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VANDERBILT 67, UK 65

Cats almost reverse fortune

Cats lead late, lose 4th straight to Vanderbilt

By Chris Miles
cmiles@kykernel.com

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — It seemed like UK had finally found a cure for one of its biggest ills.

Contrary to their knack for falling behind early in games, the Cats came out against Vanderbilt firing on all cylinders. For the first time in four games, UK went into the locker room leading at halftime.

The Cats would keep that lead until the final 30 seconds of the game, when poor rebounding and poor offensive execution failed them in a 67-65 loss to Vanderbilt at Memorial Gymnasium in front of 14,316 fans. The win was Vanderbilt's fourth straight over UK (19-9, 8-6 Southeastern Conference).

"This is the toughest loss of the year," said senior forward Bobby Perry, who led the Cats with 18 points.

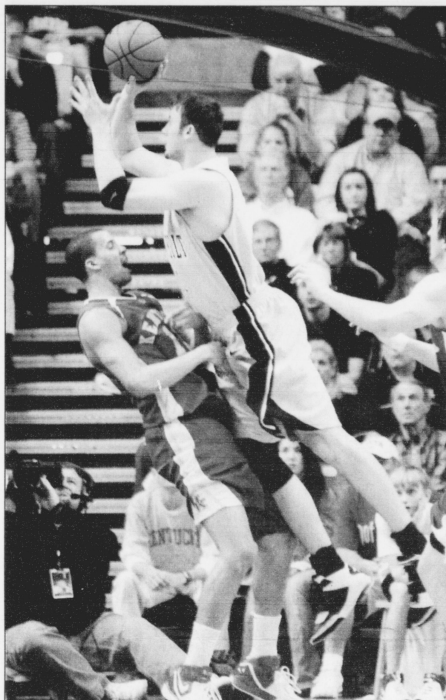
The Commodores' (19-9, 9-5 SEC) first and only lead of the game came with 25.5 seconds left to play, when senior forward Derrick Byars missed a free throw but collected his own rebound and hit a floater over UK junior center Randolph Morris to put the Commodores ahead 66-65.

"We were a rebound away from winning the game," UK senior center Lukas Obrzut said.

On the next possession, UK senior forward Shery Thomas turned the ball over trying to pass and Vanderbilt's Shan Foster hit 1-of-2 free throws after being fouled. UK, down by two, had nine seconds to get the ball down the court for a tie, but was unable to score after Rameel Bradley missed a tough shot in the lane.

"Randolph (Morris) was supposed to catch the ball down low, someone tripped. I don't know," Obrzut said.

See **Cats** on page 3



Above: Senior forward Bobby Perry, left, takes a charge by Vanderbilt junior forward Alan Metcalfe during the Cats' 67-65 loss Sunday in Nashville, Tenn. Perry led the team in scoring with 18 points.

Left: UK head coach Tubby Smith yells at his players to hustle more on defense. Smith said after the game, "It means we didn't do our job. We didn't do what we were supposed to do."

PHOTOS BY
ELLIOTT HESS
STAFF

Goodbye to Cats' chances at tourney bye

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — One play.

In one play, 39 minutes and 35 seconds of a possible season-defining victory became the season's most crushing loss for UK. Even when Derrick Byars was fouled with 29 seconds to play and UK leading by two, the Cats were still in fine shape.

Even if Byars made both free throws, the Cats would have been able to hold for the last shot. If Byars missed one or both of his free throws and UK grabbed the rebound, Vandy would have had to foul and UK would have been going to the free throw line to ice the game and slide into sole possession of second place in the Southeastern Conference's Eastern Division.

Only one sequence of events could have led directly to a UK loss.

And that's exactly what happened.

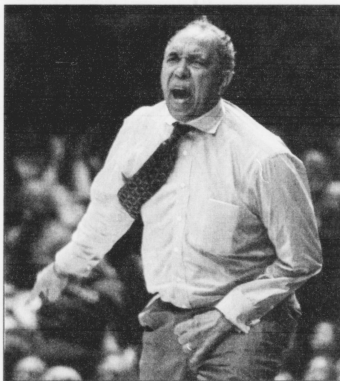
Byars made the first free throw before missing the second. Six-foot-four Dan Cage, however, got a hand on the ball, tipping it back to Byars, who scored to give Vandy its first lead of the day with 25 seconds left. Two failed possessions later, UK had succumbed to its toughest take-loss of this already nine-loss season.

"Obviously we didn't box out," an exasperated head coach Tubby Smith said. "It means we didn't do our job. We didn't do what we were supposed to do."

See **DeLottell** on page 3



CHRIS DELOTTELL
Kernel columnist



Prof finds outlet, connection in Turkey

By Josay Montana McCoy
news@kykernel.com

Doreen Maloney said she becomes emotional during the anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001.

The associate professor of new media in UK's art department had a cousin who died during the attacks. But Maloney said even after her personal loss, she didn't feel vengeful.

She found an unusual outlet for this desire for peace last year in Golyazi, Turkey.

Maloney retold her experiences in the Lucille Little Fine Arts Library Friday with a presentation titled "Building a Buddhist-Inspired Shrine for Peace in Rural Turkey: Deism, Design and the Surprising Process of Public Art in a Class-based Society."

She was one of 14 international artists brought to Turkey as part of a public arts residency last year. Maloney wanted to build something that incorporated Buddhist ideals to reflect her loss and personal call for

peace. "My family never wanted retribution," Maloney said. "No bombing would be equivalent. That's why I wanted the piece to deal with peace."

Completed Sept. 11, 2006, the shrine was dug into an antique wall with colored stones embedded into a concrete centerpiece.

Before building and during construction, Maloney worried about connecting with the locals on the project.

"She found the connection she was looking for when she chose a location in view of a local mosque where locals could watch the construction. Some locals also helped with the construction."

Eventually, some approached her and said what to her was a peace-shrine, was an "adak" or "offering" to them, a place to offer prayers.

"Some things just happen," Maloney said. "Serendipity played a large role in the construction. There was a lot of energy within the piece."

Although Maloney's shrine was appreciated by the locals and had ties to

their culture, most of her colleagues' artwork did not meet the same reception.

Locals destroyed most of the other pieces, Maloney said. She gave an example of one artist who painted about 30 fishing boats bright yellow. The piece upset the locals because fishing is a vital part of Golyazi's economy and few people can afford fishing boats.

Leah Crews, a second-year art studio grad student, said she attended the presentation because she is a student of Maloney's and loves her work. Crews said the peace-shrine was no different.

"Religious aspects are so strong," Crews said. "It's really interesting how she connected with the community and won the population over."

Melissa Schwartz, a art studio and art history second-year grad student, agreed with Crews.

"The execution of the piece was great," Schwartz said. "Her work is aesthetically beautiful and yet meaningful."

Documentary sings praise for oldest American music

By Azra Drjevic
news@kykernel.com

The "oldest surviving American music" will be featured on campus tonight in a documentary. The UK Appalachian Center will be sponsoring a film about sacred harp singing. "Awake, My Soul," along with a discussion tonight at 6 in the Niles Gallery in the Lucille Little Fine Arts Library.

Sacred Harp singing is an American tradition that started during the Revolutionary War and has been predominantly preserved in the rural South. It is a style of choral singing that comes from schools in the colonial period.

"Awake, My Soul" is a feature documentary that explores the history, music and traditions of Sacred Harp singing, the oldest surviving American music," according to the film's Web site.

Despite the name, no instruments — including harps — are involved in Sacred Harp singing.

Instead, the name comes from "The Sacred Harp," the songbook singers read from. It was first published in 1844, and again in 1991 with minor changes. While the original publication is still used in certain states, such as Florida and Texas, most of the south uses the more recent edition.

While sacred harp singing is not well known in urban settings, it has been used in the soundtracks of major films such as "Cold Mountain" and "Gangs of New York."

Matt and Erica Hinton, sacred harp singers from Georgia, made the documentary.

They met at Georgia State University and completed the project over seven years. In the process, they were married and had a child.

See **Documentary** on page 3

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HOROSCOPES

By Linda C. Black

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 5 - Avoid the most irritating people and conversations, if you can. Cloister yourself with your teammates, and work out the revisions to your plan.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is an 8 - You're learning quickly. Don't forget what you already know. The method that will work in this situation is one you've used before.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 7 - You're a good communicator, naturally. Also be a good sport of good humor, and tell a few good jokes. Don't make fun of anyone - that would be poisonous.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is an 8 - You're so cute, you can get away with practically anything. You cannot get away with absolutely everything, however. That requires much more practice.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 5 - You're at the point where you really need to consult an expert. Ask around for a person who understands machinery better than you do.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 7 - There's more work coming in, and the urgency is also increasing. Ask your friends for support, but don't spend too much time talking, or you'll be in trouble.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 7 - You're still not making more money but you can make a good impression. It's up to you to decide if that alone is worth the extra effort.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 9 - You can see for miles and miles. You're coming up with ideas that will increase your income as well as your fun. You've got everything you need to make it happen. Launch!

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 7 - This next lesson has to do with arithmetic. Can you figure out how much money you'll need? This is just the first step.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is an 8 - You load just got lighter as a good partner comes to your rescue. Someone who already knows what you're learning provides welcome relief.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is an 8 - You're in the mood to get a lot done. Luckily, you can also get into an appropriate place. Great abundance can be yours.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 6 - A private conversation with a loved one you respect will help you make the decision you've been thinking about. Make sure to make time for that.

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CELEB FEUDS OF THE WEEK

the DISH

Hulk Hogan takes sides in the latest round of star smackdowns

By Philip Recchia

Kim vs. Eminem

Is there no limit to Kim Mathers' hate for ex-hubby Eminem? "I vomit in my mouth whenever I'm around him," she told a Detroit radio show February 16, also calling him a "bad" lover who needs "a little blue pill to perform." Eminem responded in a statement, "It's a shame that I've moved on and Kim hasn't."

WINNER IS Eminem. Hogan says, "Kim's hitting below the belt by talking about his manhood and need for Viagra."

Meredith vs. Barbara

How does Meredith Vieira really feel about Barbara Walters?

On February 15's The Daily Show With Jon Stewart, Stewart quipped to Vieira that The View has been rife with contention - and even host Barbara Walters, 77, "beat up a homeless man in front of the studio." Vieira, 53, said to Stewart, "Was that an ex-husband?" then added after audience groans, "Oh, I'm kidding." (Reps for both didn't return calls.)

WINNER IS Walters. "Meredith should stay clear of

all the drama at her old job and remain neutral," Hogan says.

Joan vs. Carrie

Grammys be damned, Carrie Underwood is still trash in Joan Rivers' eyes. The TV Guide Channel host, 73, bashed Underwood, 23, for having an "attitude" problem. "You know, when you come out of a trailer and you get your dreams too fast? Very 'I am a star,'" she said on The Howard Stern Show February 15. Rivers stands her ground and tells Us, "You need to earn your arrogance." (Underwood's rep had no comment.)

WINNER IS Underwood. "Joan's desperate for attention," says Hogan. "She's had so much plastic surgery that no one recognizes her anymore."

Ivanka vs. Paris

Life's no party for Ivanka Trump - unlike that other blonde heiress. The former model, 25, who is a vice president of real estate development at the Trump Organization, griped to the U.K.'s Daily Express that she's tired of being compared to "party kid" Paris Hilton, 26.

"We are totally different. I work 13-hour days for my

money," Trump said, adding, "I bought my house from my father - I have a mortgage." A source close to Hilton tells Us, "Paris paid for her own home with her own money." (A rep for Trump didn't return calls, while Hilton's rep had no comment.)

WINNER IS Trump. "She's a real real estate mogul," says Hogan. "The only real estate Paris sells is her nude body."

Jim vs. Tom

Is there a war of the words brewing between Jim Carrey, 45, and Tom Cruise, 44?

In a Time interview, Carrey - who was a guest at Cruise's celeb-studded November wedding to Katie Holmes - said, "Everyone gets to be the big joke for a year. That's this business. Last year, it was Tom Cruise. I could be the next Kathie Lee Gifford."

Sources close to the pair say the comedian was just kidding around and Cruise's rep tells us, "Tom and Jim have been and remain very good friends."

WINNER IS Cruise. "Jim's a clown. His dis should be taken in stride," says Hogan.

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CATS

Continued from page 1

"We didn't execute (the play). It was all happening so quick."

Obertz had six points in the first half to help the Cats to their halftime lead after Morris got into foul trouble. He was the only UK player on the court that didn't commit a turnover.

"We're doing it to ourselves, making the same mistakes," said Bradley, who had four of his team's 22 turnovers. "We beat ourselves when we didn't get offensive rebounds and had turnovers."

The Cats dominated the first half, as they came out hitting their first three baskets and taking advantage of nine Vanderbilt turnovers for 11 points.

UK's tight interior defense forced Vandy to shoot from outside; the Commodores' first five baskets came from around the 3-point line. Vanderbilt did not hit a shot inside the paint until 11 minutes into the first half, and he Commodores only had four baskets inside the paint in the first half, compared to UK's 20.

"I think we showed a lot of toughness today," Smith said. "More than we have in a while."

Freshman guard Jodie Meeks, who tied a career high 18 points in UK's win against Louisiana State last Tuesday, started in place of junior guard Joe Crawford. Meeks had 15 points for the Cats, but left the game in the final two minutes with a leg cramp.

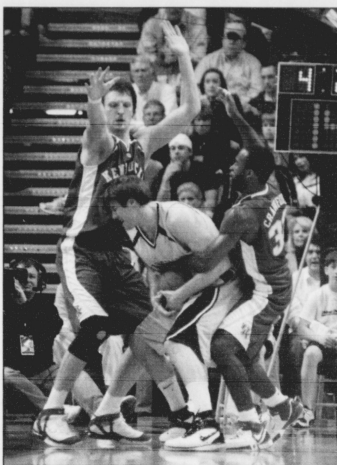
"He did well," Smith said. "He's a clutch player. If he hadn't cramped up he would have been out there (for the last play)."

A No. 2 seed in next week's SEC Tournament was at stake for both teams. With the loss, UK seems headed to play on Thursday of the four-day SEC Tournament for the second year in a row.

"It'll be tough," Perry said. "It's a long road when you don't get that (Thursday) bye to save your legs down the stretch."

And down the stretch is where the Cats lost the game and a chance at an extra day off in the SEC Tournament after leading most of the way.

"We had chances to put the game away, but you have to make stops and take care of the ball," Smith said. "I know I keep talking about it. I thought we came out focused and ready to play, but it only takes a couple of breakdowns to get beat."



Senior center Lukas Obertz, left, and junior guard Joe Crawford try to wrestle the ball away from Vanderbilt senior center Ted Skuchas.

DELOTELL

Continued from page 1

It was a new way for the Cats to lose, but they made the same mistakes in setting up defeat.

UK turned the ball over 22 times — 14 in the second half — and, after playing lockdown defense in the first half, the Cats gave up 44 points in the second.

"The turnovers were uncalled for," Smith said. "Not uncharacteristic, but uncalled for."

In the second half, I guess we decided not to defend."

And so, despite shooting 58 percent from the field, UK lost for a fourth consecutive time to the big-play Commodores. In the process, the Cats were all but eliminated from earning a first-round bye in next week's SEC Tournament.

The loss becomes that much more devastating because, for much of the first 39 minutes, the Cats played as well as they have all year. Bobby Perry earned second chance opportunities for his team by battling on the

boards, Jodie Meeks continued his emergence as the Cats' best go-to option for clutch shots and Lukas Obertz came off the bench to hit his first three shots while giving UK 17 solid minutes of play. It appeared the Cats were going to enter Memorial Gymnasium — which Florida was run out of last weekend — and leave with their best win of the season.

"It might be the most painful (loss) because the team worked very hard and put a lot of heart into this game," Obertz said. "We were a rebound away from winning the game."

It's easy after a loss like this to take credit away from Vanderbilt and say that UK "gave it away," as point guard Rameel Bradley said. But that's not true. Vanderbilt wanted to win too, and the Commodores simply made one more play down the stretch than the Cats.

In that one play, delight became devastation. A gritty win became a gut-wrenching loss. The Cats best effort of the year went for naught. And this season slid one play closer to mediocrity.

Chris DeLottell is an education sophomore. E-mail cdelottell@kykernel.com

DOCUMENTARY

Continued from page 1

The documentary focuses on how the music originated, how it was preserved for 200 years and how it has impacted parts of America today.

"The Appalachian Center is interested in hosting events that show more of our history and culture," said Evelyn Knight, Appalachian Center director.

The Appalachian Center wants to help make cultural experiences open to students, Knight said.

"This is the first of three films we're going to be showing this semester," she said.

The films focus on different aspects of American culture, starting tonight with sacred harp singing.

More information about the "Awake, My Soul" documentary can be found at www.awakemy soul.com.

Farrakhan urges Bush's impeachment, Iraq accord

By Peter Stevin
THE WASHINGTON POST

DETROIT — Denouncing President Bush for the war in Iraq and calling on Muslims and Christians to stop killing one another, Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan led thousands of followers on a spirited tour of his views of God and the world Sunday in an address described by aides as his last major appearance.

Farrakhan, 73, who has been battling prostate cancer for nearly a decade, spoke sharp words in a strong voice about international conflict and personal responsibility. He gave no hint that he was ailing.

To young people who would join the military and fight in Iraq, he urged them to stay away. "This is going down, and if you're going, you go down with it. God is angry."

To Democrats unwilling to impeach Bush, he suggested a "Stop pussyfooting around" campaign.

To spouses frustrated by leathargic partners, he told them to act on their own: "To hell with a husband who doesn't want to do right. To hell with a wife who doesn't want to do right."

To people of faith who are at one another's throats, he called for unity: "How come we the people of God cannot embrace

each other?" Farrakhan, who has delivered a message of black pride for decades, did not repeat previous incendiary remarks about "white devils" or Jews, whom he has called "bloodsuckers" who prey on the African American community.

He denied he is anti-white, anti-gay, anti-Semitic or anti-American. He said those labels were produced by critics "in hopes that somebody would rise up to kill me."

Eyes twinkling, sometimes quietly, other times in a shout, Farrakhan engaged in rhetorical jousts with his audience and the sizable media contingent, very much the man who said after or-

ganizing Washington's Million Man March in 1995, "To some I'm a nightmare. But to others I'm a dream come true."

Detroit is where the Nation of Islam got its start in 1930. Members of a crowd that flowed to the Detroit Lions' indoor stadium on an icy afternoon to celebrate the group's Saviors' Day said they came in expectation that this would be Farrakhan's final big speech.

Facing serious abdominal surgery, he recently handed control of the group to an executive committee, fueling questions about his future and speculation about the organization's prospects without a leader as contentious or charismatic.

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CAMPUS CALENDAR

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The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement. Registered Student Orgs. and UK Depts. can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information is to appear. Call 252-8867 for more information.

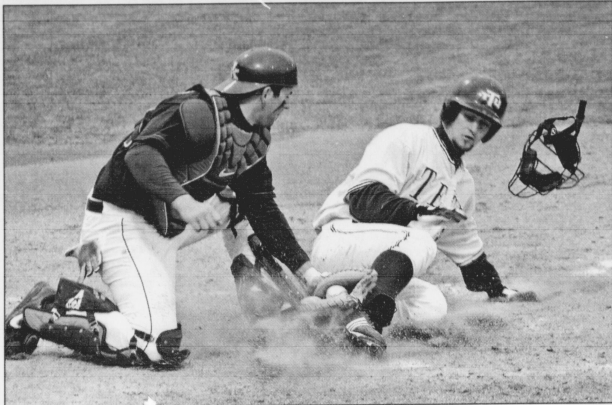
Monday 26 th	Tuesday 27 th	Wednesday 28 th	Thursday 1 st	Friday 2 nd	Saturday 3 rd
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yates Elementary School Tutoring, 4:00 PM, Yates Elementary School Swing Dance Lessons, 8:00, Tates Creek Recreation Ctr Ballroom Solar Car Team Meeting, 7:00 PM, DVT Engineering Building FUEL, 6:30 PM, 508 Columbia Avenue (UKWF) College Democrats Meeting, 7:30 PM, 211 Student Center Just Because I Look This Way...(Part 1), 5:30 PM, 211 Student Center UK Budo Karate Club, 8:00 PM, Barker Hall Dance Studio 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UK Students for Life Meeting, 8:00 PM, 115 Student Center YMCA Center For Achievement Tutoring, 5:00 PM, YMCA Center For Achievement Young at Heart Meeting, 5:00 PM, 228 Student Center Martin School Open House, 4:30 PM, 18th Floor Lobby POT Diversity Dialogue: Interracial Relationships & Bi-Racial Experiences, 8:00 PM, 206 Student Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University Christian Fellowship, 8:00 PM, 230 Student Center Comedy Caravan with Keith Alberstadt, 8:00 PM, Student Center Cats Den Bryan Station Middle Tutoring, 4:00 PM, Bryan Station Middle School L.E.C.M. Food for Body and Soul, 5:05 PM, St. A's (472 Rose Street) UK Budo Karate Club, 8:00 PM, Barker Hall Dance Studio Helping Hands- Dinner at Catholic Action Center, 5:15 PM, Catholic Action Center The State of the Black Student Address, 7:00 PM, 211 Student Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conscious Campus 101: Guilty Until Proven Innocent, 8:00 PM, Memorial Hall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UK Budo Karate Club, 4:30 PM, Barker Hall Dance Studio Dance Blue Dance Marathon, 6:00 PM, Memorial Coliseum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dance Blue Dance Marathon, 12:00 AM, Memorial Coliseum Alpha Omega Supernatural Worship Service, 7:00 PM, Baptist Student Union/ Ministry Center
					<p>Sunday 4th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UK Ultimate Frisbee Organization, 10:00 PM, Intramural Fields

SPORTS

Jonathan Smith
Sports Editor
Phone: 252-7915
E-mail: jsmith@kykernel.com

Senior catcher Sean Coughlin tags Michael Roeder on a close play at the plate that was ruled a run by umpires during Sunday's game against Tennessee Tech. UK won all three games this weekend, 10-2, 5-4, 10-3.

PHOTOS BY
ANDREW
HUGGINS
STAFF



Cats sweep away rain, Tennessee Tech

By Eric Lindsey
elindsey@kykernel.com

Rain and wind blew into Cliff Hagan Stadium briefly yesterday afternoon, and with it came plenty of misuses. Thanks in large part to the sloppy conditions, the No. 25 ranked UK baseball team produced 12 walks and took advantage of two critical errors in the seventh inning to defeat Tennessee Tech 10-3 in front of 1,734 fans, capping off a three-game sweep.

"Battling the elements today had a big impact on the game with the heavy wind and cold," said head coach John Cohen. "It's just something you have to keep fighting through to concentrate and I think our kids did a good job of that today."

The 7-0 start to the season marks the third-best start in school history. UK won the first two games in the weekend series 10-2 and 6-4.

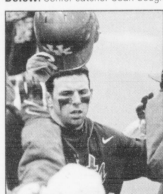
Cohen credited the final victory in the series to his team's ability to do the little things under the adverse conditions. "I think you can expect that when the wind is blowing at you at 25 miles per hour," Cohen said. "We crushed some balls today that didn't go anywhere because of this wind, so in those cases you have to find another way to create offense."

The game-changing seventh inning featured a combined eight runs by the two teams. The Golden Eagles — who were shut out by junior pitcher Greg Dombrowski through six innings — broke through to tag Dombrowski with three runs in



Above: Junior catcher Tyler Howe is thrown out as he attempts to steal second during Sunday's game.

Below: Senior catcher Sean Coughlin celebrates scoring a run.



the inning to tie the game.

The tie would be short-lived, though.

The Cats broke open the game in the bottom of the frame after two Tennessee Tech errors.

Following an RBI triple by freshman left fielder Jason Kipnis, the Cats loaded the bases on back-to-back walks. Junior first baseman Sawyer Carroll then forced in a run with a bases-loaded walk, followed by three more runs on consecutive errors by the Golden Eagles. In all, the Cats scored five runs in the inning, despite managing just one hit, to take an 8-3 lead.

"We just seized the moment," said junior center fielder Antone DeJesus. "They were playing sloppy so we just took advantage of their bad play and their errors."

The Cats got the offense going early when DeJesus ripped

a triple down the right field line in the third inning for his second triple of the year. One batter later, DeJesus scored on a Carroll sacrifice fly to put the Cats up 1-0.

DeJesus, who was hit by a pitch in two plate appearances and walked another, was 1-for-3 on the day with an RBI and two runs scored.

"Whether it's getting a hit or getting hit by a pitch, I just try to get on anyway I can because we have the guys who can knock me in," DeJesus said. Junior pitcher Aaron Lovett picked up his second win of the year, pitching two scoreless innings of relief while striking out four.

"I feel fortunate that I get the opportunity to come out and do what I can do and help our team win," Lovett said. "It was unfortunate that Greg couldn't make it through the game the way he was pitching, but when we get our opportunity, I just come in and do what I can."

Lovett relieved Dombrowski in the seventh, and despite coming in with runners on first and third with no outs, Lovett forced a pop out and two strike outs.

"He's got a very good breaking ball and he just seems to bounce back very well all the time," Cohen said. "That probably will be his role for the rest of the year."

The Cats added two more runs in the eighth to rack up 10 runs, despite getting only seven hits.

"The difficult part is getting those guys out there on base," Cohen said. "And I think we did that today."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Two Cats win SEC championships in track and field

UK won two individual titles in the Southeastern Conference indoor track and field championships yesterday at Nutter Field House, both of which earned the individual spots in the NCAA Championships.

UK sophomore Ashley Muffet won the 2007 SEC indoor championship in the shot put after a school-record toss of 56-8.50 meters and the men's 4x400 relay team won after running the second fastest time in the nation this year.

Muffet's toss was the best in the SEC this season, and broke her school-record toss of 55-10.5 meters that she set two weeks ago at Iowa State. Muffet finished 10th in the overall individual standings with 13 points.

"I've been having pretty good practices and had high expectations," Muffet said. "I'm pretty excited that I was able to do this and that I was able to do this here at home. You never know what you're going to get at this meet. The SEC is the most athletic conference in the country. I'm just thankful that I have competitors around me that push me."

The men's 4x400 relay team of Justin Harrison, Nathan Browning, Jose Acevedo and Luis Luna ran a time of 3:05.87.

UK didn't win any other event, but 12 individuals finished in the top 10. Also, both the men's and women's distance medley relay teams finished in the top 10.

UK Hoops loses season finale

The University of Florida women's basketball team sent Carolyn Peck out a winner in her final regular season game as head coach as they beat UK 83-79 yesterday at the O'Connell Center in Gainesville.

UK freshman guard Amari Franklin scored a career high 17 points and Jennifer Humphrey added 12 points and 13 rebounds as the Cats lost despite shooting 48.4 percent from the field.

"It was a very hard-fought game," said UK head coach Mickie DeBloss. "We knew that Florida was going to come out with a lot of emotion since it was Carolyn Peck's last game as their coach. They put a lot of heart and emotion into getting the win for her."

"We just didn't match their intensity consistently for 40 minutes."

UK (17-12, 6-8 SEC) trailed by six points when senior guard Jenny Pfeiffer hit a 3-pointer with 45 seconds left to bring the

Cats to 78-75. But Florida made 5-of-6 free throws down the stretch to keep the lead. "They knocked down free throws down the stretch and we didn't," said DeMoss, whose team made just 10-of-23 free throws. "When you're in a close game, you have to take advantage of free throws and we didn't do that today."

In the first half, there were 10 lead changes as UK went into the half with a 39-36 lead.

But Florida answered with an 8-2 run to start the second half to take a 46-41 lead with 16:54 left.

Florida held an advantage until the 8:45 mark when Franklin hit a 3-pointer to put UK up 63-60. Florida took control soon after.

Franklin was 7-of-13 from the field, and she hit three 3-pointers in just 22 minutes of play.

Two other UK players finished in double figures: junior Sarah Elliott with 16 and senior Nastasia Alekis with 10.

UK starts play in the 2007 SEC Tournament Thursday at 3:30 p.m. against Arkansas in the Gwinnett Center in Duluth, Ga.

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Suicide bomber targets Baghdad university

By Tina Susman
LOS ANGELES TIMES

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A suicide bomber pushed past guards at a crowded college campus Sunday and set off a thunderous blast that killed at least 40 Iraqis, most of them female students who were waiting in line in the midday sun to enter classrooms for midterm exams.

The attack was the second in recent weeks to target the mainly Shiite Mustansiriyah University, and it sent a clear message that whatever calm had followed the launch of the latest U.S.-Iraqi security plan was over. Even as rescue workers mopped blood from the college grounds and as the wounded told their stories of survival, the Iraqi government insisted the plan launched nearly two weeks ago was succeeding.

But radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, whose followers virtually control the campus, denounced the plan as a failure and said Iraqi government troops and police should take charge of security and "invaders," a reference to U.S. troops, should leave.

Most Sunni Arabs distrust the Iraqi security forces because they are dominated by Shiites, and they also accuse the Shiite-led Iraqi government of not doing enough to rein in al-Sadr's militia. In particular, they note that coalition troops have yet to move into the Shiite slum of Sadr City in large numbers, despite Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's vow that the security plan, which aims to put thousands more U.S. and Iraqi troops on Baghdad's streets, would target Shiite as well as Sunni areas.

Al-Sadr's comments, however, suggested that he too is fed up with the plan. The anti-American firebrand had agreed to cooperate with al-Maliki by drawing down his militia forces when the plan was launched, and the result may have been evident in the decreased number of Sunni victims of Shiite death squads found along Baghdad's streets in recent weeks.

Mustansiriyah University's main campus and its satellite colleges are sandwiched between Sadr City and a mainly Sunni area. Students say al-Sadr's Mahdi Army militia virtually controls the university, enforcing conservative dress codes for women and canceling classes to honor Shiite martyrs.

The militia's presence has made Mustansiriyah a sectarian battleground that has served as a ripe target for Sunni attackers. On Jan. 16, at least 70 students were killed when two car bombs exploded virtually simultaneously on the university's main campus, about a mile and a half from the

College of Business Administration and Economics, where Sunday's attack took place.

The bomber Sunday struck at an especially busy time at the college gate. Two lines, one for female students and one for male students, had formed as students waited to be checked by guards, who patted them down, looked inside their bags, and confiscated cell phones and other items that could hide explosives.

As they were being allowed in for 1 p.m. midterms, other students who had sat for morning exams were filtering out or milling in the campus courtyard comparing notes.

One person resisted being searched. The guards became agitated.

Lu'ay Sadek, a business management student who is Shiite, heard yelling near the gate and moved closer to see what was happening. As he did, the bomb detonated, sending shrapnel and flames across the campus. Sadek saw a wall of fire and the bodies of guards and classmates flying into the air. "Those are the same people I talk to everyday," said Sadek, who woke up in Imam Ali Hospital after having lost consciousness.

Most of the victims were young women, because the female students' line was far longer than the men's line, said student Muataaz Jawad, explaining that it had taken longer to check female students because of their handbags.

Jawad said surviving guards told him the bomber was a female, but other witnesses and police said it was a man who wore the explosives strapped around his torso. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, but it was similar to others on mainly Shiite targets, such as crowded markets, which have appeared designed by Sunni insurgents to inflict maximum suffering.

The university bombing overshadowed a string of smaller attacks across Iraq on Sunday. Mortar attacks and car bombs killed at least three civilians in Baghdad, and a roadside bomb in Kirkuk killed one person.

Also Sunday, the Iraqi government announced that President Jalal Talabani had been flown to Jordan after falling ill with "malaise" as a result of overwork. A brief statement from Talabani's office said doctors had recommended additional tests but that there was no cause for concern.

U.S. military officials said they had killed two suspected terrorists and captured a senior al-Qaida leader on Sunday during a raid in Mosul. Five other suspected insurgents also were detained in the raid, the military said in a statement.

TIMES STAFF WRITER SAIF HAMEED AND SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS IN BAGHDAD CONTRIBUTED TO THIS REPORT.

Sharpton descended from slave owned by Thurmond relative

By Robin Shulman
THE WASHINGTON POST

NEW YORK — The Rev. Al Sharpton, the prominent civil rights activist, is descended from a slave owned by relatives of the late senator, and one-time segregationist, Strom Thurmond, a genealogical study released Sunday reported.

"It was probably the most shocking thing of my life," Sharpton said of learning the findings, which were requested and published Sunday by the New York Daily News. He called a news conference to respond publicly to the report. "I couldn't describe to you the emotions I have had ... everything from anger to outrage to reflection to some pride and glory."

Sharpton, 52, said he had suspected his forebears might have been slaves but he had never attempted to confirm that or find out any details.

"I had never really traced my family history, particularly on my father's side, since my parents separated when I was going on 10 years old," he said.

The newfound knowledge that his great-grandfather was a slave, Sharpton added, gave him a new perspective on his life.

"You think about the distance that you've come, you think about how brutal it was, you think about how life must have been like for him. And then you start wondering whether or not he would be proud or disappointed in what we have done," Sharpton said with his eldest daughter Dominique, 20, at his side.

The revelation was particularly stunning for the juxtaposition of the two men's public

lives. Sharpton, known for his fiery rhetoric and a tendency to intervene in racially charged incidents, ran for president in 2004 on a ticket promoting racial justice. Thurmond made a bid for the presidency in 1948, promising to preserve racial segregation, while in 1957, he filibustered for more than 24 hours against a civil rights bill.

After his death in 2003, though, it became clear that Thurmond had a complicated history with issues of race when a 78-year-old retired schoolteacher, Essie Mae Washington-Williams, revealed she was the daughter of his extramarital relationship with his family's black housekeeper.

"In the story of the Thurmonds and the Sharptons is the story of the shame and the glory of America," Sharpton said Sunday.

The genealogy study was produced by researchers for the Web site Ancestry.com. Daily News reporter Austin Fenner initially asked them to research his own roots. He then approached Sharpton and asked if he would permit an investigation of his family history, for use in a story, Sharpton agreed.

The research was led by chief Ancestry.com genealogist Megan Smolenyak, who was also the lead researcher for the 1997 PBS series titled "Ancestors" and has authored several books on the subject, and assisted by researchers including Tony Burroughs, who has been honored by the National Genealogical Society. Over a three-week period, they used documents including census, marriage, death and military records to examine Sharpton's family

roots. They found Sharpton's great-grandfather, Coleman Sharpton, was a slave owned by Strom Thurmond's distant cousin.

Coleman Sharpton was given as a gift to Julia Thurmond Sharpton, whose grandfather was the late senator's great-great-grandfather, said Mike Ward, a spokesman for Ancestry.com. Coleman Sharpton was later freed.

Sharpton met Thurmond once with his friend the singer James Brown, who knew him and wanted to pay him a visit while in Washington.

"I was not happy to visit him because of what he had been all his life," Sharpton said.

Sharpton said he felt his family origins in Edgefield County, S.C., brought him nearer to his closest mentors, James Brown and the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who had homes nearby. Sharpton said he had mused with Brown's family about whether their families might have had a shared past.

"I told his daughters last night about this, and we all wondered whether some of James Brown's family might have been slaves with my great-grandfather," Sharpton said.

While some of Thurmond's relatives contacted by the Daily News expressed skepticism about the report, his cousin Doris Strom Costner said Sharpton should be proud to know his family's connection to her own.

Asked how she feels to learn of evidence her family owned slaves, she said, "I can't help it. I'm 74 years old and I certainly can't help it. I don't feel one way or the other."

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Election-reform efforts aren't over for Student Govt.

Last spring, the Kernel Editorial Board wrote a series of pieces outlining a proper philosophy of governance for Student Government — a platform of sorts, for last year's presidential candidates to incorporate into their campaigns.

This year's SG campaign season formally began two weeks ago, when executive cabinet secretary Nick Phelps announced his candidacy for president, with at-large Sen. Brittany Langdon as his running mate.

Before the campaign season is fully underway, it is important to revisit last year's platform series, to evaluate how much progress SG has made and where it needs to go from here. Today, we will look at efforts at reforming the election process. Tomorrow, we will examine whether SG has facilitated student activism on and off campus. Finally, on Wednesday, we will look into communications efforts and funding priorities.

The major problems with SG elections in recent years have been an incoherent set of violation regulations and a voting system that discourages turnout.

The 2005 election fiasco, when the SG Supreme Court disqualified top vote-getter Will Nash for exceeding the campaign spending limit by \$16.37 and gave the presidency to runner-up Becky Ellingsworth, showed that SG's electoral system was in serious disrepair.

The rules for elections were written straight into the SG Constitution, making them much harder to change than normal, statutory regulations. Worse, the difference between "election felonies" and "election misdemeanors" determined whether a candidate would be merely penalized or entirely disqualified, but there were no clear criteria to distinguish between the two types of violation. As a result, final decisions — as in the 2005 election — were notoriously arbitrary.

Changes in the SG Constitution and subsequent legislation have seriously cleaned up the election-regulation regime.

Thanks to the efforts of last year's Constitutional Revisions Committee, rules governing campaigns are no longer part of the Constitution. No longer are spending limits or restrictions on hanging posters part of the organization's central governing document.

Moreover, definitions of election violations and penalties for them are much clearer. The Elections Procedure and Rules Act of 2007 did away with the misdemeanor/felony distinction altogether, replacing it with a formula to subtract votes from candidates based on the magnitude of the violation.

That way, a candidate who wins by a few hundred votes but over-spends by \$2 — hardly enough to entirely shift the election decisively — won't be disqualified on a technicality. Meanwhile, those who commit serious violations that could change the outcome of the race will

KERNEL EDITORIAL

receive appropriate penalties. Best of all, the formula is set up so that no candidate can predict the exact effect of a spending violation until after the election has been decided, since the total number of votes cast and aggregate spending in all races are elements of the equation.

Assuming these rules remain in place, SG is in no danger of seeing another disaster on the scale of what happened in 2005. The turnout problem is far from having such a clear resolution, as efforts toward increasing the number of polling places have not been encouraging.

In last year's editorial series, we encouraged SG officials to adopt online voting, because the number of polling booths on campus was too low to allow for a turnout rate of even 50 percent. Putting the election online, we said, would let students vote at their leisure from any Internet-connected computer anytime during the 48-hour voting window.

To their credit, SG officials have enacted legislation to put the spring elections online. But voting will only take place from designated polling computers, meaning that the change really only amounts to an increase in the number of voting booths. Although having more voting locations and booths will help increase turnout, the effect will not be nearly as dramatic as if SG had expanded voting to all Internet-connected computers.

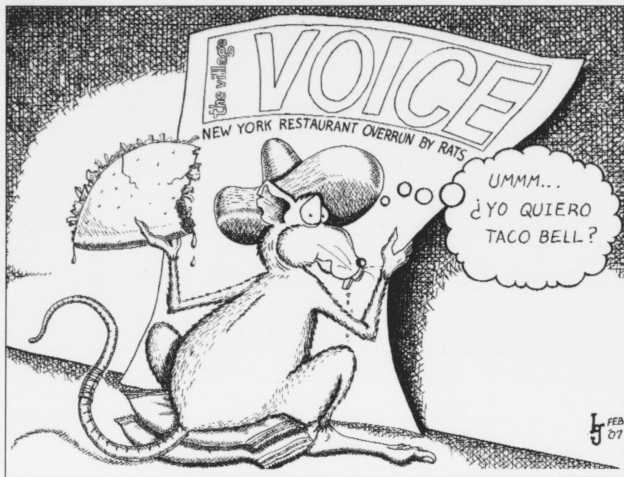
The effort to preserve a secret ballot is understandable. If students could vote from any computer, there would be nothing to prevent some students — e.g., leaders of Greek organizations or campus political groups — from coercing others into voting for a certain set of candidates.

To that end, it is possible there is a middle ground between the current system and total anarchy. SG could allow voting from the campus computer labs, in addition to setting up polling stations. The former are public enough that any attempts at coercion could be detected and reported, while the latter would accommodate those who want their choice to be made in an entirely confidential setting.

Before implementing that sort of compromise solution, SG should wait and see how the turnout numbers are for this year's spring election. If they represent an increase over past years, then the current set-up will be adequate for future years. But if the spring elections are a repeat of the fall's freshman elections — the first implementation of online voting, which saw a major decrease in turnout — a new course of action will be needed.

SG's election system has seen major improvements over the past year. Future administrations need to make sure that course of progress continues.

The changes to the election regulations are a definite benefit, but SG officials need to do more to increase voter turnout, perhaps by allowing students to vote from campus computer labs.



BRIAN GOODLEY, Kernel cartoonist

Ranking the U.S. presidents is valuable, even for amateurs

Last week, bored on a nearly dead night at work, I decided to undertake a project that is not unique in its nature but whose results are almost always

unique depending on the ideologies and biases of the individuals completing the task. I decided to rank the presidents of the United States.

Presidential rankings have long held a place in America's national discussion, most recently becoming projects of major newspapers such as The Wall Street Journal. Methodology for such studies is as varied as the results. A 2005 survey by The Journal included prominent historians, lawyers and political scientists; and experts on the left and right were included to balance possible ideological biases.

My ranking method included a system in which points are awarded based on accomplishments during individual presidencies.

I awarded one point for one complete term; two points for two complete terms; three points for winning a war; two points for effective crisis management; two points for overseeing key changes in national interests; and so on.

Presidents could lose points for corruption within an administration (minus one), losing a war (minus two), poor crisis management (minus one), and impeachment or resignation (minus five).

For my presidential rankings, I make no promises with regard to

bias. To the extent that my results are biased, they will tend to be libertarian-leaning. For example, Ronald Reagan's tax cuts earned him points, but he lost ground for budget deficits.

Many of my top-ranked presidents are among the leaders of others' lists as well. It would be little surprise that George Washington came in at the top spot with 19 points. Simply put, Washington's administration set the governmental wheels in motion for the formative years of the republic.

Not far behind Washington, to probably no one's surprise, is Abraham Lincoln. But Lincoln also signed into law the Homestead Act and the Morrill Land-Grant Colleges Act, which led to the formation of many state universities, including this one.

The first surprise to some among my ranks would be Ronald Reagan at No. 3 with 14 points. Reagan's key appointments (Alan Greenspan, Sandra Day O'Connor, William Rehnquist and Antonin Scalia) give him twice as many points as our current president's total. Reagan also gets partial credit for the end of the Cold War and the mid- to late-1980s economy. However, he loses points for the aforementioned deficits along with corruption within his administration.

Rounding out the top 10 are six names one might expect and two names (tied at 8 points) that might leave some scratching their heads. The rest of the top 10, in sequential

order are: Franklin Roosevelt (13 points), Harry Truman (12), Thomas Jefferson (10), James Madison (9), Dwight Eisenhower (9), George H.W. Bush (9), Grover Cleveland (8), and Theodore Roosevelt (8).

Only three presidents ended up with subzero point totals: James Buchanan (-4 points), Jimmy Carter (-2) and Warren G. Harding (-2). As for modern presidents, Bill Clinton would have been rated in the middle of the pack were it not for his impeachment. George W. Bush loses points (for the time being) for Iraq and earns points for his leadership following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks to finish with two points.

Ranking the presidents, though traditionally a task assigned to professional historians, can be a task undertaken by amateur history buffs as well. No ranking system is perfect, and those interested will find leaving out personal ideological biases nearly impossible.

But it's still an entertaining and ultimately worthwhile task. I have a history degree, and I didn't realize that Lincoln was largely responsible for the first transcontinental railroad, or that Ulysses S. Grant organized the first national park.

We often hear pundits talking or writing about how good one president was, or how bad another president is. Rather than basing our opinions on what the pundits tell us, why not decide for ourselves who has led the country effectively and who has taken us down the wrong path?

At the very least, it's a good way to kill a couple of hours while you wait on your overnight shift to end.

Wes Blewins is a journalism senior. E-mail: wblewins@kykernel.com.



WES BLEWINS
Kernel columnist

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kernel's coverage spreads myths and makes excuses for rape

In regard to Alice Haymond's "UK dorm rape" piece published on Friday, why does it matter what Michael Strong wore to his rape trial? This article is an exemplification of the many articles I have read in the Kentucky Kernel during my collegiate career that have presented rape accusations in a somewhat accusatory manner.

In the second sentence of the article, the Kernel notes Strong's dapper appearance at his preliminary hearing. If there was anything I learned in my high school news writing classes, it was the journalistic inverted pyramid — that the most important details (the five W's) were to be discussed first in the article.

I fail to see how Strong's clean-cut appearance is an important detail, as it is generally assumed that everyone shows up to court well-groomed and dressed. Was it to prove that yes, even clean-shaven, well-dressed soccer players are fully capable of raping young women?

Maybe most horrific about this report, though, was the inclusion of testimony that the woman was seen kissing Strong on the neck while dancing as if this was evidence against her case. Sorry to break this to you, but women should be allowed to kiss as many men as much as they want without being raped.

Journalism such as this is socially irresponsible and only further propagates the myth that rape is okay if she "asked for it."

This piece is both poorly written and edited, and it should have not been allowed to go to press as it stood. I am saddened that the Kernel allowed this piece to be published as it was written, going against efforts on this cam-

pus by a multitude of groups and individuals' efforts to end violence against women.

Shanna Sanders
English and social theory senior

BCTC students don't deserve unequal treatment at Rupp

Basically, all Bluegrass Community and Technical College students need to stand in the back of the Wildcat bus, according to Chris McGrath in his Feb. 22 column "eRruption Zone should be for UK students only." Maybe they should even have their own water fountains and restrooms at Rupp Arena. One thing is certain: They should not sit next to McGrath at a UK game.

The analogy McGrath laid out to support his argument for the exclusion of BCTC students in the eRruption Zone is weak. He cited U of L students as a comparison to BCTC's student relationship to UK.

Just to recap: U of L is 70 miles away; BCTC has a campus located on UK property. U of L students do not live on UK's campus; many BCTC students do. U of L students do not have access to UK Student Health; BCTC students do. U of L students cannot purchase UK parking passes; BCTC students can.

McGrath does a far better job of laying out his argument when he cites the difference in academic standards between the two schools. He is much clearer in expressing his feelings of academic superiority over students that likely live in the same dormitory he lives in.

Kenneth Jones
Undecided freshman

Submissions

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

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

Cartoonists Needed

The Kernel is looking for a cartoonist to draw pieces for the Opinions page on a regular basis. Those who have an interest in campus and local issues will be given special attention, although cartoonists of all interests will be considered.

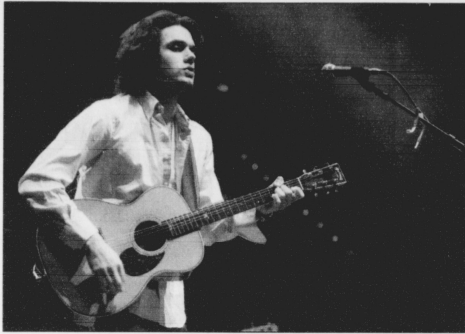
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Weekly Poll Question

Do you think UK has made sufficient progress toward improving diversity on campus?

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MAYER PLAYS RUPP



WHITNEY WATERS | STAFF
Grammy winner John Mayer performs during a concert Saturday night at Rupp Arena. Mayer is touring to support his new album "Continuum."

Student's door design featured on 'HGTV Dream Home'

Emily Coover
ecoover@lykernel.com

Brandi Berryman hoped a pair of crossed fingers would fund her trip to Rome, but they ended up being the gateway to a dream house.

The architecture senior originally designed a double front door for a contest in 2005 but later found out that her design was chosen for this year's "HGTV Dream Home."

Berryman said she never thought her design would come this far. She said she originally designed the doors so that she could go on a class trip to Rome.

"It's nice to see I can use my architecture design background in more than just building a building," she said.

In the fall of 2005, Berryman and classmate Amanda Hardaway entered a door design contest sponsored by JELD-WEN Inc., a door and window manufacturing company, in hopes of winning the prize to help fund their trip to Italy the following spring.

Berryman said she incorporated the concept of "good luck" into her designs, making the doors resemble crossed fingers.

"The most universal concept of good luck is crossed fingers," she said.

The arched double doors tied for the grand prize with Hardaway's designs. Berryman and Hardaway received \$2,000 in a scholarship and a trip to the International Builders' Show in Orlando, Fla.

Berryman gave JELD-WEN patent rights for the door design for about \$1,000. They then put the designs in their catalog, she said.

A few months later, JELD-WEN contacted Berryman to tell her HGTV had selected her doors for their Dream Home. Jack Thomason, HGTV's house planner, chose the doors for the Rocky Mountain estate in Winter Park, Colo., according to a press release.

Those interested in entering the dream home sweepstakes had until Friday, Feb. 16, to enter on HGTV's Web site. The winner will be announced live at 9 p.m. Sunday, March 18, on HGTV. Berryman said this experience has had unexpected benefits for her.

"A lot of people see competitions and opportunities posted around campus," she said. "People just need to go for it. Until you try it, you'll never know (what you can do)."

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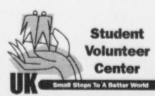
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