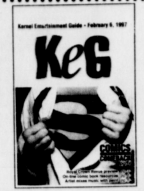




WEATHER Partly sunny
today, high 45. Increasing
cloudiness tonight, low 30.
Cloudy tomorrow, high 40.
BAM! POW! Comic books remain popu-
lar entertainment even with their chang-
ing looks and characters. See KeG inside.



THU
February 6, 1997

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ESTABLISHED 1894

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

INDEPENDENT SINCE 1971

Survey examines higher education reform

By Stephen Trimble
Senior Staff Writer

If Gov. Paul Patton hopes to persuade the public that his higher education reforms are necessary, he might have to add "Professor Patton" to his letterhead and teach a statewide class called Higher Education Reform 101.

Kentuckians are either overwhelmingly opposed to Patton's reform ideas (such as a higher education "super-board"), or are ignorant of Patton's reasons for wanting to change the system, according to the results of a survey sponsored by Front & Center, a new organization promoting activism among progressive Kentucky Democrats.

The poll, conducted by Lexington's Preston-Osborne Research Group, shows that 63 percent of Kentuckians prefer individual boards rather than a "one-board structure," which received only 22 percent support.

Roughly 14 percent of the 800 people polled said they didn't know.

The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.2 percent. The Preston Group surveyed people

who voted in three of the last five elections.

"I think that more than anything else, the poll shows that (Patton) will not only have to sell his reforms to the legislature, but he'll have to sell reform to the public as well," said Lexington attorney Scott Crosbie, a former UK Student Government Association president, student trustee and now spokesman for Front & Center.

Even though Patton may call a special session of the General Assembly later this year to reform higher education, the majority of Kentuckians appear content with the status quo.

On a scale of one to 10, more than half of the people polled (426) rated the state's system with a 6.89 rating, which is slightly lower than the participants' rating of higher education throughout the United States (6.96).

"Most people aren't really educated on what's going on," said Jay Blanton, Front & Center member and spokesman for the Preston

How would you prefer the Governor raise money for higher education?

	TOTAL	1	2	3	4	5	6
Raise state sales tax from 6% to 7%	136	25	29	16	23	15	28
	17.0%	19.8%	18.5%	9.5%	18.9%	19.0%	18.9%
Apply sales tax to service businesses	118	21	22	23	11	14	27
	14.7%	16.7%	14.0%	13.8%	9.0%	17.7%	18.2%
Raise tuition	80	14	10	18	18	5	15
	10.0%	11.1%	6.4%	10.7%	14.8%	6.3%	10.1%
Allow video lottery terminals	315	41	71	60	47	28	48
	39.3%	32.5%	45.2%	47.3%	38.5%	35.4%	32.4%
Other	70	13	11	14	7	9	16
	8.7%	10.3%	7.0%	8.3%	5.7%	11.4%	10.8%
Don't know	82	12	14	18	16	8	14
	10.2%	9.5%	8.9%	10.7%	13.1%	10.1%	9.5%
Mean	3.09	2.96	3.09	3.35	3.04	3.03	2.98

Group. "The governor really hasn't articulated why he wants a super-board."

Patton is attending the National Governor's Conference in Washington D.C. and could not be reached for comment yesterday. His press secretary, Mark Pfeiffer, said the governor's office has received the survey.

See SURVEY on 6

UK graduates lead new policy and issues committee

By Kathy Reding
News Editor

Adversarial relationships between government and the media, even ones from college, can turn out to be mutually beneficial in the long run.

Take Scott Crosbie, Jay Blanton and Ken Walker for example. All three UK graduates are former campus leaders, Crosbie and Walker in student government, Blanton in student media.

In their professional lives, however, they have come together to form a public policy and issues committee called Front & Center. They hope to promote increased activism among progressive young Democrats.

Blanton, Kentucky Kernel Editor in Chief from 1988-89 now working in public relations for Preston-Osborne of Lexington, said Front and Center began when he ran into Crosbie, 1991-92 Student Government Association

president and Board of Trustees member and now an attorney, at a restaurant.

"We talked about how equally frustrated we were that young people couldn't get involved in the political system," Blanton said. "He and I kind of renewed a friendship from college."

The two, along with Ken Walker, former SGA executive director in the late '80s and now a Lexington banker, and about 25 others, began in October to find a solution to their frustrations.

"It's just taking action," Crosbie said. "Unless young people make a conscious choice to get involved... I don't see the types of changes that need to occur in the future."

Blanton said while voter participation is low, it is lower among young people, reflecting a "cynicism with the political process."

"We think young people should be involved in the process."

See GRADUATES on 6

Hockey team scores funding

Solberg announces candidacy
By Gary Wulf
Associate News Editor

The fate of the Cool Cats hockey team was put in the hands of the Student Government Association last night and it responded by approving funding.

The hockey team requested \$1,518 for the remainder of the season so it could rent Lexington Ice Center for practice.

The Cool Cats rank third in attendance of campus sports at UK, behind men's football and basketball. However, attendance has dropped in half this season.

Last season, the Cool Cats averaged 600 fans a game. Only 300 fans a night have filled the stands this season.

Team member Chris Page blames it on the number of away games the team has this season.

"We don't have that much of a say on our schedule... Last year we had very few away games," Page said.

Fan support provides much of the income for the Cool Cats, but with so many away games, travel expenses have added up.

Graduate Student senator Michael Tomblin opposed the funding of the bill.

"I'm not particularly sure if we should be funding a club sport," Tomblin said.

Senator at large Alizha Rice disagreed with Tomblin.

She said the Cool Cats deserved the money due to the impact their games had on student morale.

The bill passed easily 28-1-1.

After the Cool Cats were kept on the ice, the bulk of the meeting concentrated on polling areas for SGA elections in March.

Election Board Supervisor Jay Putnam and Vice President Chrissy Guyer went into the meeting with a simple proposal stating the time and places of polling areas.

90 minutes later, senators were still debating on times and the amount of polls in each spot.

Weary and noticeably aggravated with the amount of amendments being made to the proposal, senators stated one of the truthful hurts of an election.

"If you want to vote, you're going to vote no matter what," said Senator at Large Ashley Fortney.

After it was all over, only one amendment was made to the bill.

Tomblin proposed to extend the hours of the Lexington Community College poll by nine hours.

The amendment was proposed because of a potential LCC student running for SGA vice-president.

Matt Solberg, a political science senior and UK Lambda president, declared his candidacy for the presidential seat with Josh Robinson as his running mate.

Robinson, an LCC student, and Solberg originally requested that a booth be added.

Solberg's request was defeated, however, and settled with Tomblin's amendment.

Last year, only 69 students voted at LCC. But with an LCC student running for an executive seat, that should change.

"They have told me that they will do a lot of heavy campaigning this year," said LCC senator Gregory Williams.

In 1991, an LCC student ran for SGA president and an additional booth was added to accommodate the turnout.

In addition, a bylaw amendment emphasizing senators' accountability was tabled.



PHOTO BY JAMES CRISP, Kernel staff

PICTURE PERFECT Dr. Robert French with Student Health Services Noah Newcomer looks at works done in crayon by art education major Scott Richards.

Student art on display

By Brian Dunn
Contributing Writer

Fighting a potential for sterile and sanitized atmosphere, University Health Services found a cure in art.

University Health Services hosted the grand opening of a student art gallery in the Student Health Center last night that features the work of six art education students.

The gallery showcases a variety of art, including crayon drawings and quilt patterns.

Stephanie Fiala, second-year graduate student, said it was nice to have the opportunity to exhibit her art. The gallery, Fiala said, is a chance for students and others to come see what art students are doing today.

Donald Hoffman, an art education professor and adviser to the Student Arts League, said the exhibit gave people the chance "to learn and to appreciate the human arts experience... to humanize themselves."

The idea for the gallery started when the University Health Service decided to renovate several departments ago. Dr. Spencer Turner, director of the University Health Service, said artwork was the last touch in the renovations, but the service didn't want to spend money on outside art.

"We said, 'Wait a minute. We have a lot of art students on campus,'" Turner said.

When the Health Service officials approached Hoffman, they agreed to set up a student art gallery roughly every semester.

Although Health Services displayed student art last semester, this semester's is considered the gallery's "official kick-off," Turner said.

In addition to Fiala, who showed mixed media pieces, Scott Richards, a graduate student, is displaying crayon drawings; Dawn Wilson, a senior, is showing photography; Kori Bloom, a junior, is



displaying oil on canvas and prints; Renee Shaw, a senior, is showing quilt patterns; and Ilona Szekeley, a junior, is displaying screen prints.

