my high school graduation money to get it, and I was devastated just thinking about how I could survive the rest of college without a computer.

I took my computer to be fixed and once again waited to hear what the damage was and if I would ever be able to see the pictures of my friends from freshman year again. For the past several weeks I have been bumming off my roommate's computer, which ironically has been having printer problems. Finally, yesterday, I heard word on my computer.

"Well the bad news is, your hard drive has crashed, and it is \$60 to replace," he explained. "But the good news is that I'll be able to retrieve your 'My Documents' file from it."

If I weren't in a restaurant

with my parents when I heard the news I would have jumped up and down screaming, "Hallelujah!"

Computers are such a beautiful thing when they work, but when they don't, it is infuriating. Before my computer crashed and immediately afterward, I couldn't imagine my life without the sound of a clicking keyboard. I am here today to prove that I have survived.

While on my computer hiatus, however, I had to relearn what life was like before computers.

I started thinking about when I had a pen pal from Alaska whom I contacted only through letters. Those of you who still have a loving relationship with your computer may have forgotten what letters are. They are those envelopes that appear in your mailbox without a credit card logo on it asking for money.

Letters, yes, letters. I can't recall the last time I sent a letter, because I do everything on the computer. It is my mailbox, pen and paper, photo album, and CD player all in one.

Space is necessary in a computer relationship. I have learned to appreciate quality, meaningful time together instead of large quantities of time. I believe my computer and I will be able to work through our problems. Although it was a hard breakup, I know that it has made us a better, stronger couple.

Hilly Schiffer is a journalism senior. E-mail hschiffer@kykernel.com.

Workforce event a good start for diversity goal

UK is finally turning words into actions regarding efforts to increase diversity on campus.

Last week's Workforce Diversity Day brought employers who were looking to recruit minority applicants to UK's James W. Stuckert Career Center. Both employers and students told The Kernel the event was a success.

Obviously, this was a boon to current minority students who will soon be entering the job market, and that is a worthy goal in itself. But holding events like this should also be a prime focus of UK's efforts to become a more diverse campus.

Helping minority students find employment can also help UK by serving as a focal point for diversity recruiting efforts. "Come to UK because we'll help you get a job" is certainly a more appealing campaign than "Come to UK because

we desperately need to bring up our diversity numbers."

And the fact that the private sector realizes the importance of diversity and actively seeks applicants from different backgrounds should serve as an illustration to show UK administrators how crucial diversity is.

Multiple employers told The Kernel that having a diverse staff is a benefit. Considering the abysmal state of diversity at UK — as of the 2004-2005 school year, only 65 of the school's 1,920 full-time faculty members were black — university administrators should absorb these employers' message and realize the importance of attracting a more diverse faculty. Not only will it help UK recover from recent negative publicity, but it will also work toward the far more important goal of making UK a better university.

Trustees should preserve student authority in SG elections

In the coming months, the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees will be voting twice upon possible changes to the university's governing regulations concerning Student Government.



Becky Ellingsworth
KERNEL COLUMNIST

The governing regulations are essentially the highest rules, or the "constitution," if you will, of the university. They are the final authority in any university issue and supersede any other university regulations that conflict with them.

Recently, The Kernel has devoted many columns and editorials to critiquing SG and defending any actions diluting the authority of SG. The Kernel has every right to write anything it chooses; however, I believe the student body should be educated with all information regarding this weighty issue. The University Senate Council, UKSG University Senate Caucus and SG emphatically oppose some of these proposed changes, viewing them as a direct impediment to the independence of the student body and its ability to self-govern.

The results of last year's SG elections have prompted many administrators to clarify the relationship between SG and the university. Currently, Governing Regulation XI-A allows for a delicate balance in which Student Government is responsible to the university when it comes to fiscal matters, yet independent when it comes to representing the entire Student Body on policy issues. In particular, it allows Student Government to create, amend and interpret its own rules for composition. Even more specifically, it allows SG to have final oversight of its elections, which keeps the final determination of the student trustee in the hands of students themselves.

While it is understandable that the UK administration would like to avoid another lawsuit, the amendments to the governing regulations

being proposed are disappointing at best. I can understand the stance of the administration on Section A of the proposed amendments, which defines more clearly the roles of the Vice President of Student Affairs and the SG adviser; but also believe that they are inserted unnecessarily.

The administration already has oversight of Student Government, and the Vice President for Student Affairs and the SG adviser already both have the ability to guide and advise the organization on written university policy and procedures.

However, when one reads further to Section C(3) of the proposed amendments, where it discusses the authority of the University Appeals Board in SG elections, the draft set forth by administrators becomes more troubling.

The University Appeals Board, whose members are appointed by the president of the university, consists of at least five faculty members and up to three students for each case heard. The proposed amendment to Governing Regulation XI would give the appeals

board the authority to affirm or void the entire SG election in cases where a student alleges that their rights have been violated in a student election. This in itself is the most crucial problem with the changes that the Board of Trustees will be voting on, because although not directly specifying the winning candidate, it does not protect the sanctity of SG's ability to interpret its own rules. It also removes any form of protection to the elected Student Trustee seat from any error on the part of the University Appeals Board.

