

# KENTUCKY KERNEL

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2008

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## Police: Alcohol possible factor in crash

By Kenny Colston  
kcolston@kykernel.com

Lexington Police believe excessive speeding and alcohol may have played a role in the Nov. 22 car crash involving former UK volleyball player Jenni Casper.

Casper died a day later at UK Hospital from blunt force trauma resulting from the car crash.

A police report obtained

Tuesday said Casper was a suspected "drinking driver." Results of a blood test taken when Casper was admitted to UK Hospital on Saturday morning won't be known for another week.

A witness to Casper's accident said she sped through the light at the intersection of Chinoe and Fontaine



Casper

roads at speeds of 60 to 70 mph around 2 a.m. Saturday before Casper lost control of her car around a turn, according to the report.

The car then jumped over a curb and hit a tree just south of that intersection, causing Casper's severe injuries, the report said.

The normal speed limit for both Chinoe and Fontaine

are listed as 35 mph according to the police report. The report does not suspect any vehicular or environmental factors influenced the accident.

Casper was a standout volleyball player for UK from 2003 to 2006, earning Southeastern Conference Defensive Player of the Year honors twice. The Louisville native graduated from UK in May 2007 and held the SEC record for career digs.

## Concessions one call away at Rupp Arena

By Rory Greene  
news@kykernel.com

Hungry fans at Saturday's UK basketball game no longer have to move from their seats to order concessions. Thanks to a new Internet application created by a student, they can use their phones.

With the FanGo Ordering System, a free application that can be downloaded from [www.textordergo.com/fango/](http://www.textordergo.com/fango/) that will be available sometime before Saturday's game, customers place an order from their cell phones, which is received by waiting concession staff members.

Students in the lower level have the option of having concessions delivered to their seats, and students in the upper section must go get food because seating is so tight.

During Saturday's game, the system will be available only to the student section.

TextOrderGo, the company behind FanGo, plans to release the product for the entire Rupp Arena crowd next year and wants to eventually use an application for taxis, said Collin Wallace, the CEO and co-founder of TextOrderGo and a part-time UK student. They will test the product for the final time in Rupp Arena Wednesday, using 12 people in the arena as testers, he said.

Wallace started the company to help fans eliminate wasted time in long lines for food or souvenirs.

"I was starving, so I text my friend to bring food to our class and I thought, 'We should be able to use this at football games,'" Wallace said.

Originally, the customer would be meant to text in their order, but text messaging, as Wallace discovered, was limiting.

With his system, the customer is able to view the entire menu, make their choices and then have it delivered to their section and seat number. The whole process takes about four minutes, Wallace said.

Wallace's company has been open for a year and a half, but this is their first commercial product.

There are two things that are most stressful

See **Concessions** on page 3

### SHINING LIGHT ON DARK TIMES

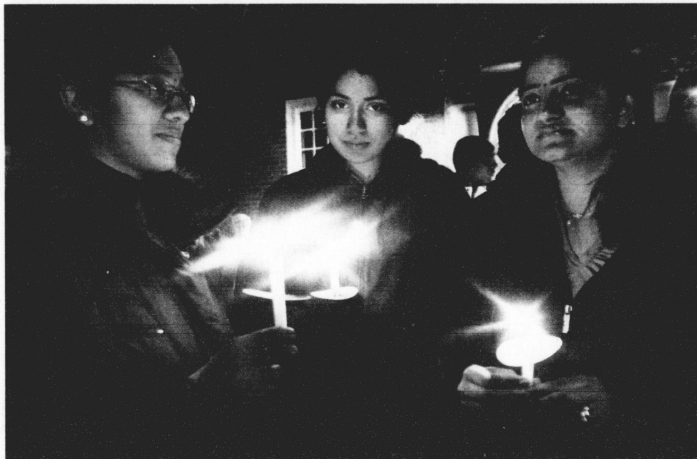


PHOTO BY ALLIE GARZA | STAFF

Electrical engineering graduate student Poojitha Sirigiri, computer science graduate student Renuka Nallamothu and computer science graduate student Shanthi Nalluri hold candles during the beginning of the vigil for Mumbai, India, Tuesday night.

## Mourning Mumbai

By Jill Laster  
jlaster@kykernel.com

Krishna Prayaga felt good, but only for a second.

When Prayaga found out about the terrorist attacks that eventually killed more than 170 in Mumbai, India, he called his family to make sure everyone was OK. They were all safe, and he felt relieved, but another feeling soon followed.

"I knew my family was fine, but then, my countrymen were dying," Prayaga said.

Prayaga was one of about 150 UK students and other members of the Lexington community to participate in a vigil Tuesday night in response to the Mumbai terrorist attacks, in which 12 different targets were attacked last week, including two luxury hotels, a café and a railroad station, according to news re-

ports. It took nearly three days before the last militant was killed.

Although Prayaga said he found it "difficult to even string two sentences together," he addressed the crowd Tuesday night in the courtyard of Bradley Hall about the attacks.

"Let us renew our hope to stand united against terror," Prayaga said to the crowd waiting for the march to begin, with unlit candles in hand. "This walk may be just a gesture, but I view it as a first step against this terrorism."

