



WEATHER Flurries possible, high of 30. Abnormally cold tonight, low near 10. Sunny tomorrow, high of 35.

OUT OF THE IVY Lisa Loeb talks about meeting Ethan Hawke and how she made it to the big time. See Diversions, page 4.



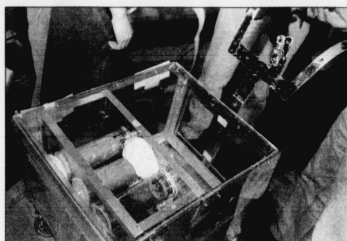
WeD

March 11, 1998

Campus A2 Diversions A4
Classifieds A7 Vicepoint A6
Crossword A7

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11
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space cadets



PHOTOS BY HOBIE HILIER Kernel staff

SPACECAMP

(Clockwise) Kathleen Sienko, a materials engineering senior, Todd Griffith, a mechanical engineering senior and Jim Jackson, a mechanical engineering junior, test out their project that they will present to NASA. If approved, the group will get to ride on the KC-135, a reduced-gravity aircraft.



Students push for zero-gravity flight

By Manish Bhatia
Staff Writer

Bright orange plastic, glass boxes and foam spurting through little tubes.

Throw in a few engineers whispering instructions and you could almost hear Tom Hanks blurt, "Houston, we have a problem" from aboard Apollo 13.

Four UK students will have a chance to show off their new design idea in front of NASA next week in Houston. The four-person crew, plus a backup, will fly aboard a reduced-gravity KC-135 aircraft, affectionately dubbed the "Vomit Comet."

In fact, the same plane was used in the filming of the weightless scenes from the hit movie, *Apollo 13*.

"(The KC-135) does a series of loops and then one begins to float for about 30 seconds," said Todd Griffith, a mechanical engineering senior and one of the crew members.

"We are looking at two different methods to deploy space craft in orbit," he said. "One way is inflatable structure and the second one is the foam rigidized structure."

In a rehearsal yesterday at the Terrell Civil Engineering Lab, the group sprayed foam inside a set of nine inflated tubes packed within a Plexiglas box strapped on their shoulders. United Applied Technologies of Huntsville, Ala., supplied the model for the "Shooting Star" experiment parts.

Kathleen Sienko, a materials engineering senior, will make a second trip to NASA after a similar project last year.

"The KC-135 is similar to the interior of a military cargo jet," she said. "We will leave from Houston and fly over the Gulf of Mexico in parabolic fashion."

The craft makes about 40 loops during the flight, rising to an altitude of 34,000 feet at the top of the curve, Sienko said. It

See NASA on A2

UK 101 gives hope to overwhelmed freshmen

By Delmar Watkins
Staff Writer

UK 101 takes the word "fresh" out of "freshman."

The orientation course helps incoming students prepare for college life by giving them the tools needed to succeed.

"I really enjoyed it," said Jeremy Stull, an agricultural economics senior. "It helped me get acquainted with campus and the library, and I made some friends in the class."

"It made the campus seem a little smaller," he said.

Most UK 101 classes meet

during the first eight weeks for the fall semester.

UK 201 is a similar course except that it is targeted for transfer students, said Becky Jordan, director of New Student Services.

Both UK 101 and UK 201 count for one credit hour each. Two pilot sections were added last semester.

Topics in the class include e-mail use, academic advising, library and study skills, time management, career decision-making, résumé writing, registration and extracurricular activities, Jordan said.

Instructors can also

include special topics, such as diversity, date rape, UK history and alcohol use, she said.

Each class is taught by a faculty member and a student assistant.

"I had a very active role as a student assistant," said Marianne Lorensen, a family and consumer sciences junior. "I 'team taught' with my faculty member."

"I supplied student input that upperclassmen may have, and I answered questions from a students' perspective," Lorensen said.

One of the most important topics in the class is time

management.

"Time management was really important for me. The class taught me to write things down so I could map out my time," Stull said.

"It appears that study skills and time management were the most important topics," said Lys Mather, professor of Agricultural Economics. "These subjects really caught the students attention and gave them information they needed."

"I've reorganized my class to have those subjects at the very beginning so the students can use those skills

immediately," Mather said.

"It gives students an advantage. They can handle the pressure of college life more easily after they take the class," Lorensen said.

Students interested in applying for UK 101 or UK 201 student assistant positions should see Sarah Jones in 518 Patterson Office Tower by March 13. Grade-point average, an interview, class time availability and upperclass student status are criteria in selection.

Applicants will be notified about the positions by the end of April.

Breaking the trend of scams

By Mark Fister
Contributing Writer

Spring Break is a time for vacation. It is a time for hot beaches, clear skies and pure fun with no homework.

But Spring Break is also attracting to scam artists, who present their potential victims with enticing offers at little cost.

College students should also be aware that they are often the prime targets for scam artists.

"The Better Business Bureau typically hears from students who never get their 'bargain' or 'free' trip because their reservations may not be confirmed, or they must comply with hard-to-meet hidden or expensive 'conditions,'" said Tracey McLarney, Bureau president and chief executive officer, in a news release.

Scam artists use telemarketing, classified ads, campus bulletin boards, direct mail and the Internet to offer their "bargains."

Integrated strategic communications sophomore Meegan Wither received an offer through the mail. "My first reaction was that I wished I was going," Wither said.

Wendy Southworth, a history sophomore, saw some travel ads plastered around campus. She said she usually forgets about them after reading a couple of lines.

Other students have noticed some eye-popping offers in newspapers.