The relationship of the Board of Trustees with the president of UK is one of steward and employee. Neither the president of the University of Kentucky nor members of his administration should have a role, no matter how minor, in selecting the steward of the university. Neither the charter nor the legislature ever contemplated the UK president being able to affect the election of the trustees.

This holds true for the student member, the faculty members, the alumni members and the staff member. Should such changes be made in regards to students, then the same changes need to be made in regard to the alumni, faculty and staff trustees. Anything short of that would amount to a diminution of the students' representative.

If those changes are made, then the very fabric of the relationship between the trustees and the president will forever be torn. There will no longer be independence for the composition of much of the Board of Trustees.

No matter what conflict occurred with the SG election, the Circuit Court has affirmed that the UK student court got it right. Where there is no problem, there is no need for a new answer. The SG election proceedings worked, and as Judge Gary Payne ruled, proved "the worth of the SGA process." The student seat on the board needs to remain in the hands of the students; let us hope that the Board of Trustees recognizes its responsibility to protect this basic right of the student body.

Becky Ellingsworth is the Student Government president. Email opinions@kykernel.com.

E-MAIL

opinions@kykernel.com

Submissions

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.

Note to Readers

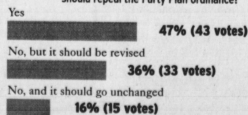
The Opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas.

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2006 Lady Legends Dance Team Try-Outs

Following a try-out on FEBRUARY 17th at 7:00pm, tryouts will be held on FEBRUARY 24th at 7:00pm. Tryouts will be held on the 2nd floor of the Student Center. Mandatory Dance Clinic: Wed. Jan. 25, 2006 from 7:00pm - 9:00pm at the UK Club of Lexington. Cost: \$25.00 per applicant.

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Kentucky Kernel

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Publishes Feb. 6

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UK edges UofL, stays perfect

By Chris Miles
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The UK women's tennis team clawed its way past UofL as it hosted its in-state rival at the Hilary J. Boone Tennis Center last night.

The 13th-ranked Cats entered the match looking to extend a two-match winning streak after playing Richmond and Marshall on the road over the weekend.

"UofL came ready to play and wanted to beat us," junior Joelle Schwenk said. "But we were up for the challenge."

Last season, UK crushed Louisville by a 7-0 tally. This year, though, the Cards were looking to exact revenge, and they took UK down to the wire before coming up short.

The Cardinals took an early lead, winning two of three doubles matches to earn the doubles point. The momentum changed from UofL toward UK, though, when junior Lara Maurer won her singles match to make the Cats and Cards even at 1-1 and set in motion a tide of UK victories.

"They had a lot of firepower," Maurer said.

Schwenk had no doubt that the Wildcats would come back and rally.

"We believed in ourselves," Schwenk said. "Others might have their doubts, but we have no doubts."

Schwenk played a tough two sets but was eventually came out on top with a 6-4, 6-3 win to tie the match at 2-2.

The Cardinals hung in with the Cats for a long time, with the contest coming down to the very last match. Twice the teams were tied, and it looked like the momentum could turn from one team to the other at any time.

"We fought hard," junior Liis Sober said. "Every one of us did."

Junior Kim Coventry, ranked 53rd nationally in singles, played an especially tough match, losing her first set 6-1. But she was able to pull through, winning her



WHITNEY WATERS | STAFF
UK junior Kim Coventry smacks a forehand in her doubles match yesterday at the Hilary J. Boone Tennis Complex. Coventry and Lara Maurer lost to UofL's doubles team 9-8 (5) in a tiebreak.

second set by a 6-3 score and the third by a 6-4 margin to give the Cats a 3-2 advantage.

"We were playing hard," Schwenk said. "We tried to fight for every point and took chances when we had them."

With the win, first-year head coach Carlos Drada kept a perfect record.

"We've really been improving," Schwenk said. "The way we're playing, I know (the season) looks good."
E-mail: cmiles@kykernel.com

BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK

Tubby: Cats could be shooting selves in foot

By Josh Sullivan
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The UK men's basketball team has looked uncharacteristically assassinate-like in its last two games, shooting 56 percent from the field in victories over Georgia and South Carolina.

But despite consecutive wins that have moved the Cats (12-6, 2-2 Southeastern Conference) one game out of the SEC East Division lead, UK head coach Tubby Smith isn't quite ready to dub this Wildcat squad "Team Turnaround."

"When you shoot the ball well, it can cover up a lot of other mistakes you make," Smith said. "We didn't play that well (against South Carolina) other than shooting, looking back at the tape. We still have to rebound better."