Marchers went from Bradley Hall past the Main Building and into the Free Speech Area of the Student Center, with the flames of small white candles stretching spans as long as from Bradley Hall to the Funkhouser Building.

Walking by Funkhouser with a lit

See **Vigil** on page 3

## Death toll 173 in terrorist attacks

By Zachary R. Dowdy  
Newsday

As officials in India struggled to restore order to Mumbai in the wake of a series of simultaneous blasts in the commercial center last Wednesday, they also grappled with the question of why the attacks occurred.

A little known group called the Deccan Mujahideen notified media outlets and claimed responsibility for the bombings and shootings at 12 sites at hotels, railway stations and other high-profile locations in Mumbai, formerly known as Bombay.

At least 173 were killed, and nearly 300 hurt.

One scholar said the blasts were well-coordinated and that the perpetrators of what is one of In-

See **Attacks** on page 3

### WORLD AIDS WEEK

## Advocate to discuss son's struggle with AIDS

By Najah Allouch  
news@kykernel.com

All he wanted to do was go to school and live a normal life, but for 13-year-old AIDS patient Ryan White, some thought that was too much to ask.

Ryan and his mother Jeanne White-Ginder became early advocates for HIV/AIDS patients' rights in the late 1980s as they set out to battle the court system and allow Ryan the right to attend school.

Ultimately, they won the battle but still faced discrimination from some families and students of the school Ryan wished to attend.

White-Ginder will discuss her son's legacy at UK on Wednesday, along with the struggles she went through as a mother of a child with AIDS.

The event will take place at Memorial Hall at 7 p.m. as part of World AIDS Week and is sponsored by both on- and off-campus health care groups.

"We are very excited to have Ryan White's mother on campus," said Jana Collins, the financial manager and program coordinator for the co-sponsor Bluegrass Care Clinic. "She and her son became the face of AIDS early in the epidemic as they faced not only diagnosis, but the stigma associated with the disease."

According to the Ryan White Web site, [www.ryanwhite.com](http://www.ryanwhite.com), Ryan gave testimony in 1988 before the National Commission on AIDS as an advocate.

"AIDS can destroy a family if you let it, but luckily for my sister and me, mom taught us to keep going," he said. "Don't

give up, be proud of who you are and never feel sorry for yourself."

Ryan contracted the illness after getting a tainted treatment for hemophilia. After he learned of his sickness, his mother said Ryan wanted to live a normal

life, go to school, be with friends and enjoy day-to-day activities.

He eventually became a very public figure and gained many famous friends including Elton John and Michael Jackson.

Although Ryan was surprised by all of the attention he received, he used his fame to further his agenda of removing discrimination against people with the disease and clarifying misinformation about the disease.

After his death in 1990, Ryan's mother continued to push Ryan's dream to help end the discrimination of AIDS victims. She still speaks in front of churches, schools and conventions about the experiences her family went through with AIDS.

"It is appropriate to bring someone like White-Ginder because of the struggles she and her family had to go through with HIV/AIDS," said Tim Crawford, president of event co-sponsor the Student Public Health Association.

#### If you go

What: Jeanne White-Ginder  
When: Wednesday at 7 p.m.  
Where: Memorial Hall  
Admission: Free

#### If you go

What: Massage on the Go  
When: Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Where: Wildcat Lounge in the Student Center  
Admission: Free

# SUDOKU

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## Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black  
 To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.  
**Aries (March 21-April 19)** — Today is an 8 — Your friends are there for you, and they'll be a big help. They think you can do anything, which is nice.  
**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** — Today is a 5 — Listen as someone outlines his or her grand plans for the future. Offer practical advice if asked, but don't expect it to be followed. Do what you need to do to keep the cash flowing.  
**Gemini (May 21-June 21)** — Today is an 8 — Go ahead and make your wish list. What harm is there in asking? It's always good to be prepared. Dream big it's free, and sometimes dreams come true.  
**Cancer (June 22-July 22)** — Today is a 6 — You have a plan, and you're working it. This is

very smart. Keep checking items off your lists and building up your reserves. When the need comes, you'll be ready.  
**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** — Today is an 8 — The work's plentiful, but not disgusting. You're pretty good at it, and getting better. You're starting to see ways to make the job easier. Take care, you could get promoted.  
**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Today is a 7 — It's one thing right after another, all day and well into the night. All goes relatively smoothly and the outcome looks good, although some things are not finished yet.  
**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** — Today is a 7 — The truth will be revealed. Better watch out; this also applies to you. If you have any secrets, keep them carefully hidden.  
**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — Today is a 7 — You're anxious to tell the world about a fabulous deal you found. That isn't necessary, and it could ruin the

surprise. Tell one close family member, who can keep a secret.  
**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — Today is an 8 — You're a good storyteller, and you can be very funny. If you don't already know, you don't have to work off the cuff. All the best comedians practice ahead of time.  
**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — Today is a 7 — You have a compulsion to get old projects done and out of the way. This is good. It will bring in much-needed cash and space. And it will brighten your entire outlook.  
**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** — Today is an 8 — You're one of the people who can turn fantasy into reality. You do it through more than imagination; you also employ careful research. It's a good combination. Use it again.  
**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** — Today is a 6 — Beautiful dreams are more than a catchy phrase, under these conditions. You might dream up a song or a novel from your subconscious.

