

KENTUCKY KERNEL

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OBAMA



PHOTO BY OLIVER DOULERY | ABACA PRESS
President-elect Barack Obama waves to supporters after Obama gave his acceptance speech after it was announced he had won the presidential election at his Election Night Rally in Grant Park, Chicago on Tuesday.

United States elects first African-American president

By Bill Lambrecht
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

WASHINGTON — Barack Obama completed his storied political rise by winning the election as the 44th president of the United States on Tuesday in a crushing defeat of John McCain and Republicans that promises a new course for America at home and abroad.

Obama, 47, the mixed-race son of a Kenyan father and a Kansas mother, will become the first African-American president when he is sworn in Jan. 20 and just the

third Illinois elected to the White House, after Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses Grant.

As the final vote totals arrived late Tuesday, the night was shaping up as an Electoral College landslide after a massive voter turnout that could set a modern record.

Obama molded a coalition that included majorities of women, independents, political moderates, young voters and minorities in achieving his monumental victory just four years after being elected to the U.S. Senate from Chicago.

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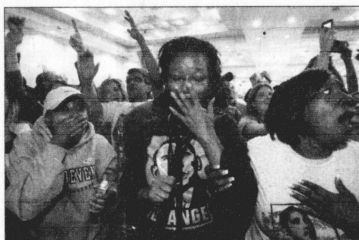


PHOTO BY ETHAN NYMAN | RALEIGH NEWS & OBSERVER
From left, Allison Fenderson, Lisa Wilder and Lisa Hodges celebrate as Barack Obama is declared the winner at the Raleigh Marriott City Center Tuesday evening in Raleigh, N.C.

**"We know the challenges that tomorrow will bring are the greatest of our lifetime."
-Barack Obama**

With unlikely victory, they had hope

By Rosalind Essig
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The odds were long but hope remained among John McCain supporters.

Any potential the Republican presidential candidate had to take the presidency vanished Tuesday night when McCain made his concession speech around 11 p.m.

Republicans held out hope for a win on Election Day, despite falling

behind Democratic opponent Barack Obama in the polls going into Tuesday, said UK College Republicans President Jacob Sims.

Still, realism remained. "We understood going into it that things weren't looking too good," Sims said Tuesday night, shortly after hearing about McCain's loss.

In his concession speech,

See Republicans on page A5



PHOTO BY ALLIE GARZA | STAFF
John Soukup, left and Merci Love, right, of Lexington watch as the numbers come in with fellow Lexington Republicans at the Lexington Green Hilton on Tuesday.

Win expected, but still exciting

By Laura Clark
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It appeared the UK College Democrats were confident on election night as the group chanted, "fire it up, ready to go!" after each announcement of a projected state win for Barack Obama.

But seconds before the final states weighed in, everyone in the room inched to the edge of their seats. The room fell silent. Then

CNN announced the 44th U.S. president.

The Obama supporters, gathered at UK College Democrats events coordinator John Ghaelian's house to watch the election results, jumped to their feet, gave hugs and popped the corks off of champagne bottles to celebrate the victory.

"We see potential of the youth vote," said Joe Gallenstein, the

See Democrats on page A5



PHOTO BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF
John Ghaelian, left, an English and History senior, celebrates with other members of UK College Democrats by pouring out champagne after it was announced that Barack Obama had won the presidency shortly after 11 p.m. on Tuesday.

KENTUCKY ELECTION RESULTS



Mitch McConnell
U.S. Senate

Party: Republican
Reclaimed his seat and is the longest-serving senator from the state of Kentucky

Lunsford 47%
McConnell 53%



Kathy Stein
State Senate

Party: Democrat
Served as 75th District state representative for 12 years before joining the Senate

Stein 66%
Ellinger 34%



Ben Chandler
U.S. House

Party: Democrat
Served in the 6th District since 2004; defeated opponent Jon Larson

Chandler 65%
Larson 35%



Kelly Flood
State House

Party: Democrat
A minister at a Unitarian Universalist Church, it is Flood's first time in elected office

Flood 65%
Ward 35%



Diane Lawless
Urban County Council

Will replace six-term council member Dick DeCamp in the district that includes UK
No numbers reported at time of press.

U.S. SENATE

Senate seat decided by narrow margin



PHOTOS BY BRITNEY MCINTOSH | STAFF
Senate minority leader Mitch McConnell and his wife, Elaine Chao, celebrate his win at the Galt House Hotel and Suites in Louisville on Election Day. McConnell will serve a fifth term in the Senate.



PHOTOS BY EMILY COOVERT | STAFF
Bruce Lunsford gives his concession speech at the Marriott Hotel in Louisville on Tuesday. Lunsford lost by an estimated six percentage points to Republican Mitch McConnell.

McConnell looks ahead to face Kentucky challenges

By Allison Alvey
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LOUISVILLE — The air was thick with tension in the Galt House Hotel and Suites in Louisville as a large crowd of Mitch McConnell supporters awaited the outcome of a close race for one of Kentucky's U.S. Senate seats.

All night long, reports went from too close to call, to a steady lead for McConnell, but nothing was certain until the final hour of the night. By 11 p.m., though, McConnell narrowly reclaimed his Senate seat with 53 percent of the vote, or 954,173 of the 1,800,327 total votes, over Democratic challenger Bruce Lunsford.

"Winston Churchill once said that the most exhilarating feeling in life is to be shot at — and missed," McConnell said. "After the last few months, I think what he really meant to say is that there's nothing more exhausting. This election has been both."

What was once figured to be a landslide win for McConnell turned into a close dog-fight as Election Day neared. The current U.S. Senate minority leader saw a double-digit lead dwindle in the weeks leading up to the election as issues like high gas prices and the failing economy dominated headlines.

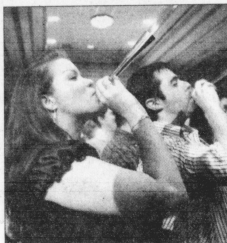
McConnell, who is set to become the top Republican in Washington D.C. by the start of the year, found himself being blamed for many of the current problems voters were worried about.

Now re-elected for his fifth term, McConnell said he is taking his close call seriously, promising to handle many of those same concerns voters had heading into the election.

"Looking ahead, our nation faces many serious challenges. I'm ready for them," McConnell said. "And I want Kentuckians to know that after tonight, I leave here energized and recommitted to putting our state and our nation on the road to clean energy independence, a strong economy, lower spending, and to safeguarding our homeland and the servicemen and women who put their lives on the line to defend it."

McConnell was raised in Louisville. He graduated in 1964 with honors from the University of Louisville College of Arts and Sciences. In 1967, he graduated from the UK College of Law, where he was elected president of the Student Bar Association. McConnell has served as minority leader since 2007.

"Soon I'll be the longest-serving senator



Lorrie Salas, left, of Louisville, and Gilbert Roberts, right, of Louisville, celebrate Mitch McConnell's victory on Tuesday at the Galt House Hotel and Suites.

in Kentucky history and when that happens, I'll have fulfilled another longtime dream," McConnell said. "Mitch McConnell will be remembered for something other than those bloodhound ads."

Not only has the race been close — it's been expensive. McConnell and Lunsford each spent millions on TV and radio advertisements, rallies and other campaign expenses. Each candidate's advertisements became highly negative at times, invoking Lunsford's business dealings or McConnell's working relationship with President George W. Bush. Despite that, McConnell said Lunsford had proved a worthy opponent.

"In the end, Bruce won a lot of votes and he earned my respect," McConnell said.

Travis Vurton, a McConnell supporter, said the race was not even about Lunsford, but about having faith that all of McConnell's hard work has paid off.

"It's about Mitch McConnell," Vurton said. "He goes in day in and day out and fights for the people of this state."

In his acceptance speech, McConnell said it is a tradition after an election for him to dedicate the win to someone. After a tight race, McConnell dedicated his win to people across the state who embraced him on the campaign trail.

"I want to thank the people of the Commonwealth for placing their trust in me once again," McConnell said. "I will not let you down."

Lunsford calls for bipartisanship after near-upset bid

By Kelli Leng
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LOUISVILLE — In what could have been the biggest upset in the state, Democrat Bruce Lunsford walked away from months of campaigning just short of unseating the current U.S. Senate minority leader.

"This has been the journey of a lifetime," Lunsford said. "I entered the race with a pledge to change Kentucky, but we fell just short."

Lunsford lost to Republican Mitch McConnell, the incumbent U.S. Senator, in a race that was close until the end. McConnell won 53 percent of the vote, or 954,173 of the 1,800,327 total votes, to retain the seat. "It isn't because we didn't work hard enough," Lunsford said in his concession speech. "It isn't because we didn't give everything we had."