"I just ignored (the ad) because I knew I was going home," said Greg Zink, a computer science freshman.

Special education sophomore Jill Blandford decided the trip probably wouldn't be the same as was advertised when she actually got there.

Joe Lowery, a chemical engineering freshman who works in the Commons MicroLab, has experience with seemingly frivolous ads found on the Internet.

"There are some honest people out there," Lowery said, "but you have to hold back and protect your pocket book."

The BBB came up with a list of tips to help students separate the legitimate offers from the scams.

- ▼ Be wary of "great deals" and low-priced offers.
- ▼ Don't be pressured into buying.
- ▼ Ask detailed questions.
- ▼ Get all information in writing before you agree to buy.
- ▼ Don't give your credit card number or bank information over the phone unless you initiated the call or know the company.
- ▼ Be wary of sending money by messenger or overnight delivery services.
- ▼ Check out the company before you pay.
- ▼ Read the fine print in advertisements, brochures and flyers.

Students who want more information can call the Better Business Bureau at 259-1008.

"The chances are ... if it sounds too good to be true, it is," Lowery said. "That's the general rule."

Fraternity to go alternative

By Brian Melton
Contributing Writer

When you think of Spring Break, what comes to mind? A trip to Florida for a week of drinking and partying, waking up next to someone you've never seen before?

If sunburns and hangovers aren't your idea of a good time, members of Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity have an idea for how you can spend your Spring Break: helping others.

That's the purpose of this fraternity, which is based on three principles: leadership, friendship and service. "The main purpose of our fraternity is to go out into the Lexington community and help those in need," said Andrea McAtee, president of the fraternity. "We also give our time and effort to help make the University of Kentucky a better place for all students."

This Spring Break, members will travel to Eastern Kentucky, mainly Hyden and Hazard, to paint and repair sites around the community.

The group will also perform drug awareness skits for local elementary children and visit Frontier Nursing Services, which trains midwives.

"This is a great way to get away from the stresses of college for a week while helping people in our home state," said Allison Walston, the project manager. "It also is a great way to make new friends and grow closer to those in our fraternity."

This opportunity is open to everyone who is willing to work hard for a very worthy cause. The group will be leaving on Friday, March 13 and return on Thursday, March 19. All meals will be donated by local restaurants.



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The fiber of life

Rasdell show views concepts behind mixed media works

By Jessica Coy
Assistant News Editor

The mixed media fiber exhibition, "Past and Present," takes you to a place where all cultures over time co-exist.

A trapeze artist swings from the ceiling. Women's clothing covered with pins takes center stage, drape on thankfully unfeeling mannequins. Silk, wool and aluminum tapestries in an array of sizes, shapes and colors adorn the walls.

The exhibit, featuring the work of Arturo Sandoval and his students, is unified by a mixture of media, cultural influences and a breakaway from the norm of fabric art.

"This break exemplifies the philosophy of Sandoval, curator of the exhibit and professor in the art department.

"The selection of art in the exhibit shows the diversity of fiber art," Sandoval said.

Pieces in the "Past and Present" exhibit challenge societies views about fiber art, Sandoval said.

"Many people think of housewives knitting baby booties when they think of fiber, but this exhibit shows that fiber art can go beyond functional and become art in the truest sense of the word," said Dorcas Peters, a fiber art senior.

For years, Sandoval has told his students to "push the envelope" and take fiber art to the next level. The exhibit is an exploration into where pushing that envelope can lead.

"We were encouraged to take things we saw every day, and using various media, put a new spin on them," Peters said. "This goes way beyond embroidered lace handkerchiefs."



Pushing the envelope for many students has meant tying together modern art techniques with historical and cultural themes.

"Many of the artists in this exhibit have used fiber to express their views on world issues, and to stir up connections between the past and today," Peters said.

"That fiber is such an everyday part of people's lives is key to making connections between the art and its audience.

"We are surrounded by fiber, we touch it everyday," said Tracey Stakekin, a fine arts senior. "This connects the audience to fiber art in a very basic way. Someone might see a pattern that they recognize, a fabric or texture that they want to reach out and touch."

For Sandoval, the fiber exhibit shows the complete harmony that can be achieved among the several types of media.

"It seems as though there is a sense of peace expressed in the exhibit that comes from all the different media conversing together," Sandoval said.

"Past and Present" will be on display in the Rasdall Gallery in the Student Center until April 3.



FIBER CITY

Kathleen Columbus (above), a marketing senior, views 'Homage to Suffragettes' by Neia Desiree Harkless. Linda L. Johnston's 'Salmon 3, 4 and 5' are among the displayed works at the 'Past and Present' exhibit at the Rasdall Gallery.

PHOTO BY
MATT BARTON
Kernel staff

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NASA

Students get to show idea, feel zero gravity

From PAGE A1

then drops for about 30 seconds, causing a zero-gravity effect. Once it reaches the bottom of the loop at 24,000 feet, the crew experiences a force of gravity twice their weight.

The group members submitted a proposal to NASA that involved filling ordinary foam into sleeves made of Kapton, a material that looks similar to plastic wrap.

Once the foam hardens, the tubes turn into rigid structures that withstand large weights. Lightweight and cheap, these tubes offer a feasible option for building parts of satellites and space stations, or even the supporting structures of solar panels.

"The foam is similar to the one used in cars," said Suzanne Smith, associate professor in mechanical engineering. "We believe the foam in the flight is going to have a different structure because of zero gravity."

The experiment consisted of two major divisions, Smith said. One involved testing the properties of the foam during the flight; the other looked at the different ways the tubes opened up in space.