Hoffman added that this was the best experience he has had in collaborating with another department in 21 years. The University Health Services funded the reception and insured the students' pieces, said Hoffman.

"I have been very pleased to have the support," he said. "It's been nice to show how the artists communicate their ideas visually."

About 52,000 people visit Health Service each year, which makes Health Services a highly visible setting for the students' art.

NEWSbytes

NATION Balance budget battle begins in Congress

WASHINGTON — In the first major battle of the new Congress, Republicans struggled yesterday to build support for a balanced-budget amendment to the Constitution. They confronted opposition from Democrats and concerns from GOP lawmakers over its impact on Social Security.

"We pay more interest on the debt than we pay for the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps combined and that's wrong. It's wrong for our kids," House Speaker Newt Gingrich said at a news conference called to coincide with the beginning of Senate debate on the measure.

But even as Gingrich and party leaders sought to build support, Republicans were forced to postpone action in the House Judiciary Committee for fear of losing a key vote.

The unexpected delay underscored the roadblocks that Republicans face on a measure that seems to have lost steam in the two years since it sailed through the House and came up one vote short in the Senate.

WORLD Milosevic's demands protests end

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia — Warning that the state will do what it must to defend itself, a hard-line party led by Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic's wife demanded yesterday that the opposition immediately end its protests.

On the 78th straight day of marches, students and opposition supporters vowed to continue pressing for democracy. A day earlier, they had forced Milosevic to concede that his Socialist Party had lost elections in Belgrade and 13 other cities.

Some 12,000 people showed up for the daily rally by the opposition Zajedno coalition yesterday, a small crowd compared to the 50,000 who appeared Tuesday to hear the opposition announce Milosevic's about-face.

Earlier yesterday 20,000 students marched through the city center, demanding that the Belgrade University rector be fired and those responsible for election fraud and police violence be punished.

NAMEdropping

Ron Goldman's relatives to release book

NEW YORK — Relatives of Ronald Goldman had their day in court, and now they will have their say in a book to be released after the O.J. Simpson trial.

His Name Is Ron: Our Search For Justice includes details about the civil trial that never have been revealed because of the judge's gag order on participants, publishing house William Morrow said in a statement.

In their own words, Goldman's father and stepmother, Fred and Patti; sister, Kim; and half-brother and half-sister, Michael and Lauren Glass, also discuss the criminal trial and the hardships they have endured since Goldman's slaying with Nicole Brown Simpson.

"Our primary purpose in writing 'His Name Is Ron' is to give Ron an identity," Fred Goldman said in the statement.

The civil jury Tuesday found Simpson liable in the 1994 slayings and ordered him to pay \$8.5 million to Goldman's relatives in compensatory damages.

Compiled from wire reports.

SPORTS



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EXCUSE'US

▼ A paragraph in yesterday's sports bytes should have read "Logan, from Chatham, Va., was arrested last Saturday on misdemeanor shoplifting charges, after allegedly stealing shirts from a store." The sentence that followed the period was from another story.

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Weary Cats face Western Carolina

Staff, wire report

Third-ranked UK hopes to turn the defensive pressure up for Western Carolina on Thursday night.

The Wildcats (20-3), who are down to eight scholarship players because of injuries, had a six-game winning streak snapped Tuesday night when they fell 84-79 in overtime to South Carolina.

Because of the depleted lineup, UK had to back off its trademark press and play some defense most of the way to avoid getting into foul trouble.

UK has been forcing teams to turn the ball over 23.1 times a game, but South Carolina had just 11 turnovers as the Wildcats played more passively.

"We have to get better at our halfcourt defense," said UK assistant coach Winston Bennett, who has scouted Western Carolina. "I think it's evident, when we don't press, it changes the complexion of the game."

"We're a different team when we're not pressing or aggressive. That's our game: to get out there, harass people for 40 minutes, and see who comes out the winner."

UK Coach Rick Pitino was out of town and was unavailable for comment.

Bennett said the Wildcats will receive little preparation for

Western Carolina (10-10). The Wildcats did not practice yesterday.

"It's very difficult for us because we can't show our guys film or go over our opponents' plays, so we have to play catch-up on game day with the walk through," he said.

Western Carolina, a member of the Southern Conference, is coming off a 65-54 victory over East Tennessee on Monday.

"They are a team that likes to get out and run," Bennett said of the Catamounts. "Their point guard (Joel Fleming) likes to push it and he has guys on the wings that are very athletic and like to run."

But he said they also will play a deliberate offense.

"(By) the same token, if they have to slow it down and play a halfcourt game, they will pound it inside," he said. "In those situations, we would try to double down and force some errors."

Forward Bobby Phillips leads Western Carolina in scoring with 14.8 points a game. Fleming averages 9.5 points and 4.4 assists.

UK forward Jared Prickett didn't play against South Carolina because of a sprained ankle suffered in practice on Monday.

"From everything I hear, Jared is getting better," Bennett said of the 6-foot-9 senior. "His ankle is



STEPHANIE CORDLE/Kentucky Kernel staff

BIG MINUTES Allen Edwards is one of the Wildcats who has been pressed into more minutes due to the rash of injuries that have hit the team.

Ron Mercer, who is averaging 17.3 points.

Tickets available

Several thousand tickets still remain to be sold for tonight's game, at \$13 each. They can be purchased at either the UK ticket office or the Rupp Arena box office, using cash, check or credit card.

UK's leading scorer is forward

SCOUTING report

BACKCOURT



Mercer

Ron Mercer has broken out of his shooting slump against SEC teams, scoring an average of 18.6 points a game over the last three contests. Allen Edwards scored 14 against South Carolina, including seven during their 11-point rally late in the second half.

FRONTCOURT



Magloire

Junior forward Bobby Phillips is Western Carolina's lone double-figure scorer. He has been the Catamounts leading scorer in nine of their 20 games played. Center Scott Scholtz has only three blocks this season, compared to the 46 blocks that Jamaal Magloire has tallied this season.

BENCH



Edwards

For the second consecutive game, UK will only have eight scholarship players available against the Catamounts. In the loss to South Carolina, Jamaal Magloire came off the bench to score 10 points. Western will dress 15 players, although only 10 see double-figure minutes.

ETC.



Hopkins

UK defeated Western Carolina in the only other meeting between the two schools, in the 1998-89 season, by a 78-50 score. WCU is 0-3 against the Top 25 this year.

W. Carolina at Kentucky

Tonight, 7:30
 Rupp Arena

Kentucky (20-3)

National ranking: No. 3

Probable Starters:	Pts:	Reb:
F Ron Mercer	17.3	5.0
F Scott Padgett	12.2	5.1
C Nazir Mohammed	8.4	5.8
G Allen Edwards	9.9	3.9
G Anthony Epps	7.7	3.2

Reserves: C Jamaal Magloire, 5.3 ppg; G Wayne Turner, 4.8; G Cameron Mills, 2.5; G Steve Masiello, 1.0.

W. Carolina (10-10)

National ranking: None

Probable Starters:	Pts:	Reb:
F Bobby Phillips	14.8	5.4
F Dondrell Whitmore	4.8	2.7
C Scott Scholtz	9.0	6.0
G Larry Mayo	7.5	3.1
G Joel Fleming	9.5	3.1

Reserves (positions not available): Joe Starford, 10.9 ppg; Kerry Wright, 5.3; Jarvis Graham, 4.5; Mario Clayton, 4.4; Ken Gibson, 3.6; Johnny Scott, 2.7; Brett Carey, 1.7.

TV: WKYT (Channel 27) - Delby

UK stumbles on the road against Eastern

By Rob Herbst
 Weekend Sports Editor
 and Stephen Trimble
 Senior Staff Writer

RICHMOND — The last time Eastern Kentucky University posted a win over UK's women's basketball team, Star Wars was a growing box office smash.

Star Wars returned last week, and the Lady Colonels returned last night, defeating the Wildcats 67-62 at McBrayer Arena. EKV snapped a 19-year-old Wildcats' winning streak over the Lady Colonels.

"It's a big win for the team," Larry Joe Inman, EKV's coach. "It's a big win for the community and it's big for Kentucky high school girls basketball."

"Occasionally, the little folks like us get to win one," said Inman, after his EKV squad (15-

5) withstood UK's gradual 13-point rally in the second half.