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## THE DISH

From one ex to another! On Nov. 19, two days before her divorce from Guy Ritchie was wrapped up, Madonna, 50, knocked back cocktails at NYC's Greenwich Hotel with her first hubby, Sean Penn (they were wed from 1985 to 1989). A witness tells Hot Stuff, "They were sitting on a couch and totally engaged in conversation." Adds a Madge source of the encounter, "It was cozy and fun!" (Though Penn, 48, and wife Robin Wright Penn, 42, filed for divorce in December 2007, they withdrew their petitions in April. A Penn source says Robin knew about Sean's drinks with his ex.) As for Madge's settlement with Ritchie, 40, the Madonna source says, "he's getting a fortune," including their \$20.5 million U.K. country estate. (One gossip site says he got \$70 million in total.) And while the singer's daughter, Lourdes, 12, will live full-time with Madonna, a Ritchie source says he will have visitation with sons Rocco, 8, and David, 3, "all summer and at Christmas and Easter. It's what he wanted all along."

### Jennifer Aniston: Meet my dad

John Mayer, 31, hit a relationship milestone with Jennifer Aniston, 39: She introduced him to her father, Days of Our Lives actor John Aniston, 75, and his wife, Sherry, at the Beverly Hills Hotel's Polo Lounge on Nov. 19. As the group dined on steaks and salads, Aniston sipped white wine and gazed happily at Mayer, who drank Jack Daniel's and Diet Coke, did most of the talking and picked up the tab! Now Mayer is returning the favor by offering Aniston the chance to spend Thanksgiving with his family in Connecticut. (She typically joins BFF Courteney Cox's family.) Says a source, "John invited her to go back home with him" after his traditional Turkey Day appearance on the Late Show With David Letterman. "He isn't sure if she'll actually go yet."

### Cameron and Paul shackled up

Cameron's cohabitating! A source tells Hot Stuff that Cameron Diaz has been living with British model beau Paul Sculfor. The aspiring movie actor, 37, who told Us in September, "I do like action and drama" — has been staying with his girlfriend in her Hollywood Hills home. A second source says the duo have also been apart-

## A cozy drink date

ment-hunting in NYC. Says an insider, "They are planning on moving in together. But right now, she doesn't know if she wants to stay in L.A. or move to New York."

(ABC, Dec. 4, 10 p.m.). Cruise says Suri will get a younger sibling: "Talk to Kate. We're going to have more!"

### Pulling the plug

As per E!, ABC has canceled three of its TV programs: Pushing Daisies, Eli Stone and Dirty Sexy Money.

### Signing up

Barack Obama's daughters, Malia, 10, and Sasha, 7, will attend the private Sidwell Friends School when they move to Washington, D.C., in January.

### Don't call it a comeback.

"Comeback" doesn't even come close to describing what Britney Spears has done on her new album, arriving in stores Tuesday, her 27th birthday. Not only is "Circus" the best album of her career, but it could return her to the kind of massive, multiplatinum sales that she hadn't seen since the turn of the century.

"Circus" is overflowing with smart, savvy dance pop, the kind of hits that she has hinted at in the past with "Toxic" and "I'm a Slave 4 U" that creates the perfect escapist soundtrack for these downsized times. All these accomplishments are made that much more incredible considering how low she had sunk personally and professionally last year with her string of tabloid-worthy exploits and the embarrassment of her clumsy train wreck of a performance on MTV's "Video Music Awards."

### 2nd anniversary

Even her eight-performance-a-week schedule couldn't keep Katie Holmes, 29, from spending her second anniversary with Tom Cruise, 46. A source says they "celebrated a day early with dinner" in L.A. Nov. 17 — and she was back on the Broadway stage the next night in NYC! Meanwhile, on Barbara Walters' 10 Most Fascinating People of 2008 special

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## Students on Spring Break trip will help disabled take Grand Canyon vacation

By Kristen Clancy  
news@kykernel.com

Nearly 10 miles of hiking trails, clear streams and a one-mile vertical drop are not considered easy travel for a wheelchair-bound child, but 30 will make such a trip with help from UK students over Spring Break.

UK's Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling program is partnering with Kentucky Easter Seals Camp KYSOC to take 30 young Kentuckians to the bottom of the Grand Canyon during Spring Break, and they are asking for 24 student volunteers to make the trip possible.

An organizational meeting to discuss the trip will be Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. in Room 222 of the Taylor Education Building for those interested.

The cost of the trip is \$795 per person, which includes food, lodging and park passes, but not transportation. Of that, \$200 will go to Camp KYSOC, a free summer camp for children with disabilities in Kentucky. Fundraising options such as corporate sponsors and a charity wheelchair race will be discussed at the meeting, along with cost and transportation.