"There are different patterns of unfolding in zero-gravity conditions," Smith said. "One of the aims of the project is to remove the kinks that might result in the process."

Jim Jackson, a mechanical engineering junior, will also make a second appearance as the third crew member.

"It is a great experience with NASA," Jackson said. "It has opened up doors to summer work."

Jackson was one of 24 people

chosen to do research at the Goddard Space Flight Center this summer. Engineering senior Jennifer Eckert of Fairfield, Ohio, was the final member of the crew.

Mechanical engineering senior Patrick Hobbs served as the backup to the main team. He would be the group's fallback member should any of them get sick or fail to pass a pre-flight test.

"We have to go through psychology and physiology tests, pressure chambers etc., that we have to pass," he said.

The group leaves for NASA this Saturday to present their proposal for approval, safety and test readiness before being assigned a flight date.

The flights run from March 23 until March 28, with each group allowed two days for their experiments. Groups from Georgia Tech, Purdue and Princeton universities, as well as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will also participate.

Hate crimes becoming a trend

Jason Stoffer
Michigan Daily

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Business junior Corey Fryling had a garbage can full of water spilled into his room and received an indirect death threat while living at Mary Markley residence hall last year.

He said these incidents were malicious hate crimes that stemmed from his active membership in the university's gay community. Hate crimes such as those against Fryling have not been uncommon on the university's campus in the past year.

The Triangle Foundation, a national gay rights group, reported a 34-percent increase last year in hate crimes against the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities on college campuses.

"Misinformation abounds on this campus about gays and lesbians," said Jim Toy, the university affirmative action representative. "There are 5,000 entering students every year and they bring their prejudices with them."

The increase in hate crimes wasn't limited to universities —

overall incidents rose two percent nationally and 12 percent in Michigan, the foundation reported.

The university is a microcosm of society, and several highly publicized hate crimes on campus this past year indicate the university has been unable to shirk the national trend, Toy said.

During the past year, university groundskeepers controversially removed gay rights chalkings from the Diag, while perpetrators defaced a gay rights sticker in Angell Hall and ripped down a gay organization's Diag bulletin board.

Fryling said anti-gay incidents are most common in residence halls, where first-year students of contrasting backgrounds live side-by-side.

"In residence halls you come together, and a lot of students want to come out," Fryling said. "Other students just came to Ann Arbor from communities where they had little contact with gays."

"Because you have to live with each other, (residence halls) are where a lot of problems happen," he said.

Jeff Montgomery, the Triangle Foundation's interim director, said although reported hate crimes have increased in the last eight years, gauging how many crimes are unreported is difficult.

"For the most part, I think (the increase) is because people are reporting more," Montgomery said.

But the large increase in campus hate crimes was not entirely due to increased reporting, he said.

"U of M, (Michigan State University) and Wayne State (University) are generally very good," Montgomery said. "The problem is with smaller schools."

"Michigan is fortunate because they have the best model (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) office of any school in the country," he said.

A change in college students' political beliefs might be another factor in the rise of hate crimes, Toy said.

"College students are more conservative than they were a few years ago and conservatives are generally more likely to commit these crimes," Toy said.

Say cheese



Lauren Smith, a social work senior from Florence, Ky., is posed by Carlos Caraballo from Thornton Studios for her portrait for the Kentuckian yearbook. Portraits will be taken today and tomorrow in the Student Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Baby food chemical may be toxic

By Kari Thorene
The Oregon Daily Emerald

EUGENE, Ore. — The brain and nervous systems of American children run the daily risk of exposure to toxic chemicals, according to the new report, "Overexposed: Organophosphate Insecticides in Children's Food" from the Environmental Working Group.

The chemicals in question — organophosphates, the line of insecticides derived from the Auschwitz nerve gas phosgene — are undergoing review by the Environmental Protection Agency for new use recommendations due out in 1999.

In the meantime, what does exposure mean to children, and how are they exposed? Also, what can parents do to protect their kids?

According to the group's study, organophosphates "have the potential to cause long term damage to the brain and nervous system, which are rapidly growing and extremely vulnerable to injury during fetal development."

The standards the agency uses for determining maximum contamination levels are set for adults. The new levels — those due out in 1999 — will be adjusted to protect children through the 1996 Food Quality Protec-

tion Act.

"For infants six to 12 months old, the dominant source of exposure is commercial baby food, particularly apple juice, pears, applesauce and peaches," according to the Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides. The EWG report found that about 77,000 infants are exposed to unsafe levels of organophosphates daily nationwide.

According to the group, parents should not stop feeding their children fresh fruits and vegetables as a result of the study. The groups suggest contacting the EPA and urging for more stringent standards.

Berkeley officials ask feds for retrofit dollars

By Dan Ostmann
Daily Californian

BERKELEY, Calif. — UC Berkeley is engaged in a dangerous waiting game, unsure of when the federal government might help it pay for a \$1 billion seismic retrofit and unable to quickly raise the money from other sources.

The campus faces the possibility that it will receive no federal funding at all for earthquake upgrades. Even if it does, the money could come too late. Geologists have determined a good chance exists that a major earthquake will hit the campus in the next two decades, and the federal program campus officials are pinning their hopes on was just started and has yet to dole out one dime.

Federal money is needed because cash from state coffers and private donors will not pay for the upgrades in a timely manner. The task of upgrading old campus buildings is not sexy enough to attract private donors, university officials say.

And state funding for the upgrades averages about \$20 million per year, hardly enough to bring a speedy end to worries about campus buildings falling.