Inman credited his first-half defense for setting the tone as the Lady Colonels took a 36-27 lead at halftime.

"We have to get more leadership, especially from our post-players," said Cats Coach Bernadette Mattox. "Anytime you give 20 turnovers you give them too many chances to score."

Indeed, UK guard/forward Tiffany Wait nearly finished with nearly a dubious double-double with 11 points and nine turnovers.

Wait said the Wildcats lacked intensity in the first half.

"We've got to come out and play from jump ball on," Wait said. "We keep saying it and saying we're going to but we don't."

The Lady Colonels abused the Cats' post-players in the opening round for 10 offensive rebounds

— one more than their rebounding tally on the defensive end.

That led to nine second- (or third, or fourth) chance points in the first half.

UK (6-15) also squandered several chances late in the game to put themselves ahead.

Wait's two free throws tied the match at 62-62 with 2:38 left. It was the Cat's last offensive possession.

Kim Denkins and Patrice Boyd each missed the front-ends of bonus free throw opportunities in the last two minutes.

When Boyd was asked about her game, she replied: "Not bad at all, but I have to make that free throw. That really cost us."

UK also let the ball slip out of their hands on two possessions during the same stretch.

EKU's Chrissy Roberts and Lisa Pace took advantage of UK's cold hands, and converted two

free throws each to seal the win.

"That topped off a night of clutch shooting by Pace, the Colonels' long-range specialist. The junior guard led the Ohio Valley Conference in that category last year."

Pace's third three-pointer one minute after the break pushed EKV's lead to 13 points at 48-35. "It was automatic," said Pace, who came off the bench to score 13 points. "I just let it happen. I'm not a thinker out there."

Shannon Browning, a forward, led EKV with 16 points. Laphelia added 10 points and 10 rebounds for the Lady Colonels.

For UK, Boyd notched 16 points and nine rebounds and Nikki Hay converted several layups for 14 points. The guard also grabbed seven rebounds.

Said Boyd: "They wanted it more than we did."

Team shooting for title

By Aaron Yellon
 Contributing Writer

It's time for another exciting round of "Who Am I?" Here are today's clues:

▼ I am ranked third nationally.

▼ Derek Anderson is not on my active roster.

▼ I shoot from long distances.

If you guessed the UK men's basketball team, you're wrong.

The correct answer is the UK rifle team, and they are off to the best start in school history. The team is 6-0, and they have won three tournaments.

The rifle team achieved a big win on Dec. 7 when UK upset 12-

time national champion West Virginia. In doing so, they also ended West Virginia's virtually historic home winning streak.

Even though the win was important to the team, Coach Harry Mullins still wanted to keep his shooters focused.

"(The win over West Virginia) opened some of our eyes, showed us we could compete with those guys on a head-to-head basis," Mullins said.

"If everything meshes together, we can make things happen in the springtime," he said.

Senior shooter Erik Anderson said there is still work to be done.

"Beating West Virginia was

something we had never done before," he said. "We were all excited about it. We celebrated but now it's time to go on and keep working. There is always room for improvement."

Mullins sees improvement from last year's team, which finished third in the NCAA.

He knows it is a great team physically, and he is hoping to keep them in tune mentally.

"Shooting is mental; you have to have faith in yourself and your teammates," Mullins said. "We know what we want, and if we work hard we will have a legitimate chance."

Still, Mullins wants his team aiming for As in the classroom more than for targets on the field. Academics are important for all of the players largely because they

have only two scholarships to divide among nine shooters.

"Our team goal is to win the championship, but more importantly to make sure they have an overall good academic career, and enjoy their time here," he said.

Bringing home UK's first national rifle championship would be a major accomplishment and might bring the recognition the team truly deserves.

The average attendance at a home meet is about 20 spectators, but that might be a matter of location rather than a lack of interest. UK competes at the Buell Army, which is one of the oldest buildings on campus.

"I don't think it's because of a lack of interest on campus," Mullins said. "We just don't have a facility that can hold more than 20 and 30 spectators."

CAMPUS



Michelle Hite Involved in all aspects of UK

By Ginny Tatum
Staff Writer

Michelle Hite does it all. Assistant manager at the Student Center. Member of AmeriCorps. President of Delta Sigma Theta social sorority. Volunteer mentor and tutor. And on top of it all, she is a philosophy senior with minors in English and women's studies.

Hite got her start at the Student Center by holding a summer job at a TicketMaster office in Cleveland. This experience helped her to get a job at the UK TicketMaster office.

While working at TicketMaster, Hite applied for the assistant manager position at the Student Center.

She thought they could use a person who would be able to bring growth to the facility.

Hite said the Student Center needed someone who could offer

fresh ideas for making it better place. She said she thought she could give the Student Center just what it needed.

"Not as many people come to the Student Center as I think should or could," Hite said.

"One of the things that we could do is implement different types of policies that might help to make this place more welcoming to students."

As assistant manager, Hite works closely with various individuals and services. She helps to evaluate the 65-70 student employees at the center.

Hite also works with the facilities coordinator, the assistant director of the center, the custodial crew and the Physical Plant Division in the Peterson Service Building.

Another major part of Hite's

duties is setting up rooms in the Student Center for presentations. She makes sure rooms are available for speakers and enough time is allowed for speakers to set up their presentations.

In addition to her job at the Student Center, Hite is extremely involved in her education.

"One of the things I think a university education does is authenticate your voice in the community as well as in relationships with other people," Hite said.

Hite plans to go on to graduate school after work at UK.

She wants to earn her doctorate in philosophy and practice critical race and feminist theories.

Philosophy professor Joan Callahan said Hite is not only a good student, but she is also a

compassionate person. "I find her to be a very sensitive and subtle thinker," Callahan said. "She's also uncommonly alive to very complicated dimensions of social issues."

Callahan also said Hite has energy for and commitment to the things that are important to her, like the well-being of the black community.

Hite said she wants to take her knowledge and make it applicable to people's lives to create a positive experience for others.

How? By volunteering 15-17 hours each week at Mary Todd Elementary School as a mentor and a tutor.

"I've been able to see how some of the things that we usually tend to ignore in our society have an impact on children," said Hite. Hite said teaching children about life in today's complicated society is one of the most fulfilling things she has done since she's been a student at UK.



Campus Impressions

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UK SPEAKS OUT!

Questionnaire

(✓ Check one)

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7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 11

Speak out and be heard! An SAB Event

'Quota Queen' to give Blazer lecture tonight

By James Ritchie
Senior Staff Writer

A professor and civil rights lawyer once labeled the "Quota Queen" by the Wall Street Journal will speak tonight about affirmative action and her efforts to make the political process more accessible.

Lani Guinier, whose nomination to the nation's top civil rights position was dropped following accusations by conservative members of Congress that she was too radical and supported racial quotas, will present "Reframing the Affirmative Action Debate" as the College of Arts and Sciences annual Blazer Lecture.

Guinier responded to the Wall Street Journal's label, which came soon after the president nominated her to the position of assistant attorney general for civil rights, by saying accusations of being anti-democratic were the result of misinterpretations of her scholarly writings.

She did not get a chance to speak before the Senate when she was nominated, but she has been speaking ever since.

Guinier has been a professor of law at the University of Pennsylvania since 1988.

She received her education at Radcliffe College and Yale Law School, which she attended with President Bill and Hillary Rodham Clinton. She later became assis-

tant counsel for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, where she served from 1981 to 1988.

Guinier is the founder of Commonplace, a new non-profit center designed to connect citizens, communities and ideas.

She is author of a book, *The Tyranny of the Majority: Fundamental Fairness in Representative Democracy*.

She has proposed changes to the voting system to improve race and gender representation in the electoral process.

"I firmly disagree with the idea that the government has finished what it needs to do," Guinier wrote in a 1994 New York Times Magazine article.

"Where people are excluded from meaningful participation in their government because of rules that appear neutral but operate unfairly, then sometimes the government should act."

She does not, however, believe that a "monolithic white majority" exists in America, as some journalists have interpreted from her scholarly writings.

"If I've been construed that way, I've been misrepresented, or I haven't been sufficiently clear in my writing," Guinier told U.S. News & World Report in 1994.

The Blazer Lecture Series was endowed in 1948 by Ashland Oil founder Paul G. Blazer Sr. and his wife, Georgia Blazer, the first woman on the Board of Trustees.

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ViewPOINT



Homosexuals are the true American moral capitalists

A straight man, I am responsible for the "detrimental" changes in society. We straight males need to take a different path, one that is a little less straight and a little more left of center.