"This trip is one of the hardest trips anyone will do in their lifetime," said Jim Ebert, executive director of Camp KYSOC. This Thanksgiving, he made the first successful trip to the bottom of the Grand Canyon with a disabled person, a 13-year-old girl.

Ebert said he used every muscle in his body and felt relieved when he reached the bottom. He said with a large team, the job would be much easier. Last time, he went with his three children.

He has taken the trip three times, but this is the first time he succeeded. In the previous trips, there were obstacles in the way that were too large, he said.

The trips are made possible mainly through donations from churches, disability awareness groups and individuals.

Cardinal Hills Health Care Center helped Ebert purchase Kilicarts and Trail Riders, which help transport the wheelchair-bound people over the rough terrain. These machines must be carried over erosion points and rocks, which is a challenge, Ebert said.

"They are kind of like wheelchairs on steroids," said Christopher Rymond, the student organizer of the trip.

Rymond works at Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling. He has been doing a project for his master's degree rehabilitation counseling class, which gave him the idea to work with this program.

"I love the outdoors, and if I couldn't get outside, I'd be upset," Rymond said.

Ebert got the idea four years ago when he was hired as camp director at Camp KYSOC. He has guided over 3,800 people to the bottom of the Grand Canyon, and he realized not one of those people was disabled. One year later, the project was approved, but it took three years to get money because he couldn't get grants. His first trip ended halfway because of the terrain.

"The Grand Canyon is one of the greatest and most adventurous places on the planet, and it needs to be accessible," Ebert said.

What: Grand Canyon trip meeting  
When: Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.  
Where: Room 222, Taylor Education Building  
Admission: Free



Students walked from Bradley Hall to the Student Center on Tuesday night to hold a candlelit vigil to remember those who were killed during the attacks in Mumbai, India, last week. The vigil, held by the Indian Student Association, saw a crowd of about 150 students.

### VIGIL

Continued from page 1

candle in her gloved hand, physics graduate student Akshaya Rane said she was disturbed to hear about the attacks in her hometown because so many people were killed for no reason.

Rane said her family was nervous when she called them — her mother works close to where the attacks occurred — but no one was injured or killed. She said while Mumbai is the safest place in India, terrorist attacks do happen.

"Anything can happen," she said. "Even in Mumbai."

Not all of the students were from the

Mumbai area, but recent political science graduate Kausalya Madhusudhanan said support is important; the terrorist attacks in Mumbai have an impact on all Indians.

"It's like one big Indian family, but it's everyone's responsibility to take care of them," she said. "Even if we are not family, we are all like brothers and sisters."

### ATTACKS

Continued from page 1

dia's the worst terrorist attacks were aimed at the teeth.

The scholar said the latest bombings were sophisticated and far-reaching, the result of lot of planning and financing.

"It suggests a particularly international dimension," said Sunil Khilnani, a scholar at the Washington-based School

of Advanced International Studies of Johns Hopkins University. "It suggests it is something beyond, outside the realm of Indian politics."

Indeed, India is no stranger to bombings. Mumbai was the site of two previous attacks in 2003 and 2006.

## Pakistan village yields few clues about lone captured gunman

By Saeed Shah  
McClatchy Newspapers

FARIDKOT, Pakistan — For the past three days Pakistani intelligence agents and police have been combing this sleepy village in search of clues to the identity of the lone gunman captured in the Mumbai terror attacks, residents said on Monday.

Indian officials and news media officials identified him variously as Ajmal Amir Kamal, Azam Amir Kasav, or Azam Ameer Qasab, and Indian news media quoted police as saying that the alleged killer's home village was in Faridkot, near the city of Multan in the southern part of Pakistan's Punjab province.

Local residents, however, are bewildered and alarmed. They said there was no one by those surnames in this village, and no missing resident who fit the pictures and description shown in the Indian news media.

"All the agencies have been here and the (police) special branch," said village elder Mehboob Khan Daha, referring to Pakistan's plainclothes counterterror police. "We have become very worried."

Agents from Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) also appeared to be present on Monday, questioning locals.

Shown a picture of the alleged militant, Daha said: "That's a smart-looking boy. We don't have that sort around here."

The peasant farmers who inhabit this

dusty backwater own small parcels of land and have little education. Water buffalos and goats roam down the dirt tracks of the village. Men sit around gossiping on traditional woven rope beds, placed out in the open, wearing the usual baggy shalwar kameez pajama suits, some with turbans.

Roughly built small brick homes and mud huts dot the village, which has a population of about 3,000. It's about 33 miles east of the nearest large city, Multan, and a few miles outside the town of Kanewal.

"There are no jihadis here," Ijaz Ahmed, a 41-year-old farmer sitting by Daha, chimed in. "I can think of maybe 10 or 20 people here who have even been as far as Multan."

### CONCESSIONS

Continued from page 1

when starting your own company, Wallace said. First, you're always selling

your ideas to people so you're always on call. The second is the number of people depending on you to make it work.

But Wallace said it is rewarding to help people, like a dad at the basketball game with his children or a student who doesn't want to miss a great basket.

"There are two routes you can take," Wallace said in an e-mail to the Kernel.