The Cats have been beaten on the boards by three of their last four opponents, most recently against South Carolina on Saturday. UK's inability to crash the defensive glass likely would have spelled defeat against the Gamecocks, had it not been for clutch three-pointers from guards Patrick Sparks and Rajon Rondo.

With just over a minute to go and the score tied at 74, South Carolina snagged four offensive rebounds in a single possession that led to a pair of

free throws and a two-point Gamecock lead with 39 seconds left.

Smith also took issue with the Cats' defensive play over the last several games.

"Our transition defense has been a problem all season long," he said. "We've done a poor job of contesting shots."

Three of UK's last five opponents have shot at least 50 percent from the field. In the previous two seasons, only two opponents had hit half their shots.

Smith said his players must understand that they're running out of time to get things back on track.

"We don't have any room for mistakes now," he said. "We've got to play with a real sense of urgency now, especially after dropping two home games in the league."

Tubby mum on sports psychologist

Smith has apparently grown tired of all the talk about the Cats' therapy session last week before the Georgia game. After UK knocked off the Bulldogs 69-55 to break a three-game losing streak and notch its first SEC win of the year, Smith credited sports psychologist Andrew Weiner, an associate professor of sports leadership at UK, with helping the team get it together mentally. Yesterday, when a local sports radio

call-in show host mentioned to Smith that he'd seen Weiner speaking with Rajon Rondo before practice, Smith said, "I saw it too, and I'm not talking about it."

Hayes Producing in Pro

Former UK forward and fan-favorite Chuck Hayes is becoming a reliable reserve in the NBA.

After signing a 10-day contract last Wednesday, Hayes is averaging 23 minutes per game — the most playing time of all Houston Rockets bench players.

On Friday, Hayes played a key role in the Rockets' 109-108 double-overtime victory against the Chicago Bulls. He was Houston's fourth-leading scorer, knocking down four of his five shots and all four of his free throws for 12 points. He led the team in rebounds with 13, including an offensive board that led to the game-winning 3-pointer.

Hayes signed a free agent contract with the Rockets after going unselected in the June draft and played in four pre-season games, but was waived after an ankle injury caused him to fail a team physical.

Josh Sullivan covers UK men's basketball for the Kernel. This article contains his observations and opinions. Reach him at jsullivan@kykernel.com.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Lineup change brings win

A change in the starting lineup paid dividends for the UK women's basketball team this weekend, as junior guard and new starter Nastassia Alcius scored a season-high 16 points in 27 minutes and sophomore center Sarah Elliott came off the bench to notch her third career double-double, with 15 points and 15 rebounds in the Cats' 91-75 win over Ole Miss in Oxford. Junior guard Jenny Pfeiffer led the team with 19 points, including 9-of-9 from the free-throw line. The UK team as a whole went 26-of-29 from the charity stripe, a season-high 89.7 percent. Guard Samantha Mahoney also came off the bench, finishing with 15 points and five assists. In the lineup change, the Cats (4-4, 3-2 Southeastern Conference) are off to their best SEC start since the 1999-2000 season.

Sanders named QB's coach

Former Tennessee offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach Randy Sanders has been named as the new quarterbacks coach for UK, head coach

Rich Brooks announced yesterday. He served 22 years as a player and coach for the Volunteers, including the last seven as offensive coordinator. Sanders' first game as Tennessee's offensive coordinator was the win over Florida State in the 1999 Fiesta Bowl, a win that gave the Vols the national title. During his Tennessee tenure, Sanders coached in 16 bowl games, four SEC championships and six Eastern Division titles. The Vols won over 77 percent of their games.

Season-best score for rifle

The UK rifle team fired its highest total score of the year, downing Xavier 498-459 at Buell Armory. Junior Amy Sowash and freshman Jason Dardas finished 1-2 in both the smallbore and air rifle competitions. Sowash took the air rifle, 583 to 592, over Dardas. Dardas snagged the smallbore with a 588 to Sowash's 586. All eight UK scores were higher than their Xavier counterparts.

Tennis serves up pair of wins

The Cats brought the Carlos Drada

era in with a bang Saturday, as they demolished Richmond and Marshall, 7-0 and 5-2, to give the former UK All-American his first two victories as head coach. The Cats didn't lose a match to Richmond, winning all six singles contests and the three doubles matches. Against Marshall, the Cats lost the doubles point but won five of the six singles matches to cruise to the win. Senior Danielle Petrisko won all four of her matches for the day.

Swimming & Diving team trounces UofL

Both the men and women's swimming and diving teams defeated UofL Saturday at Louisville's Ralph Wright Natatorium. The No. 18 men won 160-125, while the women completed a 172-119 dispatching of the intrastate rival. Both teams claimed a victory in 11 of the 16 events. Senior All-America Daniel Farnham defeated his brother, UofL's Jon Farnham, in the 100-meter freestyle. The Cats' next match is Feb. 4 against Cincinnati on Senior Day.

COMPILED FROM UK ATHLETICS REPORTS

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