The future of America is in the loving hands of homosexuals. By far, they are my favorite minority — one that merits all the respect and dignity they receive.

Whether it is writing for their school newspaper or reviewing their favorite films on public access, homosexuals are all over the air waves.

Some homosexuals go on national television, sometimes in dresses — they make women green with envy and they make men blue with anticipation.



Ben Rich
Kernel Columnist

Homosexuality is truly the wave of the future.

You see, homosexuals are the backbone of American society.

They represent a high level of morality that each and every American should only hope to have.

They are also the great capitalists that business students can only dream of being.

Basically, homosexuals are moral capitalists.

We can turn America around by following the examples set by homosexuals.

There are so many examples of their superiority. I can only hope to show some of the better ones.

After all, didn't Thomas Jefferson once say, "All men are created equal?"

There is no such thing as a "heterosexual" — they are simply homosexuals who have yet to open the closet door.

However, for our purposes, I will simply refer to people as homosexuals or heterosexuals — to divide the strong from the weak.

Back to the topic of closets ... that is where the life of a homosexual begins.

Homosexuals come from "out of the closet" and reveal their true selves.

It is this "closet" that represents the threshold to capitalism.

On one side is life, on the other is despair.

On one side is wealth; on the other is poverty.

Homosexuals are brave enough to strut through — like Alice crossing over to a real-life Wonderland.

Once they come out of the closet, most homosexuals are usually overwhelmed by new sensations, now that their bodies and minds have been set free to fly like eagles.

You see, homosexuals are not just my heroes; they are also the wind beneath my wings.

Now that the homosexuals are free, they feel the urge to go shopping.

They hit the mall and buy everything they can get.

Let us not forget the high moral standards that homosexuals hold.

Who cares what the Bible says about homosexuality — it was written by a bunch of deranged atheists anyway.

As a homosexual, you can take pride in yourself and look down upon the straight masses. Homosexuals commit so many acts of bravery, they should all be awarded medals of honor.

They stand up to fraternity members interested in education and eject them from their UK Lambda meetings.

They attend Republican rallies and hold up signs with "fascist" spelled incorrectly.

When you're homosexual, you get to whine and cry about anything and everything you want!

Wow, I am fortunate, goosebumps just thinking about the possibilities a homosexual lifestyle holds.

I'd like to close with a quote from my favorite Kernel columnist.

Concerning satirical writing, he once wrote that "these articles can often be the most fun to write."

I couldn't have said it any better myself.

Kernel Columnist Ben Rich is a journalism sophomore; his views do not necessarily represent those of the Kentucky Kernel.

When you're homosexual, you get to whine and cry about anything and everything you want!

Follow the money

All the waiting may come to an end today. But waiting is the hardest part for some UK students.

At the beginning of his term, Student Government Association President Alan Aja said implementing a taxi-voucher program would be one of his primary goals.

Six months have passed and SGA is back at the drawing board.

The taxi voucher program would allow students to pay for taxi rides in advance, much like a prepaid calling card.

In addition, by using the voucher card, students would receive discount-priced rides.

When the senator in charge of the taxi voucher program left this semester for personal reasons, Aja took it upon himself to finish the program — but some problems still persist.

The owner of all three taxi companies has said there are not enough drivers around to have such a program, obviously putting a screeching halt momentarily in the program.

Aja will meet with the owner of taxi company today and we will wait, hopefully for the last

time, to see what the verdict will be on whether taxi will be available for UK students.

"Whether or not it's finished by the end of my term, I plan on leaving a proposal behind," Aja said in early January.

But if the owner and Aja do not work out the contract soon, the only people who lose will be the students who might try to drive home after a few too many brews.

On other topics of SGA, we congratulate them on watching out for money being spent.

The Senate started out the semester by approving an out-of-town conference, but since then they have carefully looked over each bill. Following this meeting, the SGA sent a message to various organizations on campus when they set criteria for appropriating money to organizations.

The latest rejection came last week when a conference bill did not make it out of the Appropriations and Revenue committee.

This saved the student body \$2,600.

SGA should continue to be watchdogs for the money they appropriate to various organizations throughout the year.

IN OUR OPINION

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READERS' forum

Buses not doing job

UK provides a bus service from Shawneetown and Greg Page apartments to campus.

The Lextran buses are supposed to be spaced at five-minute intervals during peak hours.

For more than a year now, I have never experienced the luxury of a five-minute interval. The normal interval is from 15 to 20 minutes at best. Add to this rude bus drivers and cold wintry mornings, and you have an irritating, frustrating cocktail!

The icing on the cake is the Parking Office decree that students living on campus (R-permit) cannot park on campus (E-permit).

I don't see why this should

apply to Shawneetown and Greg Page, as they are sufficiently far away from Central Campus.

Shawneetown (exclusively graduate student and family housing) residents should be given dual permits. Parking officials, if you read this, please reply.

I used simple math on the five-minute interval problem. A circular route of approximately four miles with 14 stops (say 30 seconds each) and 6 traffic lights, with an average bus speed of 15 mph, implies a bus would complete the route in approximately 25-30 minutes.

A five-minute interval requires six buses operating at any given time, three in each direction. It is not impossible!

Shekhar Viswanath
chemical engineering doctoral candidate

Some justice served

To the editor:

Too bad for OJ these jurors had brains. Only an idiot could believe the conspiracy theory to end all conspiracy theories that OJ and his attorneys kept trying to spin, where the police, were supposedly incompetent evidence collectors yet deviously clever and successful cover-up conspirators.

These jurors didn't get suckered by the diversionary tactics of any high-paid liar, er, lawyer. Let him sell more party photos to the tabloids, or another video full of excuses and lies — he won't be able to keep the blood money.

If there is any justice, he won't ever have a penny to his name again, but if we'd had justice in the first trial OJ would be in jail or on death row right now, where he belongs.

Alan L. Light
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

TALKback!

Address your comments to "Letters to the Editor," Kentucky Kernel Editorial Editor; 035 Enoch J. Grehan Journalism Building; UK, Lexington, Ky. 40506-0042. Send electronic mail to Kernel@pop.uky.edu. Attention Letters to the editor.

Letters should be approximately 250 words; guest opinions should be no longer than 850 words.

Include your name and major classification (for publication), as well as your address and telephone number for verification.

Letters received without a phone number for verification will be discarded. We reserve the right to edit all material.

King reminds writer of the the need to eliminate racism

I cannot understand why this world is filled with so much hatred, killing, injustice and suffering. Even after celebrating a national holiday of freedom and justice, we are still far from the dream that was foreseen by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

We have managed to move from civil rights issues to crack cocaine to drive-by shootings to church burnings. We are at a very critical turning point in our history. The world is changing every day and the months are moving fast. I am compelled to ask myself, "How long can we last?"

Our challenge lies in discovering the solutions to our societal ills. The key is understanding the meaning of our lives in order to make the world a better, more fulfilling place for future generations to grow and prosper. We have to

begin our search for positive social change. Not only are we students of higher learning, but we are also students of life and living. The time is now for us to create an environment reflective and conducive to strength, unity and love. And the greatest of these is love.

Many of us fail to understand the true meaning of love. Often times we ask, "What is love?" Or even more so, "What's love got to do with it?" When we love, we do so not out of selfish gain or vain conceit but in humility and concern for our fellow being. We are called not only to love ourselves but also to love our neighbors.

The most important lesson that I learned in 1996 was to love myself through the love of another. As I began to put that love into

effect, it made a tremendous difference in my life. In order for me to truly love myself, I had to release the worry, unfasten the regrets, accept my failures and uphold my success. Then and only then did I have the strength to let go and let God.

Love is the most precious gift created by God and for God. After all, God is love. I am inclined to believe that love surpasses all human understanding. Love is a confession of things hoped for and the evidence of those things not seen. Love is born of the spirit of God and it allows us to discover bigger and better things not only within ourselves but also of things above and beyond. We live in troubled times and we need God's love to rebuild and refine the ways of this world.

In order for us to love, we must be willing to change — change our ways of thinking, doing, and being. Love is a prerequisite for

change. It is the foundation of a true heart full of new beginnings. If we willfully persist as prisoners of the world, we will never know the true graces of God's love. Love brings compassion. Compassion brings sacrifice. Sacrifice brings salvation. Salvation brings liberation. Liberation brings freedom and justice.

We are gazing into the eyes of the 21st century and we must be ready, willing and waiting to embrace and accept change. It is the inevitable process of renewal and regeneration.

Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and to do good deeds. Be of a clean heart and a sound mind. Be kind. Learn to humble. Develop integrity. Be humble. Laugh. Smile. Pray. Respect one another. Do not be quick to judge. And live in the spirit. For it is our choice to be happy and strive for the peace of

mind that only God can give.

I am compelled to understand the journey that I have traveled in order to see clearly what is in need of change. And as I relinquish my ties to years gone by, I must forgive myself for mistakes made, and more importantly, learn from the trials and tribulations that I have endured.

I have learned the hard way that God is in control of my life — my destiny. Through my devotion, dedication, and determination, I am on higher ground. I have a different perspective on life and living. I believe that we all go through a period of transition. And yet for a little while, we must return to the past but continue to ponder the present while looking forward to the future. This is an incredible balancing act, but it is necessary for maturity, growth and transformation.

When we find ourselves unchanging, unproductive and

stagnant, we have remained in the past far too long. Or we may find ourselves so preoccupied with the future that we take the present for granted. Learning to discover the true meaning of life is the key to peace, love, and happiness. These concepts must be made manifest in our world, our society, our community and individually.

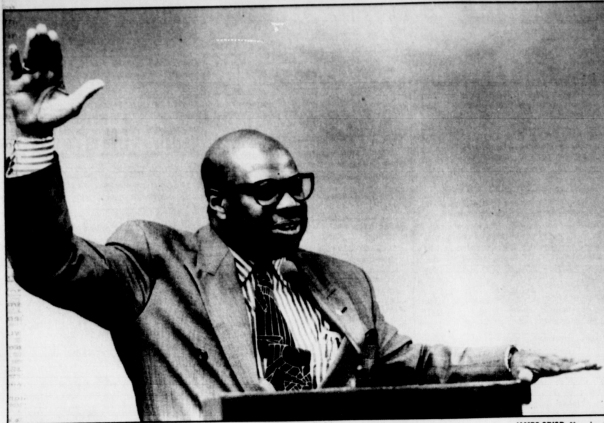
It hurts my heart to see what a mockery we have made of God's world. And the sad thing is that we have the power, the resources, the technology and the wealth to make a change. It is imperative that we hold on and realize that we are never alone. What things can possibly stand in our way?

In the famous words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "I have a dream ..." "I have a dream of a new day, a new world view, and it starts with me and it starts with you. We are the future. WE ARE THE DREAM."

Kernel Columnist Tamara Morris is a journalism senior; her views do not necessarily represent those of the Kentucky Kernel.

INFORMED SOURCES "THEY'RE LIKE people. They go nuts once in awhile."

Auction pavilion co-owner Bob Loshbaugh, after authorities tracked down a female cow after a chase through 25 blocks an eastern Nebraska town. The cow was shot twice (using tranquilizer darts), then lassoed and tied to a tree.



JAMES CRISP Kernel staff

THAT'S AFFIRMATIVE George Brown, Lexington city councilman, spoke about affirmative action as part of a panel at an AWARE meeting last night in the Student Center.

Affirmative action debated

By Ben Thompson
Contributing writer

The panel discussion on affirmative action set out to enlighten and educate people about affirmative action.

It set out to break down the myths of affirmative action and point out the continual need for affirmative action laws.

Although it did educate, the discussion raised some more questions.

One of the myths about affirmative action suggests that African Americans get better jobs and better education.

However, George Brown, first district councilman of Lexington Fayette Urban County Government, pointed out that, 25 years after the beginning of affirmative action, 94 percent of the wealth in America still lies with European Americans.

"After 25 years of affirmative action, is racism still prevalent? Is sexism still prevalent in our soci-

ety? Is classism still prevalent in our society?" Brown asked.

His answer to his questions is that they are still present, creating the need for affirmative action.

"The job is not done," Brown said. "The playing field is not level."

Horace Bartlow, assistant professor of political science and mediator, raised the question, "why are we skeptical of affirmative action in the classroom and not in athletics?"

"The idea of affirmative action is to level the playing ground, or to give the disadvantaged equal opportunity."

Affirmative action does not set out a quota for businesses or schools to meet.

Henry Jackson, a local businessman, added that Notre Dame uses a form of affirmative action when they let 25 percent of their alumni's children in to the school based on the fact that they are alumni's children.

Roy Peterson, secretary of Educational Arts and Humanities Cabinet, said the workforce and our student bodies should represent the make up of our community.

"You have to give people the opportunity to succeed," said Peterson.

The panel agreed that affirmative action is needed until racism is eliminated.

Until the playing ground is level, America will need affirmative action laws to police fairness.

Finally, Peterson and Dean of Students David Stockham made two points that summed up the end result of affirmative action.

"No nation can afford to discriminate against any of its people because talent can be found anywhere," Peterson said.

"Higher education is measured by who we let out and not by who we let in," Stockham said.

Although we have affirmative action laws, people who are not competent for the jobs or the education would be weeded out in a matter of time, he said.

Survey

Video lottery most popular fund choice

From PAGE 1

Patton's higher education consultant, Ed Ford, has suggested the state's network of eight public universities and 14 community colleges be ruled by a super-board.

Currently, individual boards control each institution, and the Council on Higher Education has limited authority.

The governor has said a super-board would reduce duplication and turf disputes among UK's community college system and universities.

Patton has promised a \$100 million boost in funding for specific projects in higher education if reforms are reached.

Interestingly, the Preston Group poll found 39 percent of those surveyed preferred video lottery machines to pay for funding increases. Of four listed alternatives, including a sales tax rise by one percent, raising tuition fees was least popular (10 percent).

"We're not advocating any specific issues," Crosbie said. "We want this survey to foster more debate and discussion."

Graduates

Committee offers young involvement

From PAGE 1

cess," Blanton said.

Crosbie said he observed friends becoming more involved with the Republican party because it offered greater opportunities to young people.

"We want to encourage the Democratic party to do the same," he said.

Crosbie said Front and Center plans to do more than just support candidates and be active during elections by promoting issue stances. Its first promotion has been through a survey of voters' attitudes on higher education.

"We chose higher education as our initial focus because of its undeniable importance to the

Center to feature Afrocentric items

By Jacquie Burrell
Contributing Writer

With the start of Black History Month come many opportunities to explore Afrocentric history and culture.

One such opportunity is the book fair on campus.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center will host a book fair today and Friday. Alkeba Lan Books, a company out of Nashville, Tenn., will have Afrocentric merchandise available to view and purchase.

Chester Grundy, director of African-American Student Affairs, sees the book fair as a great complement to the rest of the center's valuable programming. It will provide good exposure to books and materials that are usually not available locally.

"The point is to raise levels of awareness, and how better to do this than by making these materials available?" Grundy said.

The fair will offer Afrocentric clothing, T-shirts, art and art prints, posters, jewelry, college

paraphernalia, artifacts, and books, including children's literature and recently published fiction and non-fiction.

Frank Walker, the program coordinator for the Cultural Center, says the fair will be a chance for people to make connections with the Center. He hopes to increase the number of people the Center serves.

"We are making it available to loyal patronage and hope that it will invite even more patronage," Walker said.

He hopes that if people come once, they will be encouraged to come again. Walker sees the fair as filling a need for Afrocentric materials and access to them.

The book fair is one of many events that the Cultural Center will be hosting during February to commemorate Black History Month.

The fair is open to the Lexington community as well as to the campus, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on both days.

The Cultural Center is located in 124 Student Center.