"You can go the George Foreman route and create an over-glorified waffle griddle, something that doesn't really help people but makes you a lot of money, or you can go the (Apple CEO) Steve Jobs route and create something that changes the world."

Staff writer Jill Laster contributed to this story.

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# OPINIONS

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### ■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

## Funding must be placed to have greater student impact

For the last few years, our campus has been overwhelmed with talk about the Top 20 Business Plan set out by UK President Lee Todd. Lately, the school's focus averted toward the diversity aspects of that 2020 goal.

Recently, UK combined two separate commissions to form the Commission on Excellence, Diversity and Inclusion, according to a Nov. 25 Kernel article. J.J. Jackson, vice president for institutional diversity, will be the head of the commission that will begin in July of 2009.

While diversity is an important part of any university, one expert believes that it should not be such a large focus for UK — or any school, for that matter. George Leef, vice president for research at The John Williams Pope Center for Higher Education Policy, said diversity efforts are not an essential part of improving education.

"These efforts concerning diversity are for show, and they will not help accomplish prestige," Leef said in the Kernel article. "It's a diversion."

While Leef may believe this, maybe the school's diversity budget just isn't being used in the correct way. UK needs to focus its funding on diversity efforts that actually have an effect on the student body, instead of mediocre events attracting very few students. Student Government's bribing of the students to attend these events by giving away iPod Touches can only go so far.

More of UK's diversity budget should be focused on things like the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center, African-American Studies courses and other diversity-related classes.

Any given day, any time of day, the MLK Center is filled with students. It has weekly events including salsa dance classes, poetry sets, dialogues and international conversation hours. Students attend these events, not for the chance of free gifts, but to expand their knowledge and decrease their ignorance of other cultures. That's what diversity is all about.

Classes are also a critical aspect of increasing diversity awareness. Even though most students take them strictly for the credit hours, learning is sure to take place somewhere along the way. Maybe UK should think about a mandatory diversity class for students.

Leef may be correct in saying diversity efforts don't have an influence on higher education, but it absolutely contributes to the well roundedness of a person.

### ■ LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Bush and his colleagues achieved what they wanted

Jacob Sims, I live out of town but was in Lexington recently and picked up a copy of the Kernel. Upon reading the headline of your column, I immediately guessed that you were an unhappy Republican.

It's disappointing to see a few Republicans expressing their unhappiness with Barack Obama's election and, in doing so, hindering the efforts of the Obama team to do their best to help us out of the "George Bush gang of thieves" mess. It is unpatric, un-American and just plain negative and helps no one. For God's sake, give the man and his team a chance — they are not even in office yet!

Throughout the Obama and John McCain campaign, I often heard it said the Bush administration was one of failed policies. I usually replied with, "No, the Bush administration was not a failure, it was highly successful."

The goal of the Bush and Dick Cheney gang was to make themselves and their friends as rich as possible — through the war and every legislative measure, policy and practice that they could manage to undo or ignore so as to increase profit. They were so successful that they created a new financial class of people — the "super rich" — and it is this wealth gap that is the basis of our current financial crisis.

Look at the record — if you can manage the courage to look at the facts, you will acknowledge the truth of what I write. Some excellent information on these points can be found at [www.christianmatters.com/crashcourse](http://www.christianmatters.com/crashcourse). Good luck to you in your studies.

Lou King  
UK Alum

### Submissions

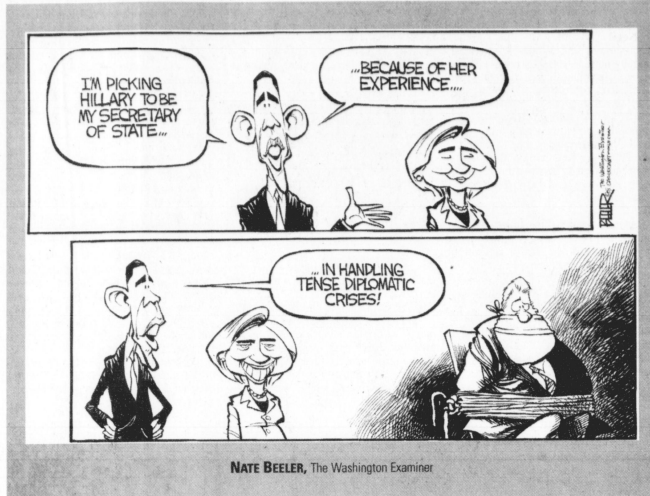
Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Bread Bowling. Please limit letters to 350 words or fewer. Be sure to include your full name, class and major with all submissions.

E-mail [opinions@kykernel.com](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com)

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E-mail [opinions@kykernel.com](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com)



NATE BEELER, The Washington Examiner

## Editorial board's coal sculpture criticism misguided, misinformed

As a UK graduate and engineer working for the last 33 years to help solve the challenges of mining coal in a responsible manner, I was amazed at the Kernel editorial board commentary on Nov. 23. Apparently the editorial board finds all art a waste since all sculptures in one way or another are formed from natural resources. Second, I was also amazed at how uninformed they were about mining issues they discussed in their commentary.



