



WEATHER Mostly cloudy today with a chance of light rain, high near 55. Chance of rain tomorrow, high near 55.

LOOKING AHEAD UK baseball coach Keith Madison looks for improvement in his 20th season. See Sports, Page 2.



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LCC extends classroom to community



Students shown merit of lifelong education

By Julie Meadows
Contributing Writer

Students sit around a classroom table, talking, laughing and discussing their day's topic.

Everyone seems to be enjoying themselves immensely.

Except this isn't your typical classroom.

And these aren't your typical students.

This Lexington Community College class, Major Black Writers, takes place at the Bluegrass-Aspendale teen center.

The center is located in the middle of Bluegrass-Aspendale, a housing development on Sixth Street in downtown Lexington.

Every Tuesday and Thursday, Carol Hunt's English class can be found crowded around a table in the main room. Here they discuss black literature and how African,

Caribbean and American cultures relate to their lives.

Hunt, an assistant professor, came up with the Bluegrass-Aspendale project after the teen center contacted the community college with an interest in holding a class.

Funding was made available for the class because of an unexpected increase in enrollment, said Denise Beatty, the dean of Academic Affairs for LCC. Because Hunt already is employed by the community college and the facilities at Bluegrass-Aspendale are available for free, the cost for the project was \$222 per student, the price of a three credit-hour class.

This is the first time LCC has offered a class in a neighborhood for credit. Although similar projects had been tried before, the collaboration between the teen center leaders at Bluegrass-Aspendale and LCC made this a success.



LITERARY HERITAGE Students sit in on a Major Black Writers course held at the Bluegrass-Aspendale teen center. LCC offers the class as part of a project which provides educational opportunities to underprivileged students. Margaret Harris (left) of Lexington listens to the discussion during class.

PHOTOS BY JAMES CRISP *Kennel staff*

"We were aiming to get at least three students in the class, said Denise Beatty, the coordinator for Multicultural Affairs at LCC. "But we ended up with 12 and had to turn some away because of classroom size constraints."

Ranging from teenagers to retirees, the group responding to the class was interested in learning about African history, a subject they didn't have the opportunity to study in school.

"The only problem is that (the students) are interested in so many works that we just can't work in," Hunt said. "That's frustrating."

Annie Maxberry, a retired registered nurse, learned about the course through a friend. Although she is not from Bluegrass-Aspendale, she looks forward to her biweekly trips to the center.

"This class is one of the best educational experiences that has ever happened to me," Maxberry said. Because of its small size and unique location, the class can participate in a number of different learning activities. It features guest speakers, field trips and poetry readings. The students also read literature by black writers and apply the stories to their lives.

Another goal of the class is to teach everyone in the community who wants to learn, especially those who might not otherwise have the opportunity.

"African Americans are one of the most underrepresented populations in this community," said White, who also worked on the project with Hunt and Beatty.

Because of the success of the class, many said they hope to see expansion to other community centers in the near future.

"The problem is with the availability of funds," White said. The lack of money and interest are two major reasons why this project hasn't been done before, she said, but the positive impact the class has made should help future programs.

Defense course offers tips for women

Rape Awareness Week ends with emphasis on protection

By Kristin Henley
Staff Writer

It's rape awareness week. Do you know how to protect yourself?

One of every three women can expect to be sexually assaulted at least once in her life. Education may protect a woman from becoming a victim.

Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) courses teach self-defense techniques to women, and last night, the target audience was an assembly of UK students in the Small Ballroom at the Student Center.

Instructors introduce the course with statistics to relay the importance of defending oneself. Students then learn how to punch and kick effectively.

Students learn how to defend themselves under different circumstances through instructor scenarios. Finally, students go through simulated attacks to apply the learned techniques.

R.A.D. is one of the largest programs in the United States and Canada. Approximately 50,000 instructors are a part of the program that has educated almost 200,000 women in its eight-year existence.

"Several thousand have been attacked but not one has been raped, because they all fought back," said Joe Monroe, a R.A.D. instructor and UK police officer.

Monroe conducted an information session about responsible dating and defense last night. His session was the final event of Rape Awareness Week.

"This is an important week for the entire UK community because everyone needs to be educated on the rape issue," said Jennifer Wilson, an education sophomore.

Monroe linked alcohol with irresponsible dating that leads to rape. A woman's inhibitions are impaired and she practices poor judgment when alcohol is involved.

"Know the limitations when drinking," Monroe said. "And don't leave your drink around."

He warned women about a drug called Rohypnol. Roofies, as it is more commonly called, can be slipped into a drink and cause a woman to black out. Often, the victim wakes up the next morning not remembering what happened.

"He could be a smooth talker just to get you into bed. Take his phone number and call him," Monroe said. "It is OK for girls to ask guys out today."

Monroe offered two suggestions to better protect yourself.

First, tell a roommate or friend where you are going and when you may be back.

"Every weekend we get calls asking to find someone's roommate or friend," Monroe said.