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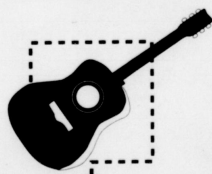
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Artist mixes music with paint *pg. 6*•

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Convertible Tan
Friday at 9 p.m., \$2
Bottles
119 N. 1st St.
Richmond, 623-8324

Seven Creeks
Friday at 9 p.m., \$3
Tamara's Sports Bar & Grill
197 S. Main St.
Versailles, 879-1697

Rostura, House of Funk
Friday at 9:30 p.m., \$3
Hersey
140 W. Main St., 258-2662

Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra
Friday at 8 p.m., \$15-\$26
Free for first 120 UK students
at the ticket office on Feb. 5.
Singletary Center for the Arts
257-4929

Bgozod
Friday at 9 p.m., no cover
Hip Joynt
115 S. Upper St., 254-7065

Jupiter Coyote
Friday at 10 p.m., \$6
Lynagh's Music Emporium
388 Woodland Ave., 255-6614

Royal Crown Revue
"Heard It Through the Grapevine"
Friday at 9 p.m., \$75, \$100
Radisson Hotel
257-3221

G-Funk All-Stars
Saturday at 10 p.m., \$4
Lynagh's Music Emporium
388 Woodland Ave., 255-6614

Dennis Ervin Blues Band
Saturday at 9 p.m., \$3
Tamara's Sports Bar & Grill
197 S. Main St.
Versailles, 879-1697

Miles Osland, saxophone
College of Fine Arts presentation
Sunday at 8 p.m., free
Singletary Center for the Arts
257-4929

Great White, SupaFuzz
Feb. 11 at 9 p.m.
\$12 advance, \$14 door
The Toy Tiger
Louisville, (502) 456-1137

Lily Pons
Feb. 11 at 10 p.m., \$1
Lynagh's Music Emporium
388 Woodland Ave., 255-6614

Sheryl Crow
Feb. 11 at 8 p.m.
\$20, \$22.50, \$25
Palace Theater, Louisville
TicketMaster: 281-6644

Quink
Chamber Music Society
Feb. 12 at 8 p.m., \$12.50
Free to UK students
Singletary Center for the Arts
257-4929

Bgozod
Feb. 12 at 9 p.m., no cover

Hip Joynt
115 S. Upper St., 254-7065

88 Plus: Music for Two Pianos and Four Hands
Jobanns Brubms Centennial Celebration
Feb. 13 at 8 p.m., \$5, \$10
Singletary Center for the Arts
257-4929

Kuchi Guru, Gladys, Mertons
Feb. 13 at 9:30, \$3
Hersey
140 W. Main St., 258-2662

Bgozod
Feb. 13 at 10 p.m., \$3
Millennium
156 W. Main St., 225-9194

Scrawl, Wilco
Tonight at 10 p.m.
\$10
Lynagh's Music Emporium
388 Woodland Ave.
255-6614

Johnny Socko, Mothership
Feb. 13 at 10 p.m., \$4
Lynagh's Music Emporium
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Greek Sing
Sponsored by Chi Omega
and Kappa Alpha
Feb. 13 at 7 p.m., paid admission
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Joe Williams, vocals
Spotlight Jazz Series
Feb. 14 at 8 p.m.
\$10, \$15, \$19.50
Singletary Center for the Arts

257-4929

Catawampus Universe
CD release party
Feb. 14 at 9:30 p.m., \$4
Hersey
140 W. Main St., 258-2662

Cigar Store Indians, Rhythm Bound
Feb. 14 at 10 p.m., \$4
Lynagh's Music Emporium
388 Woodland Ave., 255-6614



THEATER

I'm Not Rappaport
By Phoenix Group Theater
Tonight through Saturday
and Feb. 14-15, 21-22
at 8 p.m., Feb. 23 at 2 p.m.
\$8, \$10
Central Library Theater
140 E. Main St., 268-4455

The Mikado
By Kentucky Opera
Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.
\$17-\$55
Louisville, (800) 775-7777

Miss Julie
By Drama Centre of Centre
Thursday-Saturday at 8 p.m.
\$4 students, \$6
Danville, (606) 236-4692

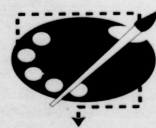
The Foreigner
By Bunbury Theater

Thursday-Saturday at 8 p.m.
Sunday at 2 p.m.
Through Feb. 16
\$8-\$10
Louisville, (502) 585-5306

Lysistrata
By Morehead State University
Theater
Feb. 11-15 at 8 p.m.
Feb. 16 at 2 p.m.
\$2 students, \$6
Morehead, (606) 783-2170

The Last of Mrs. Lincoln
By West T. Hill Community
Theater
Feb. 12-15 at 8 p.m.
Feb. 16 at 3 p.m.
\$6 before opening night, \$7 after
Danville, (606) 236-8607

Grease
By Northern Kentucky University
Corbett Theater
Feb. 20-22, 25-March 1
at 8 p.m.
Feb. 23 and March 2 at 3 p.m.
\$5 students, \$7
Highland Heights
(606) 572-5464



ART

UK Art Museum
Toussaint L' Ouverture Series
By Jacob Lawrence
Through March 23
Bertin to Rodin: 18th and 19th
Century French Art
Through June
Singletary Center for the Arts
257-5716

Morian Gallery
One/Self/World: Artists' Self
Portraits
Through Friday
Transylvania University
233-8210

The Downtown Gallery
Student Showcase '97
Through Feb. 28
PNC Bank Building
Vine Street, 257-4929

UK Appalachian Center
Appalachia: Mountains and Farms
photographs of Southern life
Through Friday
641 S. Limestone St.
.....
To have an event listed in the
Feb. 14 issue of KeG, please
call Rod before Feb. 11 at
257-1915.

Royal Crown Revue



Photo furnished

Not grandma's music

By Rodman P. Botkins
KeG Editor

Break out your zoot suit and dancing shoes — Royal Crown Revue is coming to town.

Royal Crown Revue brings its 1930s through 50s sound from the West Coast to the Bluegrass State to entertain the guests at the WUKY (93.1 FM) annual winter fundraiser, "Heard It Through the Grapevine," at the Radisson Hotel and Kincaid Towers Feb. 7.

Prior to the Royal Crown Revue show, guests can sample over 100 wines and food from more than 30 local restaurants.

The catch — tickets start at \$75!

True, proceeds from the event go to WUKY, a public radio station. But most of us college students just donated a few thousand dollars to our favorite charities: UK and the local bookstores.

Therefore, most of us hep cats who would be at the show will be digging through the garbage cans behind the Radisson for scraps.

Still, Royal Crown Revue is worth a listen.

This seven-piece from Los Angeles knows how to swing Chicago 1930s style. Royal Crown Revue mixes big band, swing, Blues, jazz and bebop to form a genre all their own. *Mugy's Move*, released last June, is the name of Royal Crown Revue's major-label debut.

From the opening song, "Hey

Pachuco!" your feet can't help but move to the drum beat. "Zip Gun Bop" makes me want to go postal with a Buggy Malone Tommy pie-gun. "I Love the Life I Live" has a more laid-back, Bluesy attitude. "The Walkin' Blues" shares the Blues influence but is more danceable. Bobby Darren's "Beyond the Sea" cover is played with the same smoothness as the original. "Datin' with No Dough" is not only another great number; it's also something most of us can relate to. And there are seven other great tunes.

Mugy's Move should come with a Surgeon General's warning: "Listening to Royal Crown Revue may cause involuntary movements of the extremities and an urge to get a new wardrobe. Do not attempt to waltz to it."

Despite the nostalgic origins of the songs, this isn't your grandparents' music. All of Royal Crown Revue's members are decades from their first Social Security checks.

The band members have a diverse background of geographic and musical origins — ranging from Hawaii to Manhattan, from punk to rockabilly. Now, Royal Crown Revue books more than 200 gigs a year in America and Europe. They even once opened for KISS.

Actually, you've heard Royal Crown Revue if you saw the movie *The Mask*. Royal Crown Revue played "Hey Pachuco!" during the Jim Carrey-Cameron

Diaz dance scene.

If you dig Squirrel Nut Zippers, *Mugy's Move* belongs in your CD collection.

As the song says, "Zip gun bop was meant to be."

If you have the funding, tickets are available at both Liquor Barn locations (Beaumont Center store on Harrodsburg Road or at the Richmond Road store), at the Radisson Plaza on Main Street and Broadway or by calling WUKY at 257-3221.

I hope some people show up who can dance from the waist down.

If you're interested in more information about Royal Crown Revue, go to the Warner Brothers Web site at www.wbr.com

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COMICS MAKE A COMEBACK

By O. Jason Stapleton
Assistant Sports Editor

Somewhere between art and literature lies the world of comics.

While comic books were frowned upon for years as being "just for kids," recently comics have been looked upon as a genuine form of entertainment for not just children but teen, adults, adolescents and even senior citizens.

Just because comics have become an accepted form of entertainment as of late, that doesn't mean it has been good for the comic book industry as a whole.

Approximately four years ago, the comics industry experienced a time of great profit.

This is when comics as a whole became chic. People from all walks of life were coming into comics shops and looking through the pages of various Marvel, DC and other comics.



STEPHANIE CORDLE, Kernel staff

The reason this happened is still somewhat unclear, but the result was that more people than ever were buying comics.

Unfortunately the reasons they were buying them wasn't exactly good for comics.