The atmosphere at the Marriott Hotel in Louisville, where Lunsford gave his concession address, was lively. Large groups of people gathered around televisions that displayed the latest updates from the Kentucky State Board of Elections Web site, anticipating when Lunsford would arrive to make a speech in either victory or concession. Every few minutes, screams of excitement or agony echoed across the room as additional numbers from counties came in.

Former Kentucky Gov. John Y. Brown Jr. introduced Lunsford to the hundreds of waiting people. Lunsford was "the greatest commerce secretary we have ever had," while serving under Brown in the 1980s, the former governor said.

In defeat, Lunsford spoke of a need for bipartisanship during tough times.

"This is a time to use all of our representatives to do better," Lunsford said. "It is not a time for partisanship. It is a time for all of us to work together."

Friends of Bruce Lunsford, a political action committee, and the Kentucky Democratic Party held receptions at the Marriott, bringing out large numbers, many of whom were wearing stickers in support of Lunsford, presidential candidate Barack Obama and U.S. Rep. John Yarmuth.

But not all supporters were voting along their party lines. Crystal Steele, a first-year graduate student at UK, said she is a registered Republican, but voted for Lunsford because of his views on how to change the economy.

"Deciding who to vote for was hard," Steele said. "Because of my values, it was difficult to outweigh the right and the wrong."



Karina Strange, 23, left, and Victoria Strange, 54, sit outside after Bruce Lunsford's concession on Tuesday. Both were unhappy Lunsford was not able to unseat Mitch McConnell.

Many others in the Lunsford crowd who gathered echoed the desire for change, including Joe Hohman of Louisville, who graduated from UK in 1995. Hohman has been a supporter of Lunsford since early in the election and came out to the reception to be involved in the results.

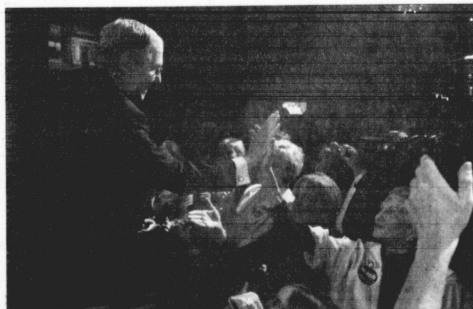
"Since he entered the race I have supported Lunsford," Hohman said. "Tonight I just wanted to be a part of it."

Kentucky native Ashley Judd and U.S. Sen. Hillary Clinton were campaigning for Lunsford in the final week leading up to the election. Judd appeared at a Kentucky Democratic Party rally held Saturday in Louisville, while Clinton spoke on behalf of Lunsford on Sunday at a rally in Hazard, Ky.

The support of Clinton, Judd and other Democratic leaders was not enough, but Lunsford said it is time for Kentucky to come together to effect change in the state.

"I hope Sen. McConnell will go outside the box and listen to the Kentuckians who demanded change," Lunsford said. "The next six years must not be like the last six." Now that the election is over, Lunsford plans to remain active to "further the agendas of change and rebuild the economy from the bottom up."

"I'm disappointed, but not for me," Lunsford said. "I'm disappointed because of a lot of the big things I wanted to accomplish for Kentucky. Let's work together and bring America back."



Mitch McConnell high-fives a supporter after giving his celebration speech at the Galt House Hotel and Suites in Louisville on Tuesday.

"Looking ahead our nation faces many serious challenges. I'm ready for them."

—Mitch McConnell, U.S. senator



Bruce Lunsford thanks a supporter after giving his concession speech on Tuesday in Louisville.

"I entered the race with a pledge to change Kentucky, but we fell just short."

—Bruce Lunsford

6TH DISTRICT U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Ben Chandler talks with a few of his supporters in anticipation of his victory over Bruce Lunsford on Tuesday at Victorian Square in Lexington.

PHOTO BY ZACH BRAKE | STAFF

Chandler thanks Fayette Co. voters for victory

By Ali Cicerchi and Sarah Eisenmenger
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With a big grin on his face, Ben Chandler accepted his win for the 6th District seat, which includes Lexington, in the U.S. House of Representatives. Chandler defeated Jon Larson with 64.8 percent of the votes.

"I'm very pleased," Chandler said. "We were hoping we'd break 60 percent. This is more than any other election I've been in."

About 250 Democrats gathered at the Fayette County Democratic Party's downtown celebration at Victorian Square Shoppes to show support for their party.

Chandler was re-elected by 80,563 voters for another term. In the 6th District, 69 percent of registered citizens voted.

He was first elected to the House in 2004, where he has been a member of the Democratic Blue Dog Coalition, a fiscally conservative Democratic caucus.

In 2007, Chandler was selected by colleagues to serve on the House Appropriations Committee. He also served on the Science and Technology Committee.

Mike Stanaitis, an intern for Chandler's campaign and a current graduate student in the UK Patterson School of Diplomacy, said he was happy with the campaign and with the responses from Chandler's constituents.

"I can say for certain that constituents call often to say how pleased they are with Chandler," Stanaitis said. "I think that's remarkable."

Chandler thanked Fayette County

from the bottom of his heart" in his acceptance speech after being declared the winner.

"We got a big night and boy did Fayette County come through," Chandler said.

He was also supportive of fellow Democrats Kathy Stein's and Kelly Flood's wins in his speech. Stein won the state Senate seat, and Flood won a spot in the state House of Representatives.

"Boy do I like this," Chandler said standing between Stein and Flood.

Chandler's wife, Jennifer, said she was nervous for her husband.

"I'm very pleased, but I'm always nervous at things like this," Jennifer Chandler said. "You learn to never take things for granted."

Larson tells Chandler to 'do good for my country'

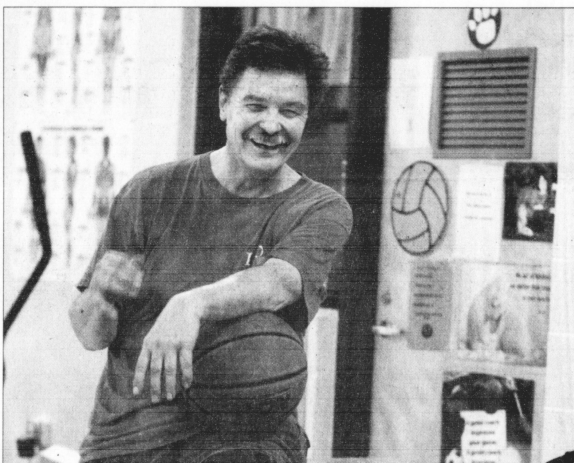
Larson may have lost in the election for 6th District seat in the House of Representatives, but he won on the basketball court. Republican Larson rented out the Lexington Traditional Magnet School gym to watch the election results.

"I wanted the children to have a place to play," Larson said.

Larson, a former UK law student and a Lexington public defender, said he was frustrated that his ideas were not expressed throughout the campaign and he never had an opportunity to debate with Chandler.

"Things need to be said, ugly situations are occurring," Larson said.

Larson accepted his defeat to Chandler — only receiving 35.2 percent of the votes — surrounded by a few of his closest friends.



Republican 6th district candidate John Larson talks with his friends at the Lexington Traditional Magnet School gymnasium where he held an open gym for teenagers and seniors in lieu of a party.

PHOTO BY KRISTIN SHERBARD | STAFF

"It's been stressful, we really wanted to see him put himself out there more," said Steve Isaacs, a friend of Larson's. "He's a creative, great guy."

Despite Larson's loss, he said the campaign was a learning experi-

ence. "Thank you for allowing me to fail in front of my friends here in Central Kentucky," Larson said. "In what I had hoped would be a marketplace for ideas, failure is a learning experience."

Chandler called Larson shortly after the election results came in to congratulate him on his campaign.

"I expect you to do good for my country," Larson told Chandler during the phone call.

"We got a big night, and boy did Fayette County come through."

-Ben Chandler, 6th District U.S. Representative

75TH DISTRICT STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quality of state education among Flood's top priorities

By Kirsten Clancy and Travis Walker
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"It's going to be hard, but with imagination and resolve, we can solve these problems."

-Kelly Flood, 75th District Representative elect

The mood at Victorian Square Shoppes on Tuesday turned from tense to celebratory as results poured in. Quiet conversation became enthusiastic cheering as anticipation melted and local Democratic candidates won.

The night was no different for Kelly Flood, the Democratic candidate for Kentucky's 75th District House race. Flood won with 65 percent, or 8,740 of the 13,446 total votes, to defeat Republican opponent Kimberly Ward.

"I'm feeling humbled, honored and really excited," Flood said. "It's going to be hard, but with imagination and resolve, we can solve these problems."

Flood said the largest of those problems includes health care and ed-



Flood



Ward

ucation. Specifically, she wants to improve the quality and accessibility of public education in Kentucky as well as work with UK to help it achieve top-20 status. She also supports universal health care.