"No one source of funding will be adequate," said Nicholas Jewell, interim vice chancellor of capital projects.

Jewell said the university has always been "most dependent on state funding" for retrofitting projects. But inconsistent funding over the past several years, and the recent defeat in the state assembly of a proposed seismic bond measure leaves him increasingly worried that an earthquake could strike before retrofitting begins.

The university received \$33.6

million from the state last year for seismic retrofitting. It could pick up a one-time payment of \$21.7 million if the state assembly and California voters approve a bond.

The bond measure, if passed by California voters, would grant money to schools statewide for capital improvements. Having the UC system

attached to a bond that provides money for the K-12 education system is beneficial because it is more likely to pass, said Len Materman, campus director of government affairs.

"Voters are very sympathetic to K-12 projects," Materman said.

The bond has already been rejected once by the legislature. While the bond was passed by the state Senate, it failed to gain a two-thirds vote margin needed to get through the assembly and come before voters in June.

A second attempt is now underway in the legislature to get the bond on this November's ballot. If the second attempt should fail, the chances of the university receiving immediate state funding for retrofitting are slim.

If the bond does make its way through the legislature and is approved by the voters, it is expected to pay for the retrofitting of several buildings and structures on campus. The money would fund work on Wurster Hall, Barker Hall, LeConte Hall and McLaughlin Hall — the most

seriously dangerous campus buildings. The money would also strengthen some smaller structures and water distribution systems.

Seismic work will also be funded with \$54 million that went to the campus after voters approved Proposition 203.

With state funding at tens of millions of dollars each year, campus administrators are looking to the federal government.

Luckily the government has grown weary of cleaning up disasters after they happen and wants to experiment with keeping disasters from wreaking havoc in the first place.

It brought UC Berkeley into a program to create disaster-resistant communities throughout the country. Launched by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the program, Project

Impact, was showcased at a meeting in Oakland last month between President Bill Clinton and a number of Bay Area leaders, including Chancellor Robert Berdahl.

"We are in the beginning stages of a long and productive relationship with FEMA," Jewell says.

At the meeting, the chancellor presented to Clinton and the FEMA director a ten-point plan that prioritizes the seismic retrofit procedures.

"FEMA not only sees Oakland as a pilot community, but Berkeley as a pilot university," said Kim Fuller, spokesperson for Project Impact.



We are in the beginning stages of a long and productive relationship with FEMA.

Nicholas Jewell
interim vice chancellor of capital projects, UC-Berkeley

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Student loan issue flares up

Advocates swoon over possible drop in interest rates

By Jennifer Coleman
The State Hornet

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The interests of college students and bankers clashed in a high-stakes subcommittee meeting in Washington last week, as lawmakers tried to find a compromise on the impending change in student loan rates.

At issue is an \$11 billion savings over five years to students whose school loan rates will be dropped starting in July. This aspect of the Higher Education Reauthorization Act was debated Thursday in a hearing in front of the Subcommittee for Postsecondary Education.

The financial institutions that loan the 70 percent of student financial aid not covered by direct loan are attempting to stop the

mandated change in interest rates, and are threatening to pull their business from that market.

Currently student loan rates are set by a formula of the 91-day Treasury bill interest plus 3.1 percent, totaling 8.25 percent. The new law would reduce the interest rates to 7.1 percent by setting the rate on a formula based on 10-year T-bills plus 1 percent.

Student advocates are understandably thrilled with the expected drop in interest rates. With the average student graduating with a debt of \$13,000, the savings could add up to more than \$650 over the 10-year life span of the loan. For graduate students, that would add up to even more.

David Foy, press secretary for subcommittee chairman Buck McKeon, R-Santa Clarita, said Thursday's meeting consisted mostly of testimonials and not any decisions on the future of the law.

"Congressman McKeon has always tried to keep focusing on finding a compromise," he said.

"The stakes are too high to play partisan politics."

Foy said McKeon would "love to see really, really low interest rates," for students, but that the congressman understands the needs of the banks also.

"They're going to walk if they can't make some sort of profit," he said.

If that happens, Foy said, students will have to rely on the direct loan program, which he called a "bad system."

The Federal Direct Loan Program subsidizes 30 percent of students who receive loans, with the rest loaned by private financial institutions. But the bank loans are guaranteed by the federal government.

Erica Adelsheimer, the legislative director for the United States Student Association, said students and their representatives were far outnumbered in the hearing.

"There was only me and a representative from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities," she said.

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down to Earth
 Lisa Loeb to make stop in Louisville with McLachlan

By Dan O'Neill
 Associate Editor

With her thick-rimmed specs, cute smile and meek voice, Lisa Loeb finds rare success somewhere outside the budding genres of grrrr rock and female folk rock.

Although her music is as unassuming as her appearance is recognizable, Loeb has secured a place in music with an easy-to-swallow pop sassy that keeps listeners listening.

Hailing from the coffeehouse scene in New York, the Ivy League graduate began her career playing the college scene at Brown University (Duncan Sheik actually played with her for a year). Things took off after graduation when, with the help of actor Ethan Hawke, she released "Stay (I Missed You)" and received a major record deal with Geffen as a result.

Now, on the heels of releasing her second album, Loeb is on the road with fellow pop diva Sarah McLachlan in a tour that stops at the Palace Theatre in Louisville on March 20.

In a phone conversation the morning after the Grammys, the Dallas native spoke with a candid, polite and articulate voice. A little groggy and hoarse from the night before, Loeb, a one-time Grammy nominee herself, commented on the music industry's most prestigious award show.