J. STEVEN GARDNER  
Columnist

I have had the opportunity to travel to Ghana and meet many Ghanaians. It is a wonderful country, rich in mining heritage much like Kentucky. Ghanaians are wonderful artists and wonderful people. However, the coal they generally use in their "coal pots" is charcoal (which is made from wood). The nearest country with significant coal reserves that are actually mined is Nigeria. Sculptor El Anatsui specializes in art formed from natural resources: metals, wood and now coal.

The Kernel editorial board has in-

sulted both the people in Kentucky where coal is mined, the legacy of coal miners and Ghanaian culture. Also, they have reinforced the misinformed and negative stereotypes that mining "is ripping apart the state's landscape." Mining is a form of sculpting the earth. Humanity has reshaped the earth's surface since the first tools were made. Lexington and other cities have reshaped the earth, filled miles of streams and impacted the environment.

People of the coalfields who own the land that is being mined are extremely upset that others outside the coalfields are trying to tell them what to do with their land and trying to deny them the same opportunities that those in the Golden Triangle of Lexington, Louisville and Northern Kentucky already have. Thousands of Kentuckians now live, work, go to school, shop, go to the doctor and hospital, fly, play golf, recreate, farm and enjoy the use reclaimed mine land in many ways.

The Kernel editorial board and, in fact, the editors of the Herald-Leader and Courier-Journal, ignore the real experts at UK on engineering, hydrology, forestry and agronomy who have helped develop the science and technologies that allow modern mining to perform such miracles with the land. These experts have helped turn mining into a form of sustainable development that

will provide opportunities for the Appalachian region and the Western Kentucky coalfields for generations to come. True, mining does present environmental challenges and there have been tragedies that have taken human life, but what human activity has not?

Coal has allowed our country to advance to the point it is today. I do agree that coal is a finite resource and that our society consumes too much, but at the present, there is no viable energy alternative that will support our current way of life, except nuclear. It will take decades to replace our coal-based infrastructure.

I also agree the world needs to develop alternative energy generation wherever possible, but it will take time. Even then, an inconvenient reality is that society must still continue to mine natural resources. Think about what all those windmills and solar panels will be made from. And coal will continue to be required as a material resource.

So, in closing, Anatsui's sculpture is a very fitting tribute to Kentucky and coal and links to African culture. The Kernel editorial board should revise their research and learn the facts before making statements such as those on Nov. 23.

J. Steven Gardner is chairman of the UK Mining Engineering Foundation. E-mail [opinions@kykernel.com](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com).

## Citizens should learn to respect differing opinions, one another

The past several weeks have brought an extremely interesting set of debates to the pages of the Kernel and the Web site comments that accompany the online edition. In fact, I find it delightful to see a sustained debate over issues that are of some importance — whether they are important or helpful to all or most may be an entirely different matter.



TAYLOR SHELTON  
Contributing columnist

The mere fact that such a debate can be had on our campus is a testament to what I see as the ultimate ideal of our university, our state and our nation.

For all of the meaningful discussion of politics, religion, culture and what it means to be this or that, we are confronted with an amazingly large portion of our population who have very little or no interest in such a constructive exchange.

Individuals like Daniel Essek, a Whitley County resident whose claim to fame, until now, was garnering 14 percent of the vote in a primary challenge to Republican Sen. Mitch McConnell this past May.

He now has, however, the dubious distinction of calling into question the legal qualifications of President-elect Barack Obama to be our next commander in chief; specifically challenging that soon-to-be President Obama

was not born in the United States and is thus not legally able to serve as president.

Perhaps rather than worrying about the future president's birth certificate, Essek, who is also seeking to have court fees waived because he claims to be impoverished, should be worrying about how to make a living in an economy in recession or in what ways he might be able to contribute to rebuilding a nation that has lost its luster on any number of levels.

Unfortunately, Essek doesn't seem to be alone in his odd quest to waste everyone's time with trivialities (which have already been proven untrue).

Because of this, we have some considerable soul searching to do. What is it that makes us so eager to jump on the bandwagon of hate and ignorance? When was it that thinking became such a taboo activity?

Instead of working through our differences in the spirit of free and enlightened thought, we become preoccupied with lashing out at the preachers who proclaim that our destinies are in hell. Perhaps it is too easy for us to generalize that all Christians are intolerant or that all non-Christians are sin-loving devil worshippers.

I'm not sure exactly what it is, but I know that I don't like it. Professions that some are more or less moral, more or less ignorant, more or less inclined to uphold "Christian values" or more or less American, are the antithesis of our country's founding principles.

A dogmatic adherence to Christianity was not written into our Constitution, as much as some wish it were.

Likewise, a steadfast hatred of those not like one's self is not somehow the mark of a "patriotic" American.