People were buying comics in droves because they thought that they were going to be worth a lot of money.

Kevin Forbes, owner of the Comic Interlude comics shop, attributed the rise of most of these comics "speculators" to the early rise of Valiant Comics.

Valiant Comics was a comics publisher which experienced great success when it first came out with new and innovative books like *Harbingers*, *X-O Manowar* and *Magnus Robot Fighter*.

These books values went throughout the roof only a year or two after they were published.

"At the beginning of Valiant they got rich, and at the middle if they got out they did OK," Forbes said.

"All the stuff that came out after the initial (rise) caused people to be sucking up a lot of issues."

One Valiant book that Forbes mentioned in particular was *Turok: Dinosaur Hunter* #1. He said that many comic dealers bought 300 copies of that issue, hoping that it would be a big success like previous Valiant first issues.

The result was that only 100 issues sold and retailers were stuck with 200 issues. Things like this really sucked the life out of the comic book industry, and caused it to go into a major funk.

Many comics fans got turned off by the fact that the speculators were virtually controlling the comic industry.

"The emphasis went from putting out good stories to just seeing how many issues a company like Marvel or DC could pump out in a month," said Forbes.

So for all those who have been out of the comic book loop, here is a small sampling of what has been happening since the great comic crash of mid-1990's.

The former giant of comic books, Marvel



▼Marvel

Comics Publishing, was most effected. Once Marvel looked like an unstoppable juggernaut, which hogged the majority of the market.

Now however, Marvel has hit rock bottom, and actually filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

"That is where you are protected from your creditors while you reorganize," Forbes said.

What happened to the once seemingly untouchable company.

According to Forbes there is no easy answer for what happened to Marvel.

"There has been so many things over the past few things that Marvel has done," said Forbes.

"It's like they were driving down a country road with the lights out at night, you can feel the pavement and it feels like you're doing OK, but at any second you can go off and hit something and be dead."

Marvel has taken desperate measures in order to try and revive itself.

It has brought back some of its most influential artists in to rewrite its flagship books.

Rob Liefeld, Jim Lee, Jim Valentino, and others who split off from Marvel in the early 90's to form their own publishing company, Image Inc., have returned to the fold to revamp Marvel's *Iron Man*, *Captain America*, *Avengers* and *Fantastic Four*.

They have given these heros new origins and placed them in new settings.

This gives the characters a new look and feel, when they had previously become somewhat stale.

Don't worry though, because this is just temporary thing. After 12 issues Marvel plan to go back to the original format for the characters.

▼DC

DC comics has probably reaped a lot of the benefits of the Marvel downfall.

According to Forbes, DC has improved the storylines and is currently reaping the benefit by increased sales.

They have redone the Justice League America bringing back all the heavy hitters back into the fold.

The JLA now has core members Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, Green Lantern and others.

Also the whole thing with Superman changing will only help to improve DC's standing.

▼Others

Independent publishers have also been winners.

Titles like *Shi*, *Poison Elves* and *Cry For Dawn* have experienced growth in recent years.

One type of comics that are on the rise are "adult" comics.

While this might conjure images of blatant pornography that is not always the case.

"There are a lot of different comics that are classified as "for mature readers only," Forbes said.

"There are some that are a little racy and then there are some that get pretty violent, there are some that are semi-amusing erotic and some that are violent erotic."

So no matter what your taste, whether it's straight up super heros or down right nasty, there are comics out there which will appeal



STEPHANIE CORDLE Kernel staff

SUPERMAN GETS NEW, IMPROVED POWERS



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MICHELLE DUDLEY Kernel staff

By O. Jason Stapleton
Assistant Sports Editor

The Man of Steel is no more ... well, not really, but Superman is going to be going through some changes in the very near future.

Superman's traditional powers are going to be gone, and he will be left with strange, new powers in their place.

Before, Superman drew his power from the energy of the sun's golden light, making Superman himself a sort of big solar panel. With the changes, however, he will now be an actual energy being.

His body will be formed of energy, so instead of bullets bouncing off him as they have in the past, they will now pass through him.

Now Superman has to deal with learning to use his new powers and how to control them.

Another new twist is that whenever Superman is in his guise of Clark Kent, he will be as vulnerable as any other human.

Kevin Forbes, owner of the Comic Interlude, said probably 75 percent of the reaction he has gotten from his regulars has been negative.

"I think it's a good thing though," Forbes said.

"You gotta have change, otherwise people get bored."

The change has generated a lot of interest from outside the comic shop regulars, however.

"I've gotten a lot of calls about it," Forbes said.

"I'm just glad he's not dying again. I think that was everything that was wrong with the world. Here's this guy who stands for truth, justice and the American way, and he gets killed."

Forbes thinks that Superman's new powers will somehow tie in with the time he was killed and then came back to life because much of what happened to Superman while he was "dead" is as of yet unexplained.

Superman is also trading in his traditional red and blue uniform for a new

blue and white costume.



Here's this guy who stands for truth, justice and the American way, and he gets killed."

Kevin Forbes
Owner of the Comic Interlude, reacting to the death and rebirth of Superman

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Internet guide to comics

By Rodman P. Botkins
KeG Editor

Comic book aficionados have enshrined their favorite superheroes on Web sites.

Every popular comic book character has at least one Web site in his or her honor, including Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman and even the Gen 13 vixens. The Internet not only provides a medium for discussing these characters' exploits in Usenet groups and in on-line chat rooms, but it also serves as a medium for many on-paper.

Enormous numbers of these on-line comics have democratized the comic book industry. Anyone with a good idea and basic knowledge of HTML can set up an on-line comic. Many equal the quality of their paper-published cousins, and the Internet even provides readers of some of these on-line versions with various levels of interactivity.

Most of the big comic book publishers like Marvel and DC also have their own Web sites. These well-designed sites are built and maintained by professionals. But not surprisingly, their content is a bit one-sided.

Rather than list the big publishers' Web sites or list those on-line comics I thought deserved mention, this list is intended as a tool for comic book readers. The Web sites that follow are useful because of their resources, information and links to other sites.

▼ **The New Comic Book Releases List Web Site:** www.ccse.net/~ncrl/

One of the major reasons the Internet can be a useful tool for comic book readers is the new releases lists that are posted regularly. The New Comic Book Releases List Web Site by Charles S. LePage, with information from Sun Coast Comics of Jacksonville, Fla., compiles the new release lists

of several comic book publishers. This Web site makes a great bookmark if you are anxiously awaiting the next installment of your favorite character's adventures. Best of all, visitors can have the releases list e-mailed to them.

Other services offered are links and news pertaining to comics. The links section is comprehensive, with comic book reviews, publishers, artists, more news sources and related interesting sites.

An archive of previous release lists is maintained. There is a master list of comic book stores.

Visitors to this page can win prizes by participating in the monthly survey. For example, last month's winners each received a signed copy of "Modern Grimm" #1.

▼ **The Comic Book HomePage:** www.geocities.com/SoHo/5537/

The Comic Book HomePage focuses on comic books in general. The page also serves as a comic book advocate by promoting comic books as an art form.

A page containing the thoughts of authors, comic and non-comic alike, about the comic medium as an artistic one, shares some interesting points.

A short history of comic books traces its origins back to pre-historic cave paintings and Egyptian hieroglyphs, explaining that they were "visual narratives of juxtapositioned images." Credit for the word balloons that comic book characters use to speak goes to Richard Fenton Outcalt's "The Yellow Kid" in 1895. Other curiosities in the comic book world, with links, are listed.

▼ **Red Planet Comicx:** www.redweb.com/wraith/comix.html

Red Planet Comicx's resources make this page worth a look. Under "Comixographies," visitors will find a list of comic book authors' and artists' bibliographies.

Painter blends art and music

By Ellen M. Johnson
Contributing Writer

A "well-exhibited artist," as she describes herself, is on her way to Lexington. Joyce Yaes will be at UK on Feb. 8 to perform "A Synthesis of a Movement."

What is a synthesis of a movement? It is "the painting that is a summary of a (musical) movement that's shown on a screen behind the orchestra," Yaes said. She is not, however, bringing an orchestra with her to Lexington.

Though she could be called a multimedia artist, Yaes prefers to keep the arts separate. "I'm fairly conservative in my taste in music. I believe in the traditional orchestra."

In addition to painting, Yaes plays the violin. When she lived in Lexington, she played second violin in the Lexington Community Orchestra for three years.