"I'm not sure if they represent the best music out there, but definitely some of the best. It's a limited sampling of what actually exists in music. But I grew up watching them and being nominated for 'Stay' was a great experience," Loeb said.

"They do mean something, but it was more a sign of me becoming a professional musician. The nomination gave me the opportunity to work with great musicians and songwriters and really opened a lot of avenues I otherwise might not have seen."

With commercial success, however, comes the inevitable negative criticism media outlets grace upon most musicians. After the release of her debut album *Tails*, an entire year after releasing the single "Stay," critics questioned her as a potential one-hit wonder artist whose success is owed, in large part, to Hawke.

Her break came when Hawke heard her playing in a club and asked for a copy of the song to play for Ben Stiller, who was making his film *Reality Bites* at the time. Stiller used "Stay" for the soundtrack and Hawke went on to direct the video. Loeb admits some of the criticism does get to her.

"It makes me really angry ... but some of



A REAL FIRECRACKER Lisa Loeb will play with Sarah McLachlan in support of her latest release, 'Firecracker,' on Friday, March 20 at the Palace Theater in Louisville.

them are so bad that you just have to laugh at them," she said. "Ethan was instrumental and I think it's a great story how he approached me and took the song to Ben ... But I don't see it as something negative."

Loeb tried to answer those critics with a spot on McLachlan's Lilith Fair Tour and the November release of her sophomore effort on Geffen Records, entitled *Firecracker*.

She said of the Lilith Fair, "I was really proud to be a part of the experience which proved to be great for music. Being out on the road with people you like to listen to and songwriters you respect, like Shawn Colvin, Emmylou Harris and the Indigo Girls, was a wonderful experience."

Loeb agrees the burgeoning popularity of female artists resulting from the tour allows for success to come a little easier, but asserts the business also becomes more competitive.

"It's never easy, but the media is more willing to focus on female artists and therefore there is much more room for women on the radio," she said.

Firecracker, which she describes as "a more personal album," uses her dainty voice to explore the darker emotions of depression, loneliness and tough love. Although her first single, "I Do," lies in line with the up-tempo, bubble gum pop of the *Tails* album, the song represents a contrast to the album's prevailing somber tones. Loeb offsets the murky lyrics with a soft, melodious voice that could make her most anguished verses sound pleasant.

So far, Loeb seems pleased with the album's results.

"I was touring Europe and Japan for six weeks when the album came out so I really didn't get a feel for how it was doing over here," she said. "But kids were coming up to me in the airport and saying the album was really cool and it seems to be going over pretty well."

With Loeb's first single off *Firecracker*, making its way off the pop charts, her second single, "Let's Forget About It," was released yesterday. Loeb, however, expressed a general disinterest for choosing which material will get airplay.

"I don't really care what's chosen. To me there are no songs that couldn't be singles on the album," she said. "You just have to trust the record company to pick the songs they feel are radio friendly."

"Personally, 'Falling in Love' is the one song I'd like to see become a single. Shawn Colvin sang harmonies and I think the song best shows off my songwriting skills."

Although Loeb places emphasis on her songwriting, it's no secret her glasses, and not her songwriting, have become her signature. Loeb makes it clear, however, the glasses are not intended to be her shtick and even jokes about any image they may perpetuate.

"I wear them to perpetuate the image of a librarian ... Just kidding. Really, I wear them because I *have* to and I couldn't see without them. Just like anything else it's a choice, a fashion choice," she said.

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Questions should be directed to Mike Agin, Student Media Adviser, 257-1900.

Rapper fails with repetitive rhymes

By Luke Saladin
 Assistant Entertainment Editor

If hip hop's greatest asset is its unwillingness to conform to a group of uniform standards, we might see Bing Crosby back from the grave taking Tupac's spot in the next direct-to-video cop movie.

C-BO, with his sixth and latest release, ... *Til My Casket Drops*, brings the repetitive world of hip hop to the pinnacle of repetitiveness, showing that right now hip hop has everything it needs except originality.

You can put C-BO in this group of regurgitation and cliché phrases. Yes, you get your usual "I got a hard life ... bla bla bla ... I ran with a gang to survive ... bla bla bla ... I had to shoot one of my boyz." Can you sing along? I think you can.

In the song's first track, "Ride til' We Die" is very Tupac-esque in both its beat and slightly off-cadence rhetoric.

To top off the salute to mimicry, you get a nice little voice of interspersed chanting "1-8-7" throughout the track, very Chronic-era Dr. Dre and Snoop Doggy Dog.

C-BO is known amongst his peers as a "street preacher" because of his honest, no-holds-barred gangsta rap. C-BO is actually an abbreviation for "Cowboy." In supporting role, C-BO has brought in the help of his friends.

Making appearances on the album are: 151, Mob Figgas, Spice 1, Mississippi, E-400, Outlaw Immortals, Big Syke, Killa Tay & JT Tha Bigga Figgas, Mob Figga, Marvless, Pizzo, Mac Mall, Laroo, Lil Bo and Lunasic. I guess everyone needs a family.

C-BO spent much of his life incarcerated (Gee, I haven't heard that one before). And of course, he is very happy that all of this is behind him now.

"Rapping about crime is very different from doing crime," C-BO said in a news release.

"I created a story based on something that happens on the street and put some kind of a twist on it."

Naturally we have our usual group of introspective tracks on ... *Til My Casket Drops*.

C-BO relates to the common man with songs like "Money By The Ton," which asks the age old question, "What would I do if I had more money than I could count."

There's real introverted sole searching going on here.





MILITANT HONKY TONK The Waco Brothers will be playing songs from their new album, "Do You Think About Me," tomorrow night at Lynagh's. Union City All-Stars kick off the show at 10. Admission is \$5.

Cowboy in Flames

The Wacos Brothers make rare live appearance at Lynagh's tomorrow

By Ben Salmon
Staff Writer

It's not every day that you meet a country singer with a British accent.

Then again, Jon Langford is not your average, "Tear-in-My-Beer" country singer.

Langford, lead singer and guitarist of the Chicago six-piece, the Waco Brothers, said he ended up in a country band by accident.

"I was in Chicago producing a record for a band called Wreck," Langford explains, "and every night, we'd go to this scary country bar and drink into the morning."

"One night, the owner came over to us and asked us if we could play George Jones covers for \$150 and some beer and we thought, 'What the hell, we can try,'" Langford said, laughing.

The gig was more fun than successful, and the group began performing more and more in the Chicago area. Eventually, an identity formed. It was really, really bad, so we changed our name every week so that people wouldn't know it was us," explains Langford.

"When that shit went down in Waco (Texas), whoever made the posters that night called us the Waco Brothers. We played our first good gig that night, and the name stuck."

"Eventually, Bloodshot (the Waco's label) came to us with the idea of making a record. We didn't want to make a record of covers, so we went off and wrote some songs. That's really when we became a full-fledged band, rather than a side project for a bunch of friends."

The Waco Brothers play an ultra-aggressive style of country it likes to call "militant honky tonk." The sound is an amalgam of the band member's influences, which are as diverse and distinctly non-country as their other projects.

Drummer Steve Goulding is a veteran of Graham Parker's band and the Chicago band, Poi Dog Pondering. Guitarist Dean Schlabowske plays in the aforementioned guitar-noise group Wreck. Pedal steel virtuoso Mark Durante has performed with KMFDM and the Revolving Cocks, and Alan Doughey is the bassist for Jesus Jones. The group is rounded out by British man-

olinist Tracey Dear.

It is Langford, however, who boasts the most impressive musical history of the band. He has spent the last two decades fronting one of England's most inventive agit-punk collectives, the Mekons.

Despite all the steerings away from twang, Langford says he's been interested in country for years.

"Someone made me a tape of honky-tonk tunes by George Jones, Ernest Tubbs, Merle Haggard and some others back in the '80s, and it occurred to me that the Mekons were kind of like a punk-country band," Langford explains. "I see so many similarities between the two genres, they don't seem that far apart to me," Langford muses. "Both deal very much with the problems of daily life with raw, heartfelt emotion. Both build songs around simple three-chord tunes, which is about all I can handle on the guitar anyway."

Langford may not be a guitar wizard, but his band puts on one of the most energetic alt-country shows around.

The Waco Brothers will perform at Lynagh's Thursday night at 10 p.m.

NBC seeks next 'Seinfeld'

Associated Press

Kelsey Grammer tries the low-key approach in lobbying for "Frasier" to inherit the "Seinfeld" time slot. Dignified, like you'd expect from psychologist Frasier Crane.

"I would like to move to Thursday," he says. "I'm not pushing for it. But I think it would be a wise decision."

The executive producer of "Just Shoot Me" lobbies with sarcastic humor. Again, perfectly in keeping with the show he helps create.

"Absolutely not," Steven Levitan says. "We don't want it. But we should also point out at this time that we don't want \$100 million."

The executive producers of "Friends" quote a song. "Put us in, coach" sing Kevin Bright, David Crane and Marta Kauffman.

Coach, in this case NBC programming chief Warren Littlefield, will eventually put someone in, probably announcing his deci-

sion in May. It will end a television guessing game already far more important than it deserves to be.

Next year NBC will broadcast something other than "Seinfeld" on Thursday nights at 9 p.m. Eastern time. Life will go on.

Schulman argues for trying something bold. He thinks NBC should change the whole complexion of the night by moving "ER" to an hour earlier and trying a new drama at 10 p.m.

Even he admits this won't happen. The network's affiliate stations set ratings for their local news, and subsequent advertising revenues, go up when top-rated "ER" goes first.

The three shows mentioned earlier are the most likely candidates. Throw in the comedies "Mad About You" and "3rd Rock From the Sun" as other potential choices.

We'll venture a prediction using the same method as in our NCAA basketball pool entry —

process of elimination.

"Just Shoot Me," with its recent move to Thursdays at 8:30 p.m., is obviously being primed for better things by NBC. But its biting, sometime snarmy, humor can quickly wear thin and may be vulnerable to a backlash. It's not ready.

"Friends," though a little racy for the 8 p.m. hour, seems too comfortable there to be messed with. "Mad About You" may be back next year, but it is clearly nearing the end of its run, and NBC won't risk its best time slot on something without growth potential. And "3rd Rock From the Sun" has been too damaged by NBC's schedule tinkering.

That leaves "Frasier," arguably NBC's smartest, most consistently funny comedy. Grammer has Thursday night roots and is ready to take the responsibility of carrying that night. Its smart, slapstick humor fits in well with NBC's Thursday night style.

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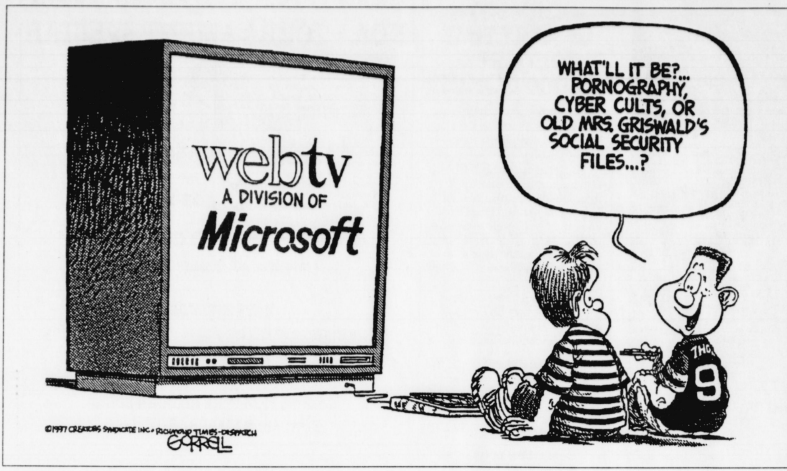
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2 Star	4,128	5,207	N/A	4,443	4,128
3 Star	5,912	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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Viewpoint



There's more to 'nymphomania' than lively sex

More of us should step up and take the same chances

I am not a nymphomaniac. In fact, I'm quite the opposite of the consternation of friends who routinely advise: "Todd, you've got to get laid! You've got to loosen up, you're making Al Gore look downright lively for crying out loud."

Hey, what can I say? I've even turned down either one or two from female friends to relieve me of this great burden. Unfortunately, such talk of an individual's sex life — or lack thereof — is over the line according to a few souls on campus.

It seems that a few dear readers were "shocked" that our newspaper would dare to print a column about a student's enjoyment of sex and the double standards that exist in the discussion of such a taboo topic. I can understand the "shock," after all, it's not everyday you see such an open discussion, but that doesn't make it wrong. It only points out the need to further explore a topic that still turns many red with embarrassment.

Yeah, we could have toned down the column, but it would have been stripped of the very personality that made it a product of Michelle's zest for life. My only true concern was that the column not be explicitly graphic, and it passed with flying colors, leaving only the readers' imagination to fill in the blanks.

There are so many other issues that should be of greater concern, and this one column pales in comparison to the television network's abandonment of a "safe harbor" hour for children from 8 to 9 p.m. Let's face it, many of us have become immune to the sexual innuendoes that now pollute the first hour of primetime viewing that was originally intended to be family friendly.

It has also been suggested that the Lexington Herald-Leader would have never printed such a column, but that is the Herald-Leader's loss. I'm not especially concerned with the practices of the local paper or even the New York Times, because our status as an "independent student newspaper" gives us a unique opportunity to experiment, push the envelope and maybe have a little fun in addressing the needs and concerns of our primary audience: the college student.

And few could deny the basic truth that sex is a topic of great interest to the American college student, especially in the days leading up to Spring Break. Most of us have surely whispered, giggled or sat in stoned silence late one night as a friend or acquaintance told us about an incredible old flame who set their world on fire. It's a subject that intrigues and rivets everyone, because most of us want to know where we rate in comparison to everyone else.

Michelle was simply brave enough to acknowledge it publicly. Although some may have had her piece in "horrified fascination," she did provoke discus-

sion about sexuality, stereotypes and media responsibility. I personally witnessed one such discussion in my Women in the Media class and have heard of similar discussions across campus.

That is the kind of response an editorial editor can only dream of. Nevertheless, the concern exists that we might have damaged our credibility by running such a racy column. Credibility with whom? Happy-go-lucky students or embarrassed administrators?

I personally feel that most students appreciated the breath of fresh air Michelle brought to the page, in spite of the questions it raised. However, campus administrators are another matter.

In the few months that I've been at the Kernel, I've come to question whether we even have any credibility with administrators to damage. On numerous occasions, we've called out C.M. Newton on the issue of student seating in Rupp Arena and we've yet to hear a

response. We've also questioned the Office of University Studies' commitment to soliciting student opinion on the revamping of the University Studies Program. We received the same response

silence. To take this one step further, I once offered President Wethington the opportunity to address the student body on the editorial page. He would have been free to discuss any issue he deemed appropriate or even to write a lighter piece about his days in college. I don't know about you, but I want the type of president who would jump at such a golden opportunity.

So what does it say to you — the students — when a "leader" who has been viewed as aloof or distant doesn't take advantage of a chance to bridge the gap? Especially in light of a study he commissioned — the Student Satisfaction Report — that suggested students don't feel as if they really matter at this institution of higher education. If students are to feel important, it is up to the head honcho to set the example for all others to follow.

Sadly, the only official body that has taken a regular interest in the editorial page is the one that is most dedicated to student needs — the Student Government Association. Sure we give them hell from time to time — as they do us — but at least we're communicating.

It's too bad others haven't taken such an active interest, especially at a time when we are faced with the challenge of improving a pathetic University Studies Program; fixing up recreational facilities without the needed cash; and tackling the daunting goal of becoming a Top 20 research institution without forgetting the undergrad.

Ultimately, the issues are many, but the voices have been few. So I'm not about to silence one lady who took a chance, stirred up some trouble and got people talking about something important for a change.

Editorial Editor Todd Hash is a journalism senior. He can be reached at mhaib1@pop.uky.edu.



Todd Hash
Editorial Editor

Ken and Barbie

Debt. It's more than just a four-letter word to most college students. It's a way of life. Now it can be a way of life for kids, too.

Enter "Cool Shoppin' Barbie," complete with shopping bag in one hand and MasterCard strapped to the other.

The bright pink box the doll comes in has a battery operated cash register. Now little kids can hear Barbie say, "Thank you" and "Credit approved."

How idealistic can kids lives remain if we keep inundating them with reminders of the real world? My Little Ponies and Strawberry Shortcake are a thing of the past; welcome to debt and entrepreneurship.

How many of us would instantly trade in our debt for the chance at a stress-free life without people harassing us and collection agencies sending lightly-veiled threats?

As college students, we are in debt right now, and we sure didn't start using plastic at age six. Credit cards are "for emergencies only."

Isn't that what our parents preached until they were blue in the face?

But the temptation is strong. When you're star-

ving and you have no groceries but your paycheck doesn't come in for three more days, Uncle Visa saves the day.

When you're bored and a great concert is coming to town (O.K., Louisville), it's time to Discover the advantages of plastic.

But don't forget the responsibility. They know we're impulsive. Heck, offer us a free T-shirt or a Coke and we'll sign up for just about anything.

And when we get the card we forgot we signed up for in the mail, it's like getting a whole new wad of cash.

That is, until the annual fee kicks in. America is a country increasingly being controlled by plastic. Almost every restaurant has the familiar sticker telling which credit cards it accepts.

Many students suffering from the munchies would have to exist on ramen noodles if not for Denny's and Perkins restaurants and their love for plastic.

Christmas. Birthdays. Dates. The uses for plastic go on and on. And our debt goes up and up. Let's not start the trend any earlier than we have to.

IN OUR OPINION



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READERS' forum

'Viewpoint' failed to enlighten us about UK's mission

To the editor:

In the Kernel editorial of March 5, you wrote about many of the problems students face in attempting to complete the University Studies requirements. While there are certainly problems which need to be exposed and corrected, your editorial gave a false view of the situation.

First, your editorial mentioned only the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Business and Economics. In the schedule of classes, 19 colleges are listed. To focus exclusively on two of the largest and most visible within the University does a grave disservice to the other 17 colleges, many of which have the same, or similar, problems.

Also, you suggested that "fine arts majors take the prescribed

classes as a part of their specific college curriculum, [but] B&E students may be forced to go outside their college for additional course work." Even a cursory examination of the University Bulletin will show that there is a College of Fine Arts, that very few University Studies requirements can be completed within it and that these classes do not generally correspond with classes required by the College.

Indeed, "the result is often more classes for the student unfortunate enough to major outside of arts and sciences." The determination of a major has nothing to do with fortune, it is a choice that we make as students. As a student in the College of Fine Arts, I choose to take those extra classes mandated by University Studies; if I did not want the well-rounded education that I feel those classes play a part in, I could have gone to a different school with a different system.

Our sexuality should be something private, kept between the one we share it with. While sex is something that can be seen in our advertisements, our movies and our magazines, we as the public should understand that when we see it in such public places we should understand that this is not the private life of someone living around us. Unfortunately, what we witnessed in our newspaper was something completely personal and it should've been kept that way.

We have privacy for a reason

To the editor:

"I can't get enough of it." These words caught the attention of any student that read the Kernel on March 4. While many joked of wishing to be this nympho's boyfriend, the majority found it disgusting. Personally, I questioned the integrity of the newspaper for printing such garbage.

Our sexuality should be something private, kept between the one we share it with. While sex is something that can be seen in our advertisements, our movies and our magazines, we as the public should understand that when we see it in such public places we should understand that this is not the private life of someone living around us. Unfortunately, what we witnessed in our newspaper was something completely personal and it should've been kept that way.

Carter M. Adler
Kernel columnist
mca1@pop.uky.edu

TALKback!

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

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

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

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

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

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

NBA made Sprewell it's whipping post for the media

In case you don't know, Latrell Sprewell is the All-Star shooting guard for the Golden State Warriors who was basically fired for choking his coach during a practice session.

The NBA responded swiftly by voiding the remaining \$27 million of Sprewell's contract and suspending him from the league for one year.

Their logic all along was, "if you attack your boss, you should be fired."

OK, whatever you say. However, being the curious person that I am, I noticed one fundamental problem with the NBA's logic: Can you really say that P.J. Carlsimo (the coach) was really Sprewell's boss?

OK, in the traditional sense, perhaps. From our limited, low-income perspective, we might be tempted to analogize Sprewell's attacking his coach to a secre-

tary jumping across his/her desk and choking her boss in a fit of rage.

The problem with this reasoning is that it does not at all describe the situation that exists in the NBA. First of all, while the secretary is probably paid much less than her superior, Sprewell's pay more than doubles his boss'. If pay is a measure of one's value to an organization, then Sprewell is surely more valuable.

To say that Carlsimo was Sprewell's "boss" is like saying that Spike Lee was Denzel Washington's boss during the making of *Mo' Better Blues*.

Considering Sprewell is a 27-year-old millionaire, it was probably difficult to have someone screaming at him like a child. Given the reputation Carlsimo had established for verbal abuse, it is obvious complaints about him

had been ignored.

Instead of seeing the Sprewell/Carlsimo issue in a boss-employee context, we should simply see them as teammates. One teammate is in charge of designing team strategy, the other is in charge of executing it.

If that is the way you see the situation, then you can only interpret their altercation as being one in which two teammates got into a fight.

In the NBA, where physical interaction is pretty normal, fighting is really not a big deal. If the players are suspended, it is usually for a short time and even the highest fines are not nearly as high as Sprewell's.

So, the arbitrator was correct in reducing Sprewell's penalty to the \$6.4 million he's already lost, and reducing his suspension by five months.

In this situation, like many others, it is difficult to