Second, drive your own car and meet the guy somewhere. You may not know him very well and you will be assured of a ride home.

Three students reported being raped on UK's campus in both 1996 and 1997. However, most women do not report rapes. Many women feel scared or embarrassed and often blame themselves. Others want to avoid the trauma associated with telling their story in court.

Only one percent of the rape trials end in convictions, Monroe said.

"Guys and girls need to be aware (in order) to help decrease the number of rapes and sexual assaults," said Krystal Staples, a pre-pharmacy sophomore.

Men speak out on rape issues

By Todd Cox
Contributing Writer

Responsible Dating for Men.

It sounds like a cliche, but it's really a part of Rape Awareness Week. The question for men today — how far is too far?

Many guys do not know the answer. Those men will take a woman out to eat, then to a movie and expect payment for their hospitality, said Joe Monroe, Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) instructor for the UK Police Department. This week is meant to combat that trend.

The Delta Delta Delta social sorority and Sigma Pi social fraternity donated purple ribbons to sponsor their rape awareness campaigns aimed at students. These events culminated in a R.A.D. seminar on different ways women can protect themselves against predatory men.

Monroe talked about identification strategies and briefly hit on the topics of self-defense and responsible drinking for women. Then his focus shifted to men. He said the guys should avoid putting women into compromising situations and practice responsible dating.

"Along with responsible dating comes respect and politeness," said Matt Shields, an undeclared sophomore.

Shields said Monroe presented his topic in a very interesting and informative manner that kept the audience interested.

Interfraternity Council President Josh Knipp, a marketing and finance sophomore, agreed with Shield's view.

"(Monroe) presented an excellent event that educates the entire campus as well as the Greek organizations that put this all together," Knipp said.

Respect was the focus of Rape Awareness Week for men. Monroe said men should always respect the female they take out. When a woman tells you to stop, just do it, he said.

"No means no," Monroe said.

Monroe stressed the importance of awareness, not just for women, but for men. He said alerting women and men to the dangers of rape could help keep another person from becoming a statistic. Proper communication techniques are key elements to resolving the problem, according to Safety Watch, a booklet on date rape published by the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Division of Police.

Tide beats Vanderbilt, rolls to rematch with No. 7 UK

Maddux struggles as Alabama rallies for 72-62 victory

By Rob Herbst
Sports Editor

ATLANTA — Look at Alabama's Jeremy Hays and you don't see a intimidating center.

The Crimson Tide's toothpick-thin pivotman stands at 6-foot-10, and with ears sticking out like television antennas, resembles a character from Hee-Haw rather than a basketball player. But Vanderbilt saw just what Hays could

do as he dominated the Commodores with 16 points, 18 rebounds and four blocks in a 72-62 Alabama win. With the loss, Vanderbilt also saw any chance of an NCAA Tournament bid disappear. Alabama will now move on to face No. 7 UK Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the second round of the Southeastern Conference Tournament.

Vanderbilt head coach Jan van Breda Kolf was impressed with Hays' performance. "He was just sensational tonight," van Breda Kolf said. "Not only scoring but also rebounding. Rebounding has

been our Achilles heel and it cost us tonight."

Down virtually the entire game, Alabama finally grabbed the lead with 11 minutes remaining when Hays hit a bucket. After that, Vandy held the lead only once and the Crimson Tide pulled away for the double-digit win.

"I felt down the stretch that Jeremy Hays came up with big boards for us," said Alabama senior guard Damon Bacote, who finished with 17 points. "(Vanderbilt wasn't) knocking down the three. At the end we

knocked down shots and were able to win the game."

The Crimson Tide was helped by a poor performance from Vanderbilt's Drew Maddux. The Commodores' first team All-SEC guard fired nothing but blanks. Maddux hit only 1-of-13 from the field, including 1-of-10 from three point range, totaling only seven points.

While the Commodores prepare for a NIT berth, the Crimson Tide will get ready for UK.

Back on Jan. 21 the Crimson Tide nearly shocked UK in Louisville's Freedom Hall but ultimately fell to the Wildcats, 70-67. In that game

Hays went scoreless but Bama nearly beat UK because of its outside game.

The Tide hit 14-of-26 from three-point land against the Wildcats but UK won the inside game.

"We beat Minnesota who went to the Final Four last year and I heard one of their players said that if (Minnesota) played (Alabama) 10 times, (Minnesota) would win nine of 'em," Alabama head coach David Hobbs said.

"But that's not the situation. You only have to beat 'em once. Our guys our confident and know they can play with Kentucky, so who knows?"

Inside
For more SEC Tournament coverage, see page 2.

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UK coach safe at home

By Mike Heppermann
 Staff Writer

There's something to be said about the comforts of home.

Head coach Keith Madison has called UK's Cliff Hagan Stadium home for 19 years, and in that time UK has never suffered a losing record at home. This year has started much the same, as Madison and the Wildcats got off to a good start in extending that streak by winning their first two home games of the year this week over Lincoln Memorial and Ohio University.

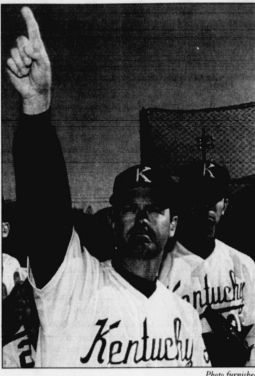
Madison's 590 victories are an all-time high for any UK coach, and make him the fifth-winningest coach among active Southeastern Conference baseball coaches. Two Wildcat teams under his tutelage (the 1988 and '93 squads) have advanced to the NCAA Tournament.

Madison had his hands full entering his UK coaching career. He took over a team that finished last in the SEC Eastern Division by posting the most losses in a season in school history, but wasted no time turning things around.

In his first year (1979), the team went from its worst finish to notching the most victories in school history, finishing with a 29-18 record. During his tenure, UK has broken that record three times by winning 39 games in 1981, 40 in 1987 and 41 in 1993.

Some have said that Madison will have his hands full entering his 20th season as coach of the Wildcats, with UK's roster consisting of 14 freshmen, eight of whom are pitchers. After the departure of nine seniors from last year's squad, only 11 upperclassmen lead the way for a team that finished 20-34-1 last year, the worst mark for the Wildcats since Madison started his UK career.

"Last year was a tough year for us," he said. "We didn't have much experience in our lineup."



LEADING THE CHARGE UK head baseball coach Keith Madison leads the Cats into his 20th season at the school looking to improve from last season.

Madison says that the team was looking forward to the start of this season in order to turn things around.

"Our guys have worked harder in the weight room and have more enthusiasm than I've seen from any of my teams in the last 10 years," he said. "If they continue that, it will pay off."

So far the Cats have compiled a 5-6 record,

with three of those wins being earned on the road. After playing their first nine games of the year on the road, the Cats have earned the right to sleep in their own beds after logging over 10,000 miles in the process.

"It's difficult," Madison says of the traveling. "I'm used to it by now, but it's really tiring on the players. It's something you have to overcome mentally."

During the February road trips, Madison saw both good and bad from the Cats, but still remains optimistic about the future.

"I'm pleased with some areas of our play and not so pleased with others," he said. "We're still growing and learning, but we expect to improve as the year progresses."

After coaching for so many years at the high school and collegiate levels, not much is new to Madison. This year, however, brings about one surprise. Madison is coaching his son Austin, who is a freshman. Madison has coached UK since Austin was born, but never had the chance to coach any of his little league teams.

"I think that's why we get along so well," Madison laughed. "This year has been a great experience for both of us."

Father warned son about playing for UK, because of the competition he would face in the SEC.

The six teams the SEC sent to last year's NCAA Tournament were the most by any conference in the country. Four of those teams made it all the way to the College World Series, with LSU winning its second consecutive title.

So how does Madison like his team's chances in the conference this year?

"It's hard to tell until we get started with conference play," he said, "but after Florida and LSU, I think it's wide open for anyone."

Bama's Hobbs not dead yet

Tide coach likes chances against UK

By Jay G. Tate
 Sports Editor

ATLANTA - It could have been Alabama head coach David Hobbs' last ride.

But a 1-for-13 performance from Vandy's All-Southeastern Conference hero Drew Maddux helped pave the way for Alabama's 72-62 win — thus providing another day of SEC life for Alabama and its head coach, who is scheduled to be terminated at season's end.

"There's a whole lot of woulda, coulda, shoulda," Hobbs said of the Tide's 14-15 season. "As far as the end of the season goes, I'll give it some thought when the time comes."

That time may be just hours from now, when UK faces the Crimson Tide at 1 p.m.

The game forces another tough matchup for UK head coach Tubby Smith, who coached with Hobbs while an assistant at Virginia Commonwealth in the mid-1980s. Smith will either lose or end the career of a friend.

Hobbs, as could be expected, believes his team has a chance. After all, the Tide nearly stole a win over the Cats in Louisville Jan. 21, though the Cats eventually won, 70-67.

But Hobbs believes he knows nearly all there is to know about Smith. But does that information really give his team the valuable insight it needs against No. 7 UK?

"Tubby and I, we've seen it all together," Hobbs said. "I've seen Tubby in his underwear x and without his underwear."

You can call me Al

During Alabama's 7-0 game-winning run late in the first half, it

was delightful to see the Tide mascot — a cheerful elephant — dancing along the baseline near the Vanderbilt bench.

What's with "Big Al" anyway? According to its basketball media guide, Alabama got the nickname during the 1930 football season.

When Everett Strupper of the Atlanta Journal wrote a story about a Bama-Ole Miss game.

Then-Alabama coach Wallace Wade had started his second-string players, but elected to resume play with his starters in the second quarter.

"At the end of the quarter, the earth started tremble. There was a distant rumble that continued to grow," Strupper wrote. "Some excited fans in the stands yelled, 'Hold your horses, the elephants are coming.'"

From that point forward, Strupper and several others referred to the Bama linemen as the "Red Elephants."

It was a good thing Strupper wasn't at yesterday's game hunting for a new nickname. After Bama's first-half 25.6 percent performance from the field, Big Al might instead resemble a jubilant and bouncy red brick.

The name game

With perhaps a small chunk of credit to ESPN's Dick Vitale, here's my SEC all-name list: Phenizee Ransom, Georgia; Gianni Cugini, Vanderbilt; Blake Thrasher, Alabama; Adrian Chilibiest, Auburn; Oral Roberts, Mississippi State.

Without question, however, Roberts gets the nod as best-of-show. First of all, he doesn't owe his name to the Oklahoma-based evangelist of the same name.

Second of all, he's a native of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and didn't play organized basketball in high school.

He was also a youth champion tennis player and an avid player of cricket.

He also contributed 34 points per game and earned a start earlier this season.

Is there any question?

The loner

Sitting alone in a vast expanse of seating under the north basket yesterday was Georgia head coach Ron Jirsa.

Jirsa, who accepted UGA's head coaching job after Tubby Smith moved to Lexington, was saddled with huge expectations during the pre-season.

The Bulldogs returned all five starters for the 1997-98 season and had the pain associated with a first-round NCAA loss to Tennessee Chattanooga to keep the team on track this season.

Dreams of success soon splattered, however, after Georgia took themselves out of conference title contention with a five-game slide to begin the league season.

The Bulldogs limped into the SEC Tournament with a 15-13 record. All that was presumably out of mind while Jirsa watched Vandy's Drew Maddux drive the lane and draw contact early in the second half of the Vandy/Bama game yesterday.

It was a move Jirsa has seen before — most memorably perhaps during his team's unsightly 68-64 home loss to Vandy in January.

Jirsa laughed but quickly regrouped into his usual button-down demeanor. He didn't look at all like a coach one game away from infancy.

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Gypsy KINGS

Film highlights life of colorful peoples

By Luke Saladin
Assistant Entertainment Editor

Watching *Latcho Drom* (*Safe Journey*) is like peering into a musical kaleidoscope made of people and colors.

Music and dance fill each segment with a myriad of cultural treasures and mesmerizing rituals. At the same time, we learn about a mythic lifestyle dating back over 1,000 years.

The film chronicles the routine lifestyle of Gypsies as they travel from India to Spain. Accompanying them are only a few personal items and their musical tradition.

The characters are never introduced, nor do any of them remain a fixture in the film. The people change as fast as the setting: Egypt, Turkey, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, France and on through Spain.

Director Tony Gatlif, quite astutely, chooses to concentrate the film on the musical heritage of the gypsies (or Rom people). The entire film consists of about 20 lines of spoken dialogue. Viewers receive their sense of place only through the melodies of these nomadic people.

Gatlif has since followed this effort with several other films about Gypsies, including



Photo furnished

HAVE STAND-UP BASS, WILL TRAVEL. *'Latcho Drom'* tells about the carefree life of the gypsies in Europe. The film opens tonight at the Kentucky Theatre.

1996's *Mondo and Gado Dilo* (*Crazy Stranger*) that their energy works like a phantasm of aesthetic delight.

The film begins somewhere in a desert outside Rajasthan, India. The camera slowly moves from the dusty wasteland to an oasis encompassing a small group of Rom people tending to their animals. We hear no dialogue and the camera carelessly scans their colorful fluorescent dresses and accentuates their upbeat temperament.

And then the music begins. The Roms gather in a circle with an abundant supply of instruments and begin performing their trance-like compositions. Gatlif quickly cuts from instrument to instrument trying to give summation to the copious musicians involved in the campfire-type atmosphere.

Alongside the music of the Roms dance works of such sheer eccentricity and beauty

After the music stops, the group packs up its belongings and moves on. We as an audience are treated to different music on each part of the track, following the same route that the Rom people did 1,000 years ago.

Latcho Drom may sound like a bore when trying to discuss it in medium such as a review, but in actuality the film thrives with life. Listening to the music of the Rom people hypnotizes the viewer with its inexplicable cadence and mystical essence.

Don't expect *Latcho Drom* to compete with *Titanic* (ital**) at the box office or gobble up awards on the film festival circuit. But Gatlif deserves credit for giving life to such an audacious project for which he might otherwise receive nothing more than peace of mind.



MOVIEreview

★★★

(out of five)

'Latcho Drom'

Shadow

Fashion failure at Grammys

Did you watch the Grammys last Wednesday night? Well if you did, we have lots to discuss. All right, let's talk about fashion.

One would suspect the Grammys would be loaded with glitz and gaud; however, this year's award ceremony yielded an unsightly and drearily decorated audience.

Granted, the Grammys took place in the infamous Radio City Music Hall in the heart of the "Big Apple," where fashion has always taken center stage; however, I believe fashion was not an item on the agenda for the evening. Although there were some trendy things going on, the faux pas outweighed the fashionable.

Many critics say that the Grammys are a pre-cursor as to what one ought to expect to be worn for the Oscars. Heaven help us if it is!

Like the notorious Mr. Blackwell, I too have my picks for the glamorous and the not-so-alluring, and here is my list. I do hope you agree:

▼Gloria Estephan was the epitome of chic and sleek. She wore a simple floor-length gown (satin, of course) with spaghetti

straps, and her hairstyle resembled that of Eva Peron. We are talking pure singular elegance. She represents herself well with little effort from fashion. In this case, she wore the clothes instead of the attire making her presence felt.

▼Erykah Badu truly could not have picked a better color. Her skimpy bright pink dress was greatly enhanced by her funky accessories, which exemplified her ambiance. Great use of fabric on that turban. It was outrageous! I was very impressed.

▼I can only say "*Fabulous!*" when describing Celine Dion. Her silver beaded gown was a little daring for her, but she wore it well. It was daringly curvaceous yet sensuous. The designer truly worked with her on this adventure. It was a type of mermaid dress which flared with great swish. God, I loved that dress! Her hairstyle was simple and her accessories were minimal, yet she managed to appear bedazzled.

▼A man after my own style — Danny DeVito. Short in stature, a man in comfort and all the while maintaining a good appearance. For the evening he wore a black turtleneck sweater, black pants, white

button-down shirt and a sporty maroon scarf. Totally sophisticated. Most men at these types of functions are typically in a nice black tuxedo and colored tie; while this is fine and dignified, nevertheless when a man can branch from the norm and still look as good as ole Danny boy did — well, that is just plain stylish!

▼Well how many could forget the "Soy Bomb" guy? Actually, he was very fashionable. He had a particular cause and through his dress he expressed his concern. Not the way many of us would opt to do, but he did manage to do it with some style. Black pants have and probably continue to be the color of the evening for most men.

▼The "High Priestess of Soul" defined what fashion should be on the night of the Grammys. Aretha Franklin, adorned in a patterned velvet dress with faux fur cuffs truly deserved her R-E-S-P-E-C-T. Honey, she had it going on! She is a classic diva with all the fashionable style one needs to

compliment or even heighten one's voice for stage appearances. You just have to love this woman and her clothes.

So what do you think about my picks for the fashionable and the not-so-sauve?

Regardless, there is one important theme identified at the Grammys and that was the use of three colors. From what I could see, most celebs were wearing different hues and intensities of black, silver and crimson.

I personally like all these colors, but the way people used them was not appealing.

But this is my take on the fashion worn during the 40th Annual Grammy Awards.

I think Cyndi Lauper said it best when she stated, "It's not if you win or lose, but it's how you wear." That is what really counts, right?

Fashion columnist Rob Hampton is a vocational home economics graduate student. He can be reached via e-mail at rnhamp0@pop.uky.edu.



Rob Hampton
Fashion Columnist

DIVERSIONSbytes

Indigo Girls coming to UK

Indigo Girls will play Memorial Coliseum on April 21. Tickets will cost \$22.50.

Tickets will be available only at UK's Student Center Ticket Office through a lottery system. The lottery will be held in the Student Center Grand Ballroom at 5 p.m. March 10. There is a limit of eight tickets per person. All sales are cash only. For more information, call 257-8427.

Tim plays 37 Center

Lexington based band, Tim, is going on the road in support of its first nationally distributed album, *German Engineering*.


They will kick off their tour tonight downtown at the 37 Center. No Regrets For Our Youth and The Blacktop Cadence will be the opening bands. The all ages show starts at 7 and costs \$5.

Compiled from staff reports.

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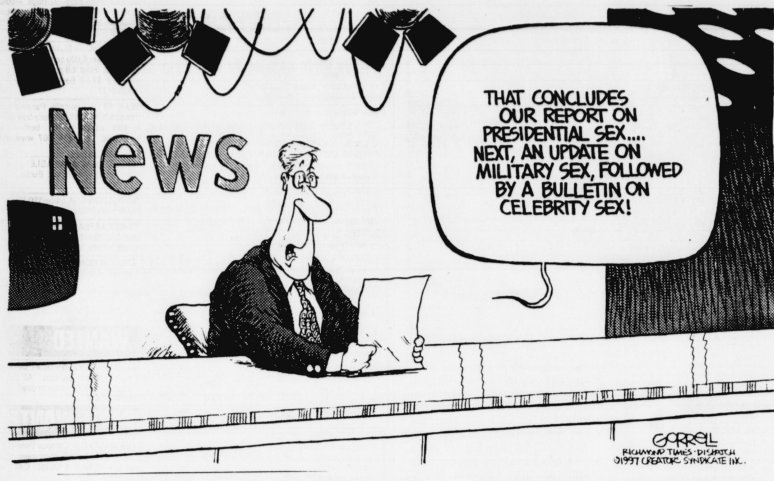
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ViewPOINT



Society reaping a tragic harvest of lost innocence

Evolution of sex on campus leading to more rapes

As I flipped the page in my political calendar on Monday morning, I came across an interesting tidbit. This week was Rape Awareness Week. And to such an end, several forums have been sponsored this week to increase people's awareness about the rape problem, particularly on a college campus. My own rape awareness came much prior to this discovery, when I found out that a young woman I know had been raped in high school.

Why? Maybe it's because I think about more in my life than where my next sex partner is going to come from.

I don't think sex is something that I am entitled to after the third date, or when I spend lots of money on a girl, or anything like that. Basically, having sex with as many people as frequently as possible is not in my personal mission statement.

Sex should only take place when an agreement or understanding has been reached between the parties that involves some sort of commitment and relationship. And no one has any right to randomly take sex from anybody against their will. That, my friends, is rape.



Matt Ellison
Asst. Editorial Editor

It came as quite a shock to me, but given the numbers that every survey seems to throw around, it probably shouldn't have been a surprise that it happened to someone I know. And of course, this person fit every perception of the person I thought it could never happen to.

Take away what she told me and this could be any one of the women in my circle of friends. I'm sure there are other people I know who've been raped and may never have told anyone about it.

In the same way, I bet somewhere, some man that I know has raped someone or had sex with someone against her will. I doubt I'll ever hear this because I'm sure he knows what he did was wrong, and why brag about having raped or coerced someone?

I don't think anyone with half a brain would think rape is not a problem in our society today. If I'm not mistaken, situations known as "acquaintance" or date rape now make up the majority of reported sexual assaults today. Perhaps that's why many rape programs teach people to think that every man is a potential rapist. At least that's what the flyers posted around my residence hall seem to indicate.

Rape is such a problem because people are having sex entirely too much and in the wrong social situations. I realize that many people can't wait until the day they decide to spend the rest of their life with someone. To those people, are you afraid of getting someone pregnant? Contracting a sexually transmitted disease? Ruining your relationship because of some sexual problem? Afraid of having to tell your parents that you're pregnant? What about having to appear in a courtroom because someone didn't want to have sex with you, but you felt that you were entitled to it.

Maybe you would get control of your emotions and feelings, then you wouldn't feel the need to be having sex. No harm can come in waiting. In fact, a lot of good can come about.

If you wait, you'll never have to worry about pregnancy, disease, hurt feelings and broken relationships. Do you want these things? If you do, then pretend like you never read this, and I hope you feel good after your sexual encounters this weekend. By obsessing over sex, you are contributing to the attitude that causes most incidents of rape.

Assistant Editorial Editor Matt Ellison is a journalism sophomore.

I don't think sex is something that I am entitled to after the third date, or when I spend lots of money on a girl...

Alarming isn't it?

Fire alarms just got that much worse. In some dorms, UK has installed new fire alarms that spray anyone pulling the alarm with an invisible mist.

As the alarm sounds, students file out as always, but here's the catch: When the students return to the residence hall, it can take up to three hours, because everyone has to enter via a single-file line. This is done so that guards can run students' hands under an ultraviolet light that reveals the identity of the violator.

In theory, it's a fine idea, but let's be realistic.

There's nothing to keep the offending student from strolling right out of the dorm and over to the library, or to a friend's room for the night.

It doesn't take long for college kids to realize all their friends are having their hands scanned for some reason. Chances are, it's not to see who washed under their fingernails.

Second point, let's see. Something sprays your hand that will mark you as a culprit to the officials. What can you do to prevent that? Wear gloves, perhaps. Not real difficult to throw those in the

bushes when you leave the dorm. It's not beyond impossibility that students will eventually find ways to set off the alarms without exposing the upper body.

The only answer to that is having MORE guards outside to make sure that no one escapes the area or discards the evidence. After leaving the dorm, that's exactly what it feels like: an escape. Filing in, having a guard check your hands for markings, it's all a little too much like a police state for us.

Sure, fire alarms are a potentially deadly problem at UK. But baby-sitting the students is going a little too far.

This whole idea hurts the innocent students who are just trying to relax, sleep or — dare we even say it — study.

How many times do students' grades have to suffer because of a lack of sleep or study time before UK realizes this isn't such a hot idea?

Three hours spent in the middle of the night so UK can catch the one person who would only have cost the residents 25 minutes seems a bit extreme.

Leave it the way it is, and hope the kids outgrow their childish games.

IN OUR OPINION

TALKback!

Readers are encouraged to submit letters to the editor and guest opinions to the Viewpoint page in person or by mail.

Address your comments to "Letters to the Editor"; Kentucky Kernel Editorial Editor; 35 Enoch J. Graham Journalism Building; UK; Lexington, Ky. 40506-0042. Send electronic mail to kernal@pop.uky.edu.

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

All material should be type-written and double-spaced, but hand-written will be accepted if it is legible.

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

Check out the Kentucky Kernel on-line at www.KyKernel.com for more letters to the editor.

Jason R. Stolz
mining engineering graduate student



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READERS' forum

The failure of KERA hurts students across the state

To the editor:

Kentucky is now on the path of leading the United States in the "dumbing down" philosophy, thanks in large part to the Kentucky Education Reform Act. Something needs to be done to redesign or eradicate it.

I have visited approximately 15 high schools throughout this state and I found a majority (75 percent) of the high schools were substandard in their educational content. One sad thing that I observed was how the students from the multitude of small schools in this state were not being exposed to the variety of math and science courses that are being offered at the larger state schools. The students that have dreams of going to college are not being equipped with the tools

to compete with the better non-state students. This is no reason why there are not more large, centralized schools that draw from a larger area. There is no reason to have two small schools separated by five or ten miles when one larger school can encompass both areas.

I know that building schools costs money, but it is insane to say that we do not have enough money and to put a price on the education of the kids in this state. These children will be our leaders and frankly I am appalled that anyone would put a price on our greatest natural resource, our children. KERA was passed with the greatest intentions, but the results are doing little in the advancement of educational quality. The greatest increase in the quality of Kentucky's future existence can best be served through the consolidation of most of the smaller schools and the expulsion of KERA.

I was raised in a very low-populated county in this state, in a rural town with a population of 250 people. I had advantages in my high school education quality that the small high schools did not and still do not have. This is possible because my county has one high school. There is no plausible reason to have the num-

ber of small schools that we have in this state. There is no reason why there are not more large, centralized schools that draw from a larger area. There is no reason to have two small schools separated by five or ten miles when one larger school can encompass both areas.

I know that building schools costs money, but it is insane to say that we do not have enough money and to put a price on the education of the kids in this state. These children will be our leaders and frankly I am appalled that anyone would put a price on our greatest natural resource, our children. KERA was passed with the greatest intentions, but the results are doing little in the advancement of educational quality. The greatest increase in the quality of Kentucky's future existence can best be served through the consolidation of most of the smaller schools and the expulsion of KERA.

Jason R. Stolz
mining engineering graduate student

Sex, drugs and rock 'n roll lead to deadly spring break

Most students who head south for sandy beaches and warmer weather will enjoy days of sunlight spent relaxing with friends.

For many spring breakers, the nightlife partying — dancing in nightclubs and meeting members of the opposite sex — is what they look forward to the most.

Before traveling south this March, University Health Service officials suggest packing a little common sense and good decision-making.

Most students may intend to just have a good time with friends. But many know the week away from books and classes can include heavy drinking, use of other drugs, casual sex and violence — all of which can have negative consequences.

"There are a lot of inherent risks involved with spring break," said Ruth

Staten, substance abuse specialist, University Health Service, and associate professor, College of Nursing. "The atmosphere of spring break is very conducive to heavy drinking, casual sex and violence."

Alcohol and Drugs Drinking heavily can damage your body and could even be fatal, Staten said.

Officials define heavy drinking as five drinks in one setting, but college students often exceed that limit. Some students will drink up to 20 beers in one night.

If you drink a lot of alcohol in a short period, it may take up to 30 minutes for the alcohol to fully affect your body.

When it does, it could result in black-

ing out, where you will not remember your actions the next day, or passing out. When people pass out, friends think their responsibility ends when they put them to bed.

However, leaving a person who drinks a lot of alcohol alone after he or she passes out could be dangerous and even lead to death.

With enough alcohol in that person's system, he or she could stop breathing or vomit and choke to death.

Some people have found that setting limits before starting the night of partying can help control their drinking. "Students have come back to me after I suggested they limit their drinking before they start, and told me they were surprised how much fun they had without getting intoxicated," Staten said.

However, alcohol is not the only problem. When students are away from home on a vacation, there is usually an increased

use of marijuana and other drugs.

"The whole party scene puts people in a situation with which they may use drugs when they don't normally do drugs," Staten said.

Sex and Violence Heavy drinking sometimes results in casual sex and violence. "When people drink or use drugs heavily, it decreases social inhibitions," Staten said. "Things people would not normally do sober, they do quite willingly drunk."

Students may leave UK thinking they are going south to drink a few beers and spend time with their friends, and may not remember to bring protection for sex. Unprotected sex puts this student at risk of sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies.

In addition, the sexual encounters are not always friendly. "I've encountered several students who have gone on spring break and were raped after they had been

drinking heavily," Staten said.

Because of drinking heavily, the person may not have the physical or verbal capacity to refuse sexual activity.

However, sexual violence is not the only aggressive act that could occur in a spring break party-like atmosphere. With alcohol involved, some situations could lead to arguments, and those arguments could lead to fights that even involve knives or guns.

The most important thing to remember is to make good judgments and realize drinking heavily can affect those decisions.

"You can go on spring break, have a good time and not put yourself at risk," Staten said. "Just remember you are making choices about what you do and the risks you take."

This column was provided as a public service of the University Health Services.

INFORMED SOURCES

"THE ONLY reason they did it was so no one would get suspicious and call police."

Richard Mulvihill, on one man who robbed the cash register at a gas station while his buddy pumped gas for customers to create the illusion that all was well. All the while, the employees were handcuffed and locked inside a bathroom.

CAMPUS

Summit discusses local diversity issues

Problems tackled in open forum

By Marc Elmore
Contributing Writer

Community summits are looking to tackle a variety of issues around Lexington this year. Diversity, racism, city development, teen pregnancy and violence were discussed last weekend at the fourth annual Lexington

Citizen Summit at Calvary Baptist Church.

The summit, facilitated by high school and middle school students from the Lexington area, began last Friday morning with an open forum discussion. After the forum, those who attended broke off into smaller groups of 10 to discuss these topics. The group had no specific goal to achieve at the summit — it was a time to brainstorm.

"It's really all about people discussing community problems in an open space setting," said Steve Kay, an executive committee member. "There are no speakers here. It is an open meeting for anybody to speak."

The summit began four years ago after the fatal shooting of Tony Sullivan by a Lexington police officer. The death made many Lexington residents realize their community was far from perfect. The summit started to help prevent tragic problems in the city.

This year, a topic of great interest was racism, as those who attended discussed methods of decreasing racial tension. The group picked education as the best way to help bridge the gaps between races in the city.

"Racism makes no sense to me," said Arad Torbey, a UK psychology senior. "If we can work together and play football together

er, we can unlearn our prejudices and teach children to be considerate of all races."

Although the summit had no specific goals in mind for this year's gathering, many groups in the past have acted upon ideas that came out of previous summits. There are now plans to build a Museum of Cultural Diversity in Lexington. Also, a project called "Rainbow Reading" will be initiated in several elementary schools throughout Fayette County. This program will teach young children about different ethnicities in the community.

The group also discussed the city's youth. The youngsters who facilitated the event thought it

would be a good idea to bring a teen center to downtown. The center would be a place where youth could engage in entertaining activities and learn from each other.

Domestic violence was on the minds of many who attended. Many citizens felt that many abusers and those abused lacked hope and religion, and these factors led to their conditions. Also noted during this session was the fact that abused children need role models, and the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization should be advertised more around Lexington.

The summit introduced many ideas and provoked thoughts for

those who came. Many said they were satisfied.

"Whenever a group of people have the opportunity to talk through things in an uncommon manner, it is a good thing," said freelance project manager Ron Alpern. "I believe we are going in the right direction to resolve a lot of issues."

Although the issues discussed were far from resolved, most people who attended felt good about what went on. Many groups wanted to turn their ideas into actions.

"I hope we can get some things done," Alpern said. "Our community deserves it, and the children of Lexington really deserve it."

SGA considering policy to revamp dead week

By Jamie Kerr
Contributing Writer

After numerous complaints from students about the current dead week policy, the Student Government Association is considering changes to the policy.

Dead week is a UK policy that prohibits tests and quizzes during the week before finals so that students may have more time to prepare for final exams. Many students complain, however, that they are still pressed for study time because of the various other assignments due during the week.

"There are so many nightmare stories of students who have five or six papers due in that week, and they don't have much time to set aside for study," said Joe Schuler, SGA's executive director of academic affairs.

Lindsay McNeal, academic rights chairperson, has also heard the complaints and said the SGA is "in the process of formulating a

proposal to present to the University Senate to consider a revision of the dead week policy."

Schuler said there are several different possibilities for dead week that SGA is considering for the proposal. One possibility is a restriction on projects or other major assignments. Additional possibilities include modeling UK after universities that prohibit any kind of homework or that take off two or three days from classes to devote to study time.

"We've considered all of these things and are trying to come up with an alternative that is as friendly to the faculty as it is to the students," McNeal said. She added that SGA has received an overall positive reaction to proposing changes for dead week.

Several students do agree there should be changes to dead week.

"I think dead week should just be a period for study and a time to finalize projects," said Erik Hostetter, a political science junior.

"Everything should be due the week before dead week so all you have to worry about is concentrating on your finals," said Abby Remley, a history senior.

Hostetter and Remley agree that dead week should include the restriction of papers and major projects, but believe days off classes are unnecessary.

Some administrators are, however, concerned more restrictions on dead week could lead to a pile-up of homework the week before dead week, McNeal said.

"My take on it is that it wouldn't be that much different from dead week, and if everything was due the week before dead week, then you've got that whole week before final exams to do nothing but review and study," she said.

When SGA finishes forming its proposal, it must be approved by the University Senate. McNeal said if it is approved, then the new policy could go into effect as early as next Fall.

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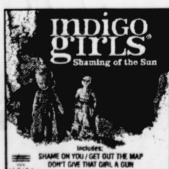
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