Freedom of religion should not mean the dominance of a single denomination. Freedom of speech should not mean freedom to say anything, regardless of how offensive, slanderous or poorly thought out such a statement may be. The freedom to assemble should not be limited to those assemblies that bring favor to those in power. The right to bear arms should not mean the right to inflict harm on another. And the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness should most certainly not be limited only to those wealthy, straight, white and Christian males that still dominate the halls of government in our country. And while it hasn't always worked out as such in practice, the thing that makes our country special is spelled out in the second sentence of the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

We should, regardless of our religious denomination, political party affiliation, race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status or thoughts about the recently dismal state of some UK athletic teams, make sure that each and every thought we think, word we say and action we do express the fullest respect for one another. That's what our country was supposed to be about. So why don't we start acting like it?

Taylor Shelton is a geography and political science senior. E-mail [opinions@kykernel.com](mailto:opinions@kykernel.com).

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# Liggins no longer in doghouse

By Bobby Reagan  
breagan@kykernel.com

The UK men's basketball team hopes the problems and controversy that arose in Las Vegas, stays in Vegas.

While out West, the Cats (4-2) committed an enormous amount of turnovers — 54 in a two-game span — and freshman guard DeAndre Liggins refused to re-enter a game in UK's Vegas opener. However, UK was able to overcome both of those problems and win the Las Vegas Invitational, defeating Kansas State and West Virginia.

Liggins, who attended Findlay Prep in Las Vegas, refused to re-enter UK's game on Friday against Kansas State in the second half after seeing only two minutes of action in the first half.

"I think you need to give a young person the benefit of the doubt in making a mistake," UK head coach Billy Gillispie said in a Monday news conference. "College is a time of growth, and we all make mistakes, especially young people."

Liggins, much like his teammates, was able to put the incident behind him, playing 27 minutes on Saturday against West Virginia. He recorded four points, three assists and two rebounds in the 54-43 victory. However, Gillispie was impressed with something that will never show up in the stat book — Liggins' command at point guard.

"To be able to come back, the easiest thing for him to

have done was to have not played on Saturday," Gillispie said. "I think that showed a great deal of toughness and caring and remorse by playing."

While Gillispie is ready to put the Liggins situation to rest — after a few extra sprints this week during practice — he is more ready to settle the turnover problem.

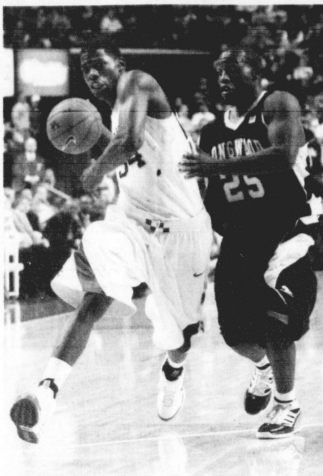
"The Cats have turned the ball over 138 times through their first six games, led by junior guard Jodie Meeks' 31."

Gillispie said a majority of the problems can be attributed to the speed of cuts made by the players, the timing of someone coming to the high post, decision making and athleticism. He said UK is a big and strong team rather than a quick or fast team.

"We have been at a disadvantage quickness-wise," Gillispie said. "I'm not complaining. I'm excited about the guys we have. I do think we are getting better at handling the ball well."

Gillispie said while he isn't pleased his team has committed so many turnovers, he does like to face the challenges UK has been facing this season in taking care of the ball. He said as long as the problems are early in the year, he doesn't have a problem with it.

"I like adversity because I think the teams that are smooth-sailing right now," Gillispie said. "You don't like to get beat. You don't like to turn the ball over 54 times."



Freshman guard DeAndre Liggins drives to the basket during UK's win over Longwood in Rupp Arena.

but I'm not opposed to having adversity."

Despite the troubles experienced in Vegas, Gillispie is happy with the product he sees on the court and the Vegas wins. Gillispie said the competitiveness and the growing up he saw in his players would go a long way

during the season.

"The most important thing I saw was the competitive level, which was out of the roof," Gillispie said.

"Hopefully we did see a ton of growth that is going to allow us to get better. Those were two really good wins."

# Cats face uncertainty on ice this season

By Cameron Ewert  
sewert@kykernel.com

Sweeping one weekend and getting swept the next pretty much wraps up the entire rollercoaster season for the UK hockey team.

Before the season started, fans had high hopes for the club after UK made it to nationals last year, but high turnover from last year's squad has turned the 2008-2009 season into a virtual unknown. This year's roster consists of 27 players, 17 being underclassmen and nine of those underclassmen being freshmen.

"We're still working with the nine freshmen we have.

This season has been more mental than anything and we haven't been playing consistently," UK head coach Rob Docherty said. "We have a very, very tough schedule and teams are ready for us."

The Cool Cats are now 8-11 and ranked 10th in their division with 12 games to go. While UK has struggled on the road so far this season, seven of their remaining games are at home, where the Cool Cats have only lost three times.

"We're 2-8 on the road so I think that's been the toughest part for us so far," Docherty said. "We're still ranked 10th and I think the past six games have shown

improvement with four wins and two losses. There's still a lot of hockey left to be played."

Senior forward Chris Protenic believes that the club has the talent to succeed, but the inexperience and inconsistency of the team have been main factors for such an up-and-down season.

"The inconsistency of our team in general and the fact that we're so young have kind of held us back," Protenic said. "It's been hard to get everybody on the same page consistently which is what we've really been working on."