Following her acceptance speech, Flood expressed gratitude to her family, who have supported her from the beginning.

"It's been nerve-racking but

frightening," said Neil Chethik, Flood's husband. "We've been married for 20 years, and this is the happiest she's been career-wise."

Flood's political experience includes being an aide for a Florida state legislator for two years as well as working for a non-profit consumer-protection agency.

"I've served the public good for my adult life," Flood said. "When the opportunity came to serve the 75th District, the most liberal district in Kentucky, I jumped at the chance."

Ward campaign has tough time with loss

Ward moved nervously from a computer to a TV in the bar of Lexington Green's Hilton Suites. Her co-campaign manager and boyfriend Randy Kaplan rocked back and forth

tapping his feet as Tuesday's election results started rolling in.

The consensus among the largely Republican onlookers was that Ward, a Republican, ran in a district that would be nearly impossible for a Republican to win. Much to their displeasure, the onlookers were right when Ward fell to Flood.

"You're lucky you got 100 votes in that district," Stan Lee, a Republican state representative, said to Ward after the results came in.

Still, Kaplan had a hard time making sense of the loss.

"This is totally upside down and I'm having a hard time wrapping my head around it," Kaplan said.

The 75th District seat was held previously by Democrat Kathy Stein, who vacated the seat to run for the 13th District state Senate seat.

13TH DISTRICT STATE SENATE

After win, Stein thanks believers for support

By Laura Edelen and Danielle Pritchett
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Amid balloons, banners and high-spirited supporters, Kathy Stein joined other Democrats in her election win.

Stein won the District 13 state Senate seat over Chuck Ellinger II and made her acceptance speech alongside fellow Democrats at Victorian Square Shoppes in Lexington.

Stein received 65.8 percent of the vote, or 26,593 total votes, to secure the win.

"I believed in you, and you believed in me, and I sincerely thank you for that," Stein said in her acceptance speech.

Stein will take the seat currently held by Sen. Ernest Scorsone, a Democrat who stepped down to take a spot as a judge in Fayette County Circuit Court.



Stein



Ellinger

Democrat Kelly Flood will replace Stein in her current position as the state representative for the 75th District, a seat Stein held for 12 years.

Before and after the results came in, Stein was high-fiving, cheering and thanking her contributors and volunteers.

Stein's family and campaign supporters attended the election night event.

"It's great. (Stein) is a terrific candidate," Stein's campaign adviser, Doug Gabert, a UK graduate, said. "Democracy is really a great thing to watch."

After loss, Ellinger pledges to improve Lexington

Ellinger said the family and friends who awaited election results with him at the Lexington Green Hilton Suites fueled his campaign.

Ellinger lost, but said he will finish his term as an at-large city council member and will continue to serve as an attorney in Lexington.

He said it was too soon to decide if he would run for the state Senate again.

In his concession speech, Ellinger said he called Stein to wish her luck

and to thank her for running a positive, issue-oriented campaign.

Ellinger said he hoped to work with Stein through the city council to improve Lexington.

"I'm disappointed, of course. All you can do is work hard and wait for the results," Ellinger said after 86 percent of precincts had been reported. His supporters remained proud of the effort put forth by everyone involved in the campaign.

Ellinger's father, Chuck Ellinger I, was disappointed with his son's loss but said everyone had worked hard. The campaign focused on Ellinger's positive qualities, rather than his opponent's negative ones, said Stacy Siegel, Ellinger's sister.

"We don't care about winning if we lose our integrity in the process," she said.

"I believed in you, and you believed in me, and I sincerely thank you for that."

-Kathy Stein, 13th District State Senator-elect

3RD DISTRICT URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

Lawless aims to be Lexington voice for UK students

"I really want to be a voice for UK students ... because I feel like they have been let out of the loop at times."

By Rochelle Haliburton and Katie Perkowski
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Calm, confident and all smiles, Democratic candidate Diane Lawless entered the atrium of Victorian Square Shoppes looking like a winner. She walked around meeting, greeting and thanking supporters. Although she seemed confident because her numbers were high, she was also ready to embrace what might not be good news.

"I have done everything I can possibly do," Lawless said. "I'm relieved that this is almost over."

Lawless did not have to wait long. She was victorious in her efforts, defeating fellow Democrat Eric Thomason for the 3rd District seat on the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council.



Lawless



Thomason

"I never could have done this without all of my supporters," Lawless said in her acceptance speech. "I am honored by the output of support and generosity from everybody and I promise to work as hard as 3rd District council representative as I did as a volunteer."

Among those present were former Lexington Mayor Pam Miller and current Kentucky Lt. Gov. Daniel Mongiardo.

"What a great night for Democrats in Lexington and all over the world. We can be proud," Mongiardo said. "Let's rally and celebrate tonight, and get to work tomorrow."

In her acceptance speech, Lawless said she wanted to help UK students, who she said have been silenced in recent years.

"I really want to be a voice for UK students," Lawless said. "I want to be that representative for them because I feel like they have been left out of the loop at times. I want to be their voice."

Lawless, a community activist who is currently on the Democratic National Convention Credentials Committee, wants to focus on providing affordable housing, protecting Lexington's neighborhoods, enforcing city ordinances and providing social

services for citizens of Lexington.

Despite loss, Thomason promises to stay active

On Tuesday night as the results for the 3rd District seat came out, the 27-year-old Thomason was enjoying drinks and pizza at Pazzo's Pizza Pub with close friends and supporters.

When news that Lawless had won appeared on TV around 7:30 p.m., Thomason looked disappointed but said his race was just bad timing because both candidates were so strong.

While the results were being counted, Lawless called Thomason to congratulate him on a good race. Thomason said he ran to help implement "great plans" that Lexington had but never pushed. He said he will run again for something, but he is unsure of what office he will pursue.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT



President-elect Barack Obama and Vice President-elect Joe Biden celebrate in Grant Park, Chicago at their Election Night Rally.

PHOTO BY CHUCK KENNEDY | MCLATCHY

Republican vice presidential candidate Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin talks to people waiting in line as she votes in her hometown of Wasilla, Alaska, on Tuesday before flying to Arizona to join presidential candidate John McCain.



PHOTO BY BILL BETH ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

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DEMOCRATS

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president of UK College Democrats. "I've never been more confident in my life." The students who gathered to celebrate agreed Obama's win was not a surprise.

"It was pretty expected but still really exciting," said Justin Lamb, a political science sophomore.

Obama pulled ahead of Republican opponent John McCain in recent weeks, which strategists credited, at least in part, to a faltering American economy. In the final days of the election, many polls reported Obama as the projected winner.

Although Obama lost Kentucky's eight electoral votes, receiving 41.2 percent of the state's popular vote, he started ahead of McCain as results trickled in Tuesday night. He never fell behind, far surpassing the 270 electoral votes needed to take office.

Despite Obama's early lead, some UK College Democrats worried about the outcome of Tuesday's race.

"You always expected it with the (early) polls, but it still makes you nervous," said Robert Kahne, a political science and economics senior and member of UK College Democrats. "It's not until the polls close when it becomes real."

Members of UK College Democrats not only voted themselves on Tuesday, but also did they could to ensure their fellow Kentuckians would do the same, Gallenstein said.

Most of the group's members canvassed Lexington, going to door-to-door and making phone calls to remind registered students to vote. They also helped voters get to their polling locations.

"Even if someone wasn't sure where their poll location was, we gave them directions or hooked them up with a ride there," Gallenstein said.

Ghaelian said some members did more than just canvass Lexington.

"We worked hard to campaign," Ghaelian said. "We had some people go to Ohio, and different parts of Kentucky, as well."

After his victory was announced, Obama appeared on the television to make his acceptance speech, and the room full of supporters — all wearing "Obama/Biden" T-shirts — fell quiet again.

"It's been a long time coming, but tonight, because of what we did on this day, in this election, at this defining moment, change has come to America," Obama said and cheering erupted from the College Democrats.

Ghaelian said Obama will bring the country back from its current poor state.

"People are getting tired and are ready for a change," Ghaelian said.

The students at Ghaelian's house chose to spend election night there, instead of at the Fayette County Democratic Party's celebration in Victorian Square Shoppes in downtown Lexington.

"It's more personal," Gallenstein said, "to celebrate with the people you know best."

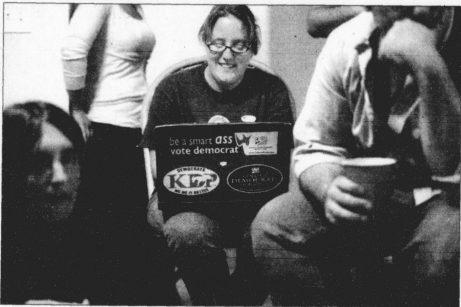


PHOTO BY ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

Political science junior Nichole Stark, center, checks her laptop for election results while other members of UK College Democrats watch election coverage on CNN at fellow UK Democrat John Ghaelian's house Tuesday.