Yaes will be demonstrating the use of media in conjunction with classical music and her own paintings. She plans to conduct Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" and Handel's "Water Music" from a music stand while slides of her paintings, which summarize the movements of the

music, are projected onto several surfaces in the room.

Yaes chose this form of art for several reasons.

"It helps the audience to appreciate the music without looking at the musicians or the conductor."

She also believes it makes art more aesthetic for the audience and the conductor's interpretation.

Her visual art is extracted from and enhances the music. Yaes uses just one painting to summarize each musical movement. "More than one painting per movement means that the audience is distracted," she said.

In an artist's statement released in July 1995, Yaes said, "The purpose of my work is to entertain the viewer. To make them stop, and look, and feel something special about life. On some canvases I even use some words to bring out that special feeling."

Yaes previously had an exhibit in the President's Room of the Otis A. Singletary Center for the Arts. James Rollins, front house coordinator at the center, said Yaes called them a few months ago and asked if she could rent the space to perform "A Synthesis of a Movement."

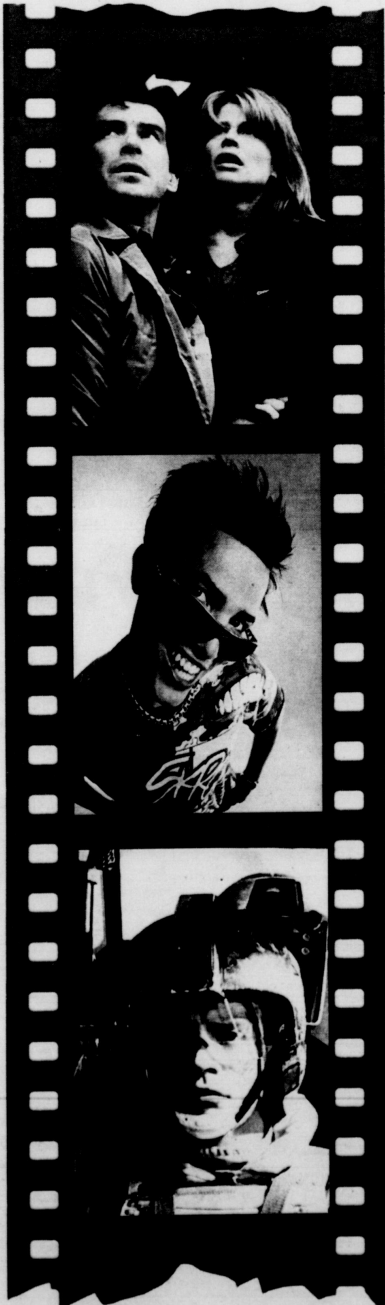
The performance is free and open to the public.

LOOKING ahead

'A Synthesis of a Movement' will be performed in the President's Room of the Otis A. Singletary Center for the Arts Feb. 8 at 8 p.m.

Movies

Disaster, both literally and figuratively, hits theaters



Dante's Peak

With the disaster genre making a strong comeback, *Dante's Peak* beats a sleuth of other films to the punch.

The mega-action epic adventure about a Pacific Northwest volcano eruption promises the typical thin on story, heavy on special effects look. Filmmakers obviously didn't expect to draw crowds through casting its top-notch actors Pierce Brosnan and Linda Hamilton.

Roger Donaldson, known for his near-award-winning gem *Species* (not really), was given the task of directing the lava flow. I guess you could argue other lame previous efforts *Cocktail*, *Cadillac Man* and his updated version of *The Getaway* just didn't have enough explosions.

Another problem: the film's PG-13 rating doesn't allow for enough carnage, burning bodies and melting skin.

If this wasn't enough for you check out Tommy Lee Jones in the originally-titled *Volcano* due out in a few weeks.

The Pest

Not many people like pests. That begs the question why would anyone like a movie called *The Pest*. Throw in pesty John Leguizamo as the lead character and you have yourself an even better question: why would anyone like a movie with Leguizamo in the lead.

Hollywood forgot to ask those questions and now has such a film opening this weekend.

Leguizamo plays a Miami con man who has the ability to take on the personality of a fast-talking Chinese delivery boy one moment and an Orthodox rabbi the next. He happens to need that resourcefulness to fend off a crazy German and a Scottish mob that he owes \$50,000.

Jeffrey Jones (the principal from *Ferris Bueller*) is the other notable cast member playing the psychotic German.

Director Paul Miller, responsible for directing TV hits "In Living Color" and Saturday Night Live, makes his feature film debut.

Star Wars

Those of you locked out of the opening weekend of *Star Wars* now have two weeks left. Apparently George Lucas will pull each part of the trilogy out of theaters when its three weeks are up.

The space epic maintains itself as one of the few films ever that demand big-screen presence and the popcorn-eating, noisy movie theater atmosphere that goes along with it.

Although Lucas may have overdone it a bit with the new creatures, purists will have no gripe. The added Jabba scene may have reduced the giant slug to a weak pushover, but his brief screen time will fascinate.

Go for a second, third, fourth time and see a film that probably won't be equaled for another twenty years.

Although there's only two weeks remaining to get in as many showings as possible, look at the bright side, only two weeks left until *Empire*.


By Dan O'Neill

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Help Me Harlan: My true love engaged to the wrong fiancée

Help Me Harlan,

I am a 25-year-old male living in New Jersey. While in college, I met the love of my life. We dated for three months and honestly, they were the happiest three months of my life. It was MAGIC.

After three months of bliss, she broke up with me without explanation. A few weeks later, I found out the reason was that she had fallen prey to an eating disorder. She said if she hadn't broken up, it would have killed her. I told her that when she was better and healthy, I'd be waiting.

After graduating college we became good friends again. It was last winter, during the 40-inch snow storm, that we had the time of our lives. My weekend visit turned into five days of incredible memories. I dropped hints of my feelings for her during the week, but I guess I wasn't direct enough.

Recently, I got a call from her. She told me she's been dating some guy at work and got engaged in October!

After hearing her "good news," I wrote her a 24-page, hand-written letter expressing my deep love for her. She received it right before Christmas and called me to set up a time for us to meet.

So, we got together for about 40 minutes and I told her everything I could to help her understand the depth of my five-year love for her. She kept reiterating, "Why do you tell me all this NOW?"

The next day, I wrote her another letter. After sending the second one, I got a call at work from her fiancée, who started screaming things like, "Get over it!" What hurt was that he had even seen that second letter.

She marries this guy on May 16. I have to do SOMETHING more! I've told her I won't give up hope until May 16, unless she makes it VEEERRRRY clear that she does not, could not and will not ever love me. I won't give up!

My family absolutely loves her. My mother thinks I should show up at her door with airplane tickets to Barbados or something...

Please help!

Hoping

Dear Hoping,

That's wild — I was just going to suggest you show up at her door with two tickets to Barbados and make it clear: "It's either you and me in Barbados or you

and your fiancée!"

If your goal was to tell her and show her how you feel, it appears you've succeeded — several times.

Anything more might seem more like harassment than romance. You need to give her some time to do some serious thinking.

It's good to analyze things, but sometimes analysis can get to the point where it becomes more destructive than productive. Try to harness this energy into something that can help you to alleviate some of this stress.

Anything can happen these next few months.

While it might be extremely difficult, the best way to prove your love is to offer your support, regardless of what her last name might be.

Worst case scenario: She ends up marrying you, only to realize her love for the guy!

Harlan is not a licensed psychologist, therapist, or physician, but he is a licensed driver.

Write Help Me Harlan via e-mail at harlan@wwa.com or through the Web at <http://shoga.wwa.com/~harlan>. Send letters c/o Help Me Harlan, 1954 First Street #196, Highland Park, IL 60035.



Harlan Cohen
Syndicated Columnist

MLK Center film series to begin

Staff Report

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Cultural Center and the Student Activities Board are sponsoring several events in honor of Black History Month.

A film series will be presented at the Worsham Theater in the Student Center. Admission is \$2 with a UK student ID, and the films start at 7:30 p.m. The films titles and dates are listed below:

- ▼ *Get on the Bus*: Feb. 7-8
- ▼ *Once upon a Time When We Were Colored*: Feb. 13
- ▼ *Set It Off*: Feb. 21-22
- ▼ *A Time to Kill*: Feb. 28 and March 1

Another film, *A Campus Treasure*, by Joan Brannon, will celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the opening of the MLK Cultural Center. The film will debut Feb. 20 at 2 p.m.

For more information, call the MLK Cultural Center at 257-4130.

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