With half the season already over, time may be run-

ning out for UK to rebound and return to the postseason. But Docherty still thinks his team is one of the best, if inexperience didn't hold the Cool Cats back.

"It's a growing season," Docherty said. "It's learning. We're still forming into what can be a top-quality team."

The Cool Cats take on Ohio State in Columbus, Ohio this weekend in two crucial games for UK if they want to keep their playoff hopes alive.

"We have to win these two games this weekend to make regionals for the most part," Protenic said. "It's a challenge and we always accept a challenge."

# A Christmas list for the hip-hop lover

With Black Friday behind us, we now have (insert secular holiday of choice) peaking around the corner. You know what this means: emptied pockets, stressed relationships, stuffed bellies and full glasses, all in the name of consumerism. So, whether you're shopping for a loved one or choosing a gift for yourself, here's a list of choice items that should help you avoid unruly mobs and bypass expensive holiday prices.



LONDON ANTONETTI  
Kernel columnist

**The Foreign Exchange** — "Leave it all Behind"

Phonte, of Little Brother and Netherlands import, and Nicolay join up once again as The Foreign Exchange to belt out more classic material. This time around, Phonte hangs up his rapping shoes and puts on his singing slippers in this crooning R&B opus. One of the year's best.

**Evidence** — "The Layover EP"  
Evidence once again proves beyond a doubt that no one can match his work ethic. His choice of production and star-studded guest shots make this a West Coast work of art worthy of multiple

spins. The perfect gift for any hip-hop head.

**The Alchemist** — "The Alchemist's Cookbook EP"

Alchemist never ceases to amaze me as both a producer and a rapper. He teams up with our boy Evidence as well as Snoop, Styles P, CNN and Prodigy from Mobb Deep to cook up some tasty hip-hop for the holidays. But don't front, these aren't your typical cookie-cutter tracks. This album is only for the fans of that gritty, hard-as-nails hip-hop.

**Jake One** — "White Van Music"

A compilation of some of hip-hop's greatest drop in to provide proof that this release should be on the list of this year's top 10 albums. Jake One's beats are nice as usual and nothing less is expected from his guest MCs. Throw this one on the list between the turtle-neck and wool socks because this joint is "cooler than a polar bear's toe nails" (© Big Boy).

**Anything from Nike SB's fall line**

It's getting harder each year to stay loyal to Nike Dunks. Their color schemes are falling off. And what is with the Zooms? I find myself confiding in the fresh patterns and colors of Air Force One's and Air Max's as of late. However, September through November of this year proved to be a return to form in the SB camp. Choose a pair or two for a special someone from this time span, but

please don't look at the upcoming spring line. It will only make you second-guess your contribution to the Nike Corporation.

**Upper Playground T-Shirts**

Upper Playground has been on point this year. Normally, themed hip-hop clothing is not my bag, considering the fact that if I'm rocking a J Dilla shirt only a handful of people will understand exactly who Dilla is and why I'm wearing a shirt with the dude's name on it. But I digress; Upper Playground has got a gang of clothing items and accessories for both men and women. Hit up [www.thebigpeach.com](http://www.thebigpeach.com) for the full catalogue and some sweet deals.

**"Wu: The Story of the Wu Tang Clan"**

Wu Tang's story can be told over and over and would still be just as entertaining and informative from person to person. BET capitalizes on their opportunity to chime in in order to make a last minute appeal to the few remaining hip-hop fans still tuned in, which are few considering they gave "Rap City" the axe last month. Advertised as the "official authorized story," this solid documentary aired last week on BET, but if you missed it, the DVD is available to stuff in that stocking.

Landon Antonetti is a journalism junior and production manager for WRFL. E-mail: [lantonetti@kykernel.com](mailto:lantonetti@kykernel.com).

# Big bands announce show dates in Lexington

Staff Report

## Slipknot

Slipknot released their fourth album, "All Hope Is Gone," back in August. The band has officially announced the schedule for their "All Hope Is Gone" Tour, which includes a stop at Rupp Arena on Saturday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. Cobed and Cambria along with Trivium will be opening

for the band. Tickets, which range from \$38.50 to \$44, go on sale Saturday at 10 a.m. Visit [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) for more information.

## Nickelback

After a few hit singles and a new album, "Dark Horse," Nickelback has finalized their next tour schedule. Nickelback, accompanied by Seether and Saving Abel, will

be coming to Rupp Arena on Saturday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. Tickets, which range from \$41.50 to \$66.50, go on sale Friday, Dec. 13 at 10 a.m. Visit [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) for more information.


## Heartless Bastards

Heartless Bastards, a rock band out of Dayton, Ohio, are coming to The Dame. Erika Wennerstrom has consistently

remained the only original member of the band, makes up the vocals and guitar portion of the group. Rolling Stone said, "The Heartless Bastards are a small-town band who are ready to show the big city no mercy." Heartless Bastards will be at The Dame on Thursday, Dec. 18 at 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$10.



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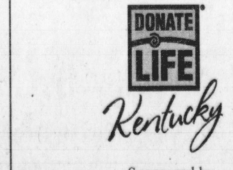
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