"I have never been more confident in my life."

-Joe Gallenstein, president of UK College Democrats

REPUBLICANS

Continued from page A1

McCain praised his opponent, calling Obama's election "historic." McCain also thanked his running mate Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, and their supporters across the country.

"We fought as hard as we could and although we fell short, the failure is mine and not yours," McCain said. The crowd followed his comments with boos and chanted "John McCain."

The Democratic Party ran a well-organized campaign, especially with first-time voters, and deserves congratulations, said College Republicans member Andy Yocum.

"The American people have given a lot of power to the Democratic Party," Yocum said.

McCain supporters gathered at the Lexington Green Hilton Suites Tuesday night for an election celebration with local Republican candidates and to wait for the presidential results. Many supporters left early for Louisville where U.S. Senate incumbent Republican Mitch McConnell celebrated victory, said Bobby Clue, a former College Republicans member and campaign manager for Chuck Ellinger II, who lost the race for the Kentucky Senate seat in the district representing UK.

Among the supporters at the Hilton was Dale McGowan, a Lexington resident who,

even as results weighed in Obama's favor, said he thought McCain could win and he would stay up to watch returns.

Elizabeth Swart, a member of College Republicans, described the election as "nerve-wracking." Swart said she supported McCain because she felt he stood for change that was best for the country.

Swart also felt strongly about McCain for a more personal reason.

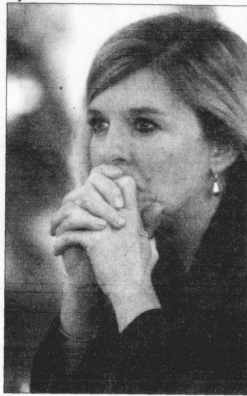
"I liked McCain from the beginning because my dad is retired military," Swart said.

McCain's time as a U.S. senator was preceded by a 22-year career as a naval aviator ending with his 1981 retirement from the Navy. During that time, McCain spent over five years as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. His naval honors included the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, Purple Heart, and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

McCain's service, often mentioned in his candidate advertisements and speeches, became a point at the forefront of his campaign, especially weighing in on his stance on the war in Iraq.

UK alumna Kay Hubbard said she supported McCain because of those policies, especially on taxes and the size and role government should play in the lives of citizens. But regardless of the winner, she said she was proud of the democratic system.

"I think this is the best system and I am proud to live in this country," Hubbard said.



Kimberly Ward watches the numbers come in on Tuesday night at Lexington Green Hilton Suites.

PHOTO BY ALLE GARZA | STAFF

"We understood going into it that things weren't looking too good."

-Jacob Slms, College Republicans president

OBAMA

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His election marks a milestone culturally, with fewer than 1-in-10 of all white voters identifying race as an important factor in their selection, exit polls showed.

In building his winning campaign, Obama revolutionized electoral politics with a bottom-up Internet campaign that drew over 3 million contributors and transformed his candidacy into a movement fueled by legions of young voters.

Speaking Tuesday night to exultant supporters in Chicago's Grant Park, Obama spoke of the challenges ahead, as his wife, Michelle, and his two daughters, Malia,

10, and Natasha, 7, looked on. "We know the challenges that tomorrow will bring are the greatest of our lifetime," Obama said, amid chants of "yes we can."

"The road ahead will be long," Obama said. "Our climb will be steep. We may not get there in one year or even in one term. But America, I have never been more hopeful than I am tonight that we will get there."

Obama spoke to people beyond America's shores, saying that "a new dawn of American leadership is at hand. To those who would tear the world down, we will defeat you. To those who seek peace and security, we support you."

Besides picking a new president, Americans bolstered Democratic majorities in the Senate and House and sent several prominent Republicans to defeat, among them Sen. Elizabeth Dole of North Carolina.

For McCain and the Republicans, the results brought a jarring reminder that an era of conservatism that began with Ronald Reagan's election in 1980 may have drawn to a close.

"This wasn't just a personal victory for Barack Obama, this was a transformational election for Democrats," said political historian Allan Lichtman, a professor at American University in Washington.

McCain, 72, fell short after a nearly a 10-year quest for the White House. In his path, McCain had the twin obstacles of a sour economy after eight years of Republican control in the White House and a president, George W. Bush, with the lowest approval rating of any chief executive in modern history.

Addressing supporters in Phoenix, McCain spoke gra-

duously of Obama and asked supporters to extend their good will toward the new president in an effort to bring the nation together.

"Sen. Obama has achieved a great thing for himself and his country. I applaud him for it," McCain said.

Obama's victory was broad and deep with the Illinois senator carrying traditional battleground states such as Ohio and Pennsylvania and carving inroads into territory that has long shone Republican red on the electoral map. He was the first Democrat not from South to win the White House since John Kennedy in 1960.

In Virginia, where Obama won Tuesday, no Democrat had triumphed since Lyndon Johnson in 1964. Likewise, Obama captured Florida, the state that gave Republicans the White House in 2000 and went handily for Bush four years ago.

Obama and McCain emerged from their nominating conventions in early September locked in a dead-even race thanks in part to the exuberant response to McCain's choice of Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin as his running mate.

But the climate swiftly began turning in Obama's direction in September, with the cascading news of bailouts and Wall Street collapse.

Then in candidate debates, Obama conveyed the steadiness that Americans expect from their leader in a crisis.

"He was cool, he was unflappable and attacks didn't rattle him," said Lichtman. Meanwhile, McCain said the fundamentals of the economy were "sound," then announced he would suspend his campaign while Congress grappled with the financial mess. And Palin's unsteady responses in interviews raised questions about her fitness for high office.



PHOTO BY ALLEN DOULIER | ABC/ABC PRESS

President-elect Barack Obama, along with his wife Michelle, and daughters Malia, 10, and Sasha, 7, waves to supporters after giving his acceptance speech.

Exit polls showed that Palin was a big factor in voting, both positive and negative for McCain. A third of GOP voters and roughly the same number of voters who identified themselves as conservatives said Palin was an important factor in their vote. And roughly a quarter of the independents who voted overwhelmingly for Obama also said that Palin was a big factor in how they voted.

No finding in exit polls was clearer than voters' attitudes toward the economy. Six in 10 said the economy was the nation's biggest problem and nothing else — Iraq, energy, terrorism or health care — came close.

And despite projections that Hillary Clinton voters would shun Obama, 9-in-10 female voters who said they had backed the New York senator and former first lady supported Obama, according to exit polls.

The campaign is sure to be recalled for the role technology played. While McCain had never sent an e-mail, BlackBerry-toting Obama deployed technology like no candidate before him, from declaring his candidacy via video to his campaign's routine use of texting and social networking on sites such as Facebook.

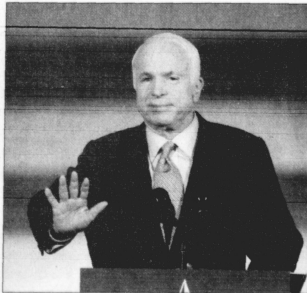


PHOTO BY BRIAN BAER | SACRAMENTO BEE

Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) gives his concession speech in Phoenix after his loss to Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.).

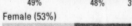
National Exit Poll Results

A national exit poll by CNN of 17,834 respondents, shows men voted almost evenly for Democrat Barack Obama and Republican John McCain. Younger voters were most likely to vote for Obama.

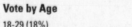
Legend: Obama (dark bar), McCain (light bar), Other/No Answer (white bar)

Vote by Sex

Male (47%)

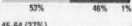


Female (53%)

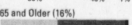


Vote by Age

18-29 (18%)



30-44 (29%)



45-64 (37%)



65 and Older (16%)



SOURCE: CNN | STAFF

KENTUCKY BY THE COUNTY

Republican candidate John McCain carried nearly all of Kentucky's 120 counties, winning all but eight.

Overall, McCain received 57.4 percent of the vote in Kentucky, while Democratic candidate Barack Obama received 41.2 percent.

About 0.8 percent of voters went to Independent Ralph Nader, 0.3 percent to Libertarian Bob Barr and 0.3 percent to Constitution Party candidate Chuck Baldwin.

In Fayette County Obama led with 51.7 percent of the vote, while McCain had 46.9 percent.

Election Results

Election results county by county

- McCain & Palin
- Obama & Biden



MAP BY KELLY WILEY | STAFF



Alicia Gray, center, receives a sticker from Kristina Stum at Maxwell Elementary School on Tuesday. Gray did not know if she was going to be able to make it out to vote, so she got a legal representative to pick her up and drive her because she felt it was so important.

PHOTO BY BRITNEY MCINTOSH | STAFF

Waiting to be heard

State official: High turnout, technology to blame for long lines

By Austin Schmitt
news@kynews.com

Lexington voters waited in the longest lines in the state to cast their ballots, a representative for the secretary of state said Tuesday night.

"Fayette County is nothing compared to the rest of the county; some places report six-hour waits," said Deputy Secretary of State Les Fugate.

High voter turnout was one cause for the wait, Fugate said. However, the county's voting machines are partly to blame, he said.

Fayette County uses the voting machine eSlate, which electronically records votes. Fayette uses the system for several reasons, but mainly to prevent voter fraud, said Kitty Ware, Fayette County election coordinator.

"When you have electronic ballots you have a lot more security," Ware said. "A paper ballot can be changed. All you have to do is slip a piece of lead underneath your fingernail."

Other areas in the state, including Jefferson County, use the eScan, where voters fill in bubbles like the ACT.

Right now, Fayette County is one of 85 counties without eScan, a program which the secretary of state has encouraged people to use because it is faster than the eSlate machines and has voter-verifiable paper records, Fugate said. With voter-verifiable records, voters can make sure no glitch in the system has prevented their votes from being entered or processed, causing different election results, Fugate said.

"If you vote on paper, you marked it yourself," Fugate said. "In Fayette (County), you

assume it's been recorded."

Election officials in Fayette County knew voting lines would be long, but not all agreed it was a result of slow machines, Ware said.

"We knew they were going to be long because of turnout," Ware said. "The (eSlate) system is the best out there. We love the sys-

tem — no paper, not calibrated."

Any future changes in the system would not be decided by Fayette County but by the federal government, Ware said.

Arriving early to poll locations was key to making the voting experience stress-free, said James Davidson Jr., a UK communications

senior.

"With all the media coverage, I wanted to be as prepared as possible to make my voting experience as painless as possible," Davidson said. "Polls opened at 6 (a.m.), and I got there at 5:45. There were about 40 people in line when I got there."

Working his fifth election, Don Schuler, the deputy sheriff of the Newman Center polling location, said the turnout was strong all day. In the primary, the Newman Center had 80 people vote.

Schuler said the Newman Center polling location had 250 voters by 1:30 p.m., but he did not see any more than 15 people in line at a time. At Firehouse No. 5, on the corner of Woodland Avenue and East Maxwell Street, the voting precinct had many people show up to vote, said poll worker Brian Shafer.



Art history and art studio junior Christina Childs and art administration sophomore Wes Meek leave Woodland Christian Church on Tuesday after voting. This is both Childs' and Meek's first time voting in a presidential election.

PHOTO BY ALLIE GARZA | STAFF

By the numbers

64%

of Kentuckians voted
Registered voters - 2,794,286
Voted - 1,795,860

75%

of Fayette County residents voted
Registered voters - 167,218
Voted - 125,576

Source: Fayette County Clerk's Office

"With all the media coverage, I wanted to be as prepared as possible to make my voting experience as painless as possible."

-James Davidson Jr., UK communications senior

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Vigil planned in response to Obama effigy

By Jill Lester
jlaste@kykernel.com

Student leaders have organized a march and a candlelight vigil Wednesday in response to the hanging of an effigy last week of Barack Obama.

Student Government President Tyler Montell announced the 7 p.m. event in a campus-wide e-mail. People will gather at the Free Speech Area near the Student Center patio and march to the Mineral and Mining Resources Building, where the effigy was hung.

The leaders met the day the effigy

hung, said James Davidson Jr., president of the UK chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Davidson said he and other leaders want to make a statement with a vigil and other events to those who might commit a similar act.

"I feel that (the vigil) shows our environment on campus, and says we're not going to tolerate it," Davidson said. "We saw something that was just asinine, and we had to react to it, and we had to do it in a way that we could be heard and that could be effective."

The goal of Wednesday's event

If you go

What: Candlelight vigil and march

When: Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Where: Free Speech Area near the Student Center patio

is to create a time for community members to talk about the effigy and what UK can do to prevent a similar event in the future, said Patrick Nally, a representative from the group Students United for Cam-

pus Climate Enhancement and Student Success.

Nally said the physical act of hanging the effigy could be intimidating to students because it was more than words.

"It could make students feel uncomfortable and unsafe on campus so we wanted to create an event where students regain their trust in a community in a place where they can feel comfortable," Nally said.

Nally said one of the goals of student leaders is to continue to talk about making UK a more tolerant place with a student forum about the

effigy.

"We want people to express how they feel," Nally said. "We think it's important for the healing process."

UK student and former football walk-on Joe Fischer and Lexington resident Hunter Bush were arrested in connection with the effigy by UK Police on charges of second-degree burglary, second-degree disorderly conduct and theft by unlawful taking Thursday after turning themselves in to police.

The two pleaded not guilty in a hearing Friday and will have their preliminary hearings on Dec. 1.

Photos tell story of war veterans

By Margaret Barr
features@kykernel.com

Some say pictures are worth a thousand words, but adding words to a picture can make a powerful message.

The display is part of the Robert C. May Photography Endowment Lecture Series, which continues this week with photographer Jeffrey Wolin.

Wolin, an Indiana University professor of photography, will be showcasing his most recent work, which chronicles veterans of the Vietnam War. His pictures of the veterans tell stories of their lives after the war by placing text next to the pictures.

He chose to photograph Vietnam War veterans because he grew up during the war.

"Just as the Iraq War is the war of your generation, Vietnam was my generation's war," Wolin said.

Wolin saw the veterans suffering and said he felt a need to tell their stories.

"I worked with and went to school with many returning Vietnam War veterans," Wolin said. "It was obvious that some were truly suffering from their war experiences."

Wolin said he thinks students will be able to identify with his pictures.

"War is one of those timeless themes in art and literature," Wolin said. "As human beings we can relate to stories and images of heroism and sacrifice, love and death, and loss."

See **Lecture** on page B6

Delicious hip-hop beats drop this month

Once again, it's time to prepare fans for yet another heavy

month of hip-hop releases. If you're hungry for some grilled, never-fried, good for your bones, chock-full of all the essential vitamins hip-hop, take a look at what's on the menu for this month:

Entrées

Sadat X — "Generation X" — Nov. 4

Sadat X, of the acclaimed hip-hop trio Brand Nubian, gears up for his fifth solo album. The album is completely produced by Brooklyn producer Will Tell and is some proof that the spirit of the '90s is still alive in this New York Duo.

See **Antonetti** on page B6

First issue free. Subsequent issues 25 cents.

UK 111, Missouri-St. Louis 53



Sophomore forward Patrick Patterson cheers with his teammates before the game. Patterson was a driving force with a total of 24 points, but many of the Cats' points came from freshmen.

Newcomers make their mark

By James Pennington
jpennington@kykernel.com

If first impressions are everything, a pair of newcomers might have already won the hearts of UK fans.

Playing in their first game for UK, sophomore forward Josh Harrellson and freshman forward Darius Miller partnered with UK veterans to lead the Cats over Missouri-St. Louis 111-53 in UK's first exhibition game of the year on Monday.

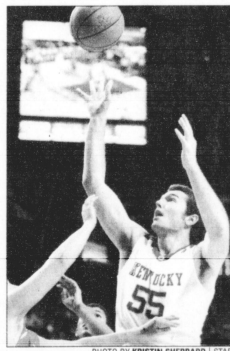
Harrellson scored 21 points and grabbed 12 rebounds, and Miller chipped in with 14 points and seven rebounds.

"I felt we did a lot of good stuff even though we still have a lot to improve upon," said UK head coach Billy Gillispie. "I think the guys get a little tired of beating up on their own teammates, so they were revved up to play against someone else tonight."

See **Basketball** on page B3



Freshman forward Darius Miller totaled 14 points and seven rebounds for the Cats during his first game at UK.



Sophomore forward Josh Harrellson scored 21 points and grabbed 12 rebounds in his UK debut against Missouri-St. Louis on Monday.

More information about this year's new players in the online hoops preview

Decision 2008: Who is UK's point guard?

The U.S. has been waiting in suspense for months to find out who is going to lead this nation. It's been a historic campaign that will forever etch this country's history in stone.

But around these parts, the question that everybody wants to know — other than who is going to play quarterback for the UK football team — is who is going to play point guard for the men on the hardwood.

Is it going to be the highly touted freshman DeAndre Liggins or the steady junior Michael Porter? Will it be junior-college transfer Kevin Galloway or could it even be — *gasp* — shooting guard Jodie Meeks, who UK head coach Billy Gillispie hinted at media day could play the lead guard

position? Well, it was only a game against lowly Missouri-St. Louis, but it appears Gillispie answered one of those questions, even if it was just an exhibition game Monday night.

The early vote from Gillispie is that Meeks will not have the wheel to the Cats' offense.

Meeks, who was plagued with injuries throughout last season, started and played 28 minutes Monday night at Rupp Arena, but

not a single minute was at the lead guard position. Gillispie might have intrigued fans and the media when he suggested a possible position change for the junior, but it appears Gillispie might have been daydreaming when he made those comments.

Given Meeks' 19 shots and 27 points, it's pretty clear Meeks is the odds-on-favorite for the shooting guard position, where he'll likely flourish.

The benefactor was Porter, who started and played all 19 of his minutes at the point. Porter was, well, your typical Porter. He played solid and safe, but he didn't do anything special either. He finished the game with five assists, including a couple of nice feeds down low to Patrick Patterson; but

he took just three shots — which he missed — and finished with a goose egg for points.

He's your John McCain, if you will. He's been through the battles (losses to Gardner-Webb and San Diego last year) and he has the experience. From him, you know exactly what you're going to get, and career-wise that's been 61 turnovers to just 51 assists during his previous two seasons. Is he really the right person to lead the new-look Cats as UK heads into year No. 2 of the Gillispie experiment?

The change many UK fans want to see may lie with Liggins. He's inexperienced, unproven and by all means, in over his head. But

See **Lindsey** on page B3

Newsroom: 257-1915; Advertising: 257-2872

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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 7 — Don't discuss financial details with the public yet. Wait until you and your associates have a chance to clean things up. No need to upset a bunch of people who can't help fix the problem.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Today is a 7 — Everybody's got an opinion, and no two are alike. How can you work out a compromise?

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

Today is a 6 — Postpone a trip if you can; it'll be easier if you get a few more chores done before you go. Travel will turn out OK if begun now, but there will be hassles along the way.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

Today is a 7 — Things that looked within reach yesterday seem less affordable now. Don't be afraid; sharpen your pencil. You can find a way.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Today is a 7 — You're not the only one with strong opinions, as you may have noticed. Don't get into a shouting match with people who aren't listening.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Today is a 7 — If you come up with the answer before the others do, present it kindly. Make them think they thought of it first. That's a very effective way to teach, by the way.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Today is a 7 — The support you get from the people you love is immensely important to you. They believe you can easily do something you're actually worried about.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Today is a 7 — Stay home as much as possible for the next day or two. Familiar surroundings will be more than just a comfort; you'll be inspired to try something you were worried

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today is a 7 — Don't tell everybody your plans yet; just keep thinking about them. You may discover that it would be a good idea to learn how to do something you don't already know.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Today is an 8 — A project that's been on the back burner could pay off well for you now. Dig through your stack of stuff and find something that's ripe for taking action.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Today is an 8 — Your friends will get you out of a jam, so make sure they know where you're going and with whom you're apt to be tangling. Help them to find you quickly and come to your rescue.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Today is a 7 — You may be sorely tempted to try an escape from a stressful situation. That's probably not going to work. You'd do better to simply face it.

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THE DISH

kernel POP

A year and counting

On a romantic weekend, the long-distance couple show they're still going strong

After hopscoching the globe to be with her love as he films the epic *Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time*, Reese Witherspoon rendezvoused with Jake Gyllenhaal in the most fabulous location of all: home in L.A. Nestled at a table for two for breakfast at Santa Monica, California's Annette Brasserie on Oct. 25, the pair nibbled pastries, sipped coffee and chatted. "Reese brought along a newspaper, but they got so busy talking she never had time to take it out," a fellow diner tells us.

Just a year ago, their romance was at a turning point. As a skittish Witherspoon — still wounded after the end of her seven-year marriage to Ryan Phillippe — questioned whether she was ready for a serious relationship, she and Gyllenhaal got together for a night of trick-or-treating with her kids. They've been steady ever since. Even with Gyllenhaal, 27, overseas since July, the two have mastered the art of long-distance love, with her visiting him on location from London to Morocco. "They made it a point to see each other every few weeks and not go any longer," a Witherspoon pal tells us. Of the pair, who also keep up with constant calls and e-mails.

Gyllenhaal's visit also gave him the chance to spend time with Witherspoon's kids with her ex: daughter Ava, 9, and son Deacon, 5. He arrived just in time to celebrate Deacon's 5th birthday with a

family party before they all headed to Witherspoon's weekend ranch in Ojai, California. A pal says the actress made sure Gyllenhaal spent "alone time" with Deacon to "reestablish their bond."

"He's very supportive," Witherspoon, 32, said of her beau in November's *Vogue*. Even Phillippe, 34 (who has dated Australian actress Abbie Cornish for two years), acknowledges that Gyllenhaal, who moved into Witherspoon's \$5 million pad in L.A.'s Brentwood this summer, fits in well. "He knows Jake is a good person to have around his kids," a Phillippe source says.

Though Gyllenhaal returned to Persia's London set Oct. 26, "he will be around for the holidays and they will see each other as much as possible," the insider says. And wedding bells may not be far off. "Things are progressing toward marriage," the source says. "They are solid. It's just a matter of time."

Hogan's son out of jail

Nick Bollea is a free man! After serving about five months of his eight-month sentence, he was released from a Florida jail in the early-morning hours of Oct. 21. The reality star, 18, pleaded no contest in May to reckless driving charges from an August 2007 crash that left his best friend, John Graziano, permanently paralyzed. How

is he adjusting? "Just turning on the light switch, eating normal food or sleeping in a normal bed is emotional, but he's getting dialed in pretty quick," dad Hulk Hogan, 55, tells us.

Bump watch

Alyson Hannigan, 34, and actor Alexis Denisof, 42, will have their first child this spring.

Foo Fighters' Dave Grohl, 39, and wife Jordyn, 32, are expecting their second child.

Charlie Sheen, 43, and wife Brooke, 31, revealed they are expecting twin boys in April.

For sale

Melissa Joan Hart, 32, listed her home in L.A.'s Sherman Oaks area for \$3.25 million, per the Los Angeles Times.

On the mend

Desperate Housewives' Gale Harold, 39, was released from intensive care at an L.A. hospital as he recovers from his Oct. 14 motorcycle accident.

Amy Winehouse, 25, was hospitalized in London Oct. 25 to have tests on her chest and lungs.

Julianne Hough, 20, will undergo surgery to remove her appendix.

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KENTUCKY

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A pattern of EXCELLENCE

2008-09 BASKETBALL STUDENT TICKET LOTTERY DATES

Monday, Nov. 10 Delaware State - Nov. 22, 2008 Longwood - Nov. 24, 2008 Lamar - Dec. 3, 2008 Miami (FL) - Dec. 6, 2008 Mississippi Valley State - Dec. 7, 2008	Tuesday, Jan. 20 (due to MLK holiday) South Carolina - Jan. 31, 2009 Mississippi State - February 3, 2009 Florida - February 10, 2009
Monday, Dec. 8 Indiana - Dec. 13, 2008 Tennessee State - Dec. 22, 2008 Florida Atlantic - Dec. 27, 2008 Central Michigan - Dec. 28, 2008 Vanderbilt - Jan. 10, 2009 Auburn - Jan. 21, 2009	Monday, Feb. 11 Tennessee - Feb. 21, 2009 LSU - Feb. 28, 2009 Georgia - March 4, 2009

Learn everything there is to know about the lottery at: **UKathletics.com/lottery**

B3

BASKETBALL

Continued from page B1

"Ultimately, I think we did a good job playing against guys that we have never seen and we took care of the ball well tonight," Gillispie said.

Harrellson, a 6-foot-10 junior-college transfer from Southwestern Illinois College, displayed a versatile game that showed his ability as a post player, a mid-range jump-shooter and even as a long-range option. One of Harrellson's nine field goals was a 3-pointer.

Harrellson wasn't the only newcomer to draw attention. Miller's debut has been highly anticipated by Cat fans. He attended the same high school as former Tennessee guard Chris Lofton, and has often been compared to Lofton.

"Once the game started, I tried to settle in and focusing on playing my game," said Miller, who was Kentucky's 2008 Mr. Basketball. "I'm just focusing on trying to help the team any way I can once I step out on the floor."

The Cats notched the first 10 points of the contest, and UMSL's score remained blank until senior guard Nathan Whit-taker hit a pair of free throws with 14:50 remaining. The Tritons' first field goal didn't fall until 11:53 remained in the half.

As the Cats' defense continued to cause problems for the Tritons, UK's offense started heating up. In the first half,

three Cats had 11 or more points. Sophomore Patrick Patterson led the Cats' first-half effort with 17 points. Patterson, a unanimous first-team All-Southeastern Conference selection by the league's coaches, finished with 24 points and 11 rebounds. He played a team-high 31 minutes in his first on-court action since suffering a stress fracture in his left ankle last season.

"I feel a lot more comfortable," Patterson said. "I am working every day with my trainer to prevent future injury. I'm just strengthening the ankle and that is helping me have more confidence in my game so I can worry about playing."

Patterson's 24 points were second on the team to junior Jodie Meeks. Meeks netted 27 points. He hit 7-of-13 from three-point territory, despite missing badly on his first three attempts.

"The shots I took were pretty good and open, but missing shots happens," Meeks said. "Last year was frustrating (due to injury) so it was great to be out there with my teammates."

Patterson said Gillispie told his players to set the tone and to set an example for the newcomers. Behind Patterson and Meeks' example, the newcomers thrived against the Tritons. Now that they've been welcomed to the club, though, the work never stops.

"I feel myself getting better every day," Miller said. "The coaches push us so hard that we don't have any choice but to get better."

LINDSEY

Continued from page B1

Gillispie's first hand-picked recruit to run the point. He is the Barack Obama of the point guard battle.

Sure, he might not have the credentials quite yet to lead a storied club like the Cats, but in this time of transition and uncertainty, isn't it time UK made a change and did something different?

"He's really improving on a daily basis," Gillispie said. "He's a very, very talented player and he has a great ability, and I think he's starting to understand that there's going to be a lot of guys out there running around quickly trying to defend what he's probably been able to do in the past. He's learning how to think and play at the same time."

Given the debuts of Josh Harrellson and Darius Miller, a breath of fresh air could be exactly what this UK team has been yearning for over the last several years. Just look at Patterson's freshman season. Without him, UK never makes the NCAA Tournament.

Now, without departed guards Ramel Bradley and Joe Crawford, the key to this postseason could very well come from the point guard position.

There's little doubt Porter can manage the game, but he's not the playmaker the Cats will need in the final minutes of the game. He can't crossover over a guy in the lane and force his way to the free-throw line like Liggins did late in the first half. It wasn't a play that will show up in the stat book, but it was a glimpse of the difference Liggins could offer UK.

Before we get too far carried away from here, this isn't an official endorsement for Liggins. Far from it. Monday night was just an exhibition game and it was only 40 minutes of a 30-plus game season. But it is a critical question that Gillispie is going to have to address at some point. Patterson is the heart and soul of this team, but he can only go as far as his point guard will take him.

The nation picked its leader Tuesday at the polls, but whom will Gillispie pick to lead Big Blue Nation into the 2008-09 season? Whoever Gillispie picks could forever etch the outcome of the UK basketball team this season.

Eric Lindsey is a journalism senior. E-mail elindsey@kykernel.com.

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The opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas. Unlike news stories, the Kernel's unsigned editorials represent the views of a majority of the editorial board. Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the opinions page reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of the Kernel.

■ KERNEL EDITORIAL

Forget Wall St., educational bailout needed

Anytime more funding flows into the state, the responsible officials deserve to be commended. As the state's budget continues to be cut, every little bit helps.

Gov. Steve Beshear recently announced more than \$14 million in federal funding will go to Kentucky high schools and universities. The portion of the funding that deals with higher education will be distributed by the National Science Foundation, providing \$12.5 million to research in biotechnology, nanotechnology and cyber-technology. It will be distributed over five years to eight state universities. The majority of the funds will go to UK and the University of Louisville, with \$5 million being matched by the state during the full duration of the grant.

However, for these particular grants, eight schools split \$12.5 million. UK will most likely get the largest portion, but its effect is minimal on the larger problems we have. The state of Kentucky needs an educational bailout.

The designated programs will benefit from the grants, but as a whole, the widespread university needs help beyond these specialized resources. Priority in UK's plans for research and spending on the graduate level is high, but resources and facilities severely lack in several areas on the undergraduate level.

Part of our Top 20 Business Plan that gets lost is to increase our total amount of endowments. UK is successfully accomplishing that, which should help with tuition and scholarships, but the state budget has cut state funding to all universities.

Obviously the budget crisis affects more than UK, but it is time for our state government to start looking into ways to generate new revenue and cut spending where available. Students are the future leaders of this state and nation, and education should not be where budget shortfalls manifest themselves.

It is unrealistic to make education accessible to everyone, but the students that are in school should not have to stress over tuition, books and the other typical expenses college students have. It is one thing to work to have a bigger apartment or extra spending money. It is another thing to work solely to put oneself through college, while also managing a full course load. That kind of work often puts students working well over the average 40 hours a week. A student's will to work is admirable, and at some point the state and the university should recognize that.

Rising tuition and shrinking funds for programs like KEEES are also an area of concern for education. For most students, costs and available resources are the main concern for securing the advantages of higher education. Complex budget issues that most students either don't understand or care about have made graduation more difficult than it should be. With increasingly competitive scholarships, strict government standards for income-based grants, stagnant federal loan limits and rising tuition costs nationwide, earning a degree has become a financial burden that follows students long after leaving the academic institutions.

When federal aid falls through, scholarships don't come in and loans aren't enough, what is there to do? Private loans require credit history, which most students either don't have, or in youthful exuberance, have damaged to not be able to bear the high requirements for these private loans. It is a shame that students with the grades and the test scores do not go to college because of cost. How much of America's potential lies within these individuals who lack the means to go to school?

We need promote advanced educational programs and invest in science and research. The Kernel reported on Oct. 29 that students are turning to stripping, selling plasma and nude modeling to help with the financial blows. With regular students in school using their bodies to pay bills, more effort must be put into a widespread increase in federal aid for students. It's time the government thinks about an educational bailout.

■ LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Kernel should carefully place front page content

First, let me start out by saying that I applaud the Kernel for its Facemaker award. It is awesome to know that my college newspaper is nationally known and recognized. However, even award-winning papers have their occasional mistakes, and I would classify the article written and placed on the front page of the Oct. 29 issue as a huge mistake. It may be a known fact that many women, and even men, are employed by "exotic dance clubs" during their college years and many people are also aware that a fast, easy way to make cash is selling your sperm or plasma. But does that honestly make it newsworthy?

I don't want to get into my personal feelings about the idea of being a stripper or selling your sperm for money. Obviously, there are many other jobs that will make you money for college. I merely want the Kernel to be more selective when it comes to picking their article ideas. While it was a very creative idea for an article, that does not make it the least bit interesting or worthy of being on the front page. If the staff of the Kernel wanted to inform people of the many different ways to make money, it could have been saved for the classifieds.

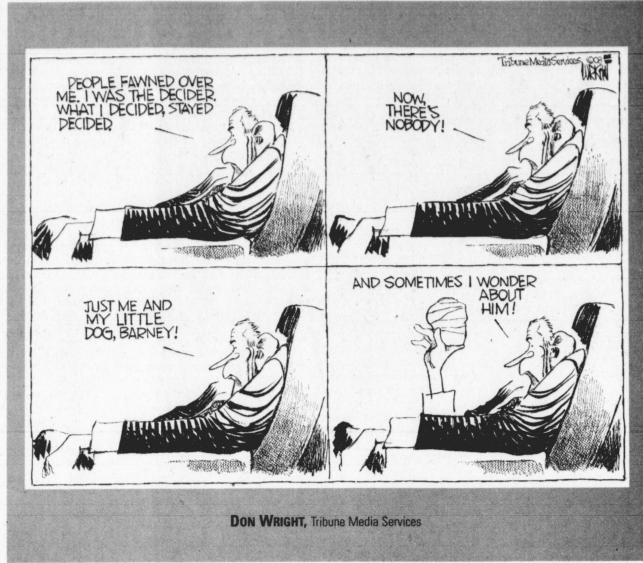
Now that you are an award-winning paper, please, Kernel, be more selective of the news you place on your pages and make it more to the reader's time. Also, I never want to look at the Kernel and see half-naked women on a pole, no matter how attractive she is.

Julie Watkins
broadcast journalism junior

Submissions

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

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com



Kentuckians have a bright future only if health care is taken seriously

When I decided to move to Kentucky to go to college, I knew that I was starting at a school filled with tradition and excellence. I knew with a little luck and a lot of hard work, I'd win myself the opportunity to attend one of the best programs of its kind in the nation, the UK College of Pharmacy.

I've been a student here for over four years and learned that Kentucky has more to offer than a quality education. It is a state filled with warm southern charm, beautiful landscapes and people who would offer you the shirt off their back, as long as you asked politely. This is the state most of us know, and the state that anyone would find difficult not to love.

Unfortunately, as a student in the health care profession, I have also come to learn a different, and sadly, darker side of our state. In a recent featured report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Kentucky's state obesity rate in 2007 was estimated at 27.4 percent, tied for 16th worst in the nation. Per-

haps we can contribute this to a minor consequence of hometown southern cooking. Everyone loves a little Paula Deen in their life. And after all, the majority of the South still trumps us in pounds packed on. Unfortunately, obesity isn't the only thing weighing heavily upon the state.

Despite admirable governmental efforts with its smoking bans, approximately 28.2 percent of Kentuckians use tobacco, according to the CDC report, beating out every other state in the country. But perhaps we smoke to support one of the state's most important industries. We cultivate tobacco; why not use it, too?

Still, among other states, we exercise less, don't eat enough fruit and vegetables, and have more heart attacks. I wish I could rationalize these trends for you. Strangely enough, the research also shows that we know we have problems. More Kentuckians rate themselves in poor general health than any other state.

I write of these trends not to paint our state in a negative light, but the honest truth is that we have problems. Our state is digging itself a hole in unhealthy living, burdening our health care system to fix problems by the time they are too far gone. The unfortunate part about the health care system is that innovation and medical advances have

somehow given the public the impression that healthy living isn't important anymore.

Currently a smoker? Cancer doesn't happen for years. Develop diabetes? Take this pill twice a day. Morbidly obese? Have your stomach stapled.

We are a nation of quick fixes. Many of us operate on the philosophy that you shouldn't try to fix something unless it is broken. However, your body runs much like a car. It needs regular maintenance, scheduled tune-ups and a little love along the way. As a future health care professional, I hope to dedicate the next 40 years to helping people live longer and better lives. In order to obtain any degree of success, we must realize that the first step to health is knowledge and the second is prevention. Don't underestimate the power of a little attention to how you take care of yourself.

I discovered one last secret in my research. Despite the amount of bourbon that this state produces, Kentucky fares extremely well in alcohol consumption rates, boasting some of the nation's lowest estimated rates in 30-day alcohol consumption, heavy drinking and binge drinking. Cheers to that.

Jordan Covey is a third-year pharmacy student. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

'Massive internal reform' needed to repair hypocritical Greek system

I warn you, what I am about to say could make a specific group on campus very, very upset. I have given the idea of writing this column much thought, and decided to go ahead with it, to face whatever repercussions may come to me.

The talking heads here at UK love to espouse to the world certain principles (UK) tries to instill in its students during their time here in Lexington. Among these principles are leadership, integrity and community involvement.

UK also loves to brag about the "diverse" atmosphere on campus, which it has assembled throughout the years. Don't get me wrong, I think these things are wonderful. It is important for an institution such as UK to set goals and missions that contribute to the overall marketability of the campus. Yet there is an entity on campus that is very much contradictory to the overall university goals and qualities mentioned above; this entity is the Greek system.

If one truly and objectively examines the Greek system, you will find it has neither a positive quality nor even a redeeming quality. The idea of a Greek system when applied purely in

its theoretical form sounds like a great idea. In its theoretical form, the Greek system is a way for young men and women to form groups or charitable social organizations that promote integrity, leadership, community involvement and a sense of brotherhood or sisterhood. Yet it is when the theory is put into practice that it becomes susceptible to the corrosion and perversion that triumphs the system in its current form today.

The first corrosion I will address is the overall lack of diversity among the members of the Greek system. When was the last time you saw a fraternity on campus that had a respectful ratio of Caucasian-to-minority members? On a campus of more than 18,000 undergrads, with about 14 percent of those being from minority descent, you would think that the majority of fraternities and sororities would be able to muster more than one or two "token" minority members. This isn't diversity; this is false diversity.

The second corrosion in the Greek system is the overall hypocrisy displayed by its members. I have yet to see a member of the Greek system act with leadership or integrity. What I have seen is an overall lack of leadership and a giant lack of integrity. Whether they are holding all-night keg parties that keep their neighbors up all hours, or bragging about how one of their member's latest escapades ended up in the UK Police section of the Kernel, we see a lack of integrity.

I work for UK Intramurals as a referee, so I am exposed to the Greek system on a weekly basis. Would someone please tell me where, in an individual fraternity's or sorority's charter, it says it is OK to show up to a flag football game drunk, harass other players and officials and ultimately be escorted off the premise. Two days of community service a month does not make up or excuse unlawful and hypocritical actions.

If the Greek system looks to be taken seriously then it needs to start a massive internal reform. Individual chapters must tell their members that they will either live up to the fraternity's or sorority's individual standards or they won't be welcome among them anymore. The university must instruct fraternities and sororities to live up to the ideas and goals of the university, or they will have to find a place to live and conduct their business off campus. If not, then the Greek system will continue to be the good ole boy or girl drinking club that exists today.

I have never been turned down by a fraternity, so don't criticize me by that. I look forward to reading your comments and criticisms, and encourage anyone who disagrees with my column to write a letter to the editor of the Kernel and let your voices be heard.

Zachary Kiser is a human nutrition sophomore. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

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Continued from page B1

88-Keys — "The Death of Adam" — Nov. 11

88-Keys has been around for a minute now, producing for the likes of Mos Def, Talib Kweli, Macy Gray and Consequence. "The Death of Adam" is his first solo album, co-produced by Kanye West and featuring tasty verbal delights from the likes of Phonte of Little Brother, Guilty Simpson, Redman and Bilal. "The Death of Adam" is a concept album, following Adam, a fictional character that's not so good with the ladies. The album follows Adam through the rigorous dating process. Soon, Adam finds a woman and ultimately meets an untimely demise as a product of their passion.

Ludacris — "Theater of the Mind" — Nov. 11

Ludacris has always been ahead of the curve as far as mainstream artists go. He's a skilled lyricist, he's funny, he's positive and he's raw, not to mention he hits it out of the park when he selects beats for his projects. On his sixth solo record, Ludacris shows his age by enlisting help from some of hip-hop's grown-up acts, including, but not limited to, DJ Premier (on two tracks) and 9th Wonder. Swizz Beatz, DJ Paul and Kanye West also add to this theatrical-concept album. Look for The Game, Lil' Wayne, Nas, Jay-Z and Common to co-star on a few joints as well.

Q-Tip — "The Renaissance" — Nov. 18

A Tribe Called Quest's abstract voice of rhyme, Q-Tip, returns to the game nearly a decade removed with a solo treat entitled "The Renaissance." Q-Tip handles a majority of the production on this one, with a little help from his friends Mark Ronson and the late J Dilla. This release also marks the return of D'Angelo, whose career has been virtually nonexistent over the past few years due to supposed label complications. Although we

won't ever see another Tribe album in our lifetime, it's great to see Tip back on his grind and teaching the kids what real hip-hop is all about.

Evidence — "The Layover EP" — Nov. 25

When I met Evidence around this time last year, he was sharing the marquee with Little Brother on The Getback Tour. He told me that he was promoting his album, "The Weatherman LP," from November of 2007 to November of '08 and true to his promise the Dilated Peoples front man is blessing heads with brand new material. This one comes in the form of a nine-track EP. A majority of the project is supported by his own production, with a side of Khrysis and The Alchemist to wet the pallets of any hip-hop fan. Other guest shots include Wil.I.Am, Blu and Elzhi (formerly of Slum Village) coming through to rhyme alongside Venice Beach's verbal meteorologist.

Side Items

Illa J & J Dilla — "Yancey Boys" — In Stores Now

Illa J, Brother of Detroit producer J Dilla, finally let go of a project that he and his late brother were working on prior to his untimely death in 2006. Dilla handles production in its entirety, while Illa holds it down on the mic, guest starring Guilty Simpson, Frank Nitty and Afion Crockett. Any material with J Dilla always seems to be worth the listen.

Little Brother — "Separate But Equal (Drama Free Edition)" — In Stores Now

North Carolina duo Little Brother have been steadily re-releasing their classic mixed-tapes over the last few months. This month, they unleash their critically acclaimed "Separate But Equal" mixed-tape on hungry listeners. This time, they've removed all of the annoying DJ rants and raves and kept it strictly rhymes and beats.

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LECTURE

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Janie Welker, curator for the UK Art Museum, said she stumbled upon Wolin's work accidentally, but was impressed because his work goes beyond the norm.

"It's very interesting that Wolin is putting the stories beside the photographs because narrative work is not really en vogue right now, but I think the stories are so compelling that they should be alongside the pictures," Welker said.

Wolin will be showing 12 large pieces depicting the Vietnam War veterans. Welker believes students will respond positively to all of them.

"You're reading stories and faces at the same time," Welker said. "His photography resembles a book format and makes it compelling to read."

Wolin's exhibit at UK will be unique because it is the first time his pictures of American, South Vietnamese and North Vietnamese veterans will be displayed together.

"It should be interesting to see the veterans from the two countries juxtaposed against one another," Welker said.

The Art Museum will also have Wolin's book "Inconvenient Stories: Portraits of Vietnam War Veterans" on sale, and Wolin will be able to sign copies after he gives the lecture Friday.

Wolin said he also hopes to inspire young photographers.

"Work harder than anyone else; believe in yourself; see the great movies; read great books; go to galleries and museums; be passionate about what you do," he said.

Wolin's work will be on display at the UK Art Museum through Dec. 7. As part of the series, Wolin will also give a lecture Nov. 7 at 4 p.m. at the Worsham Theater in the Student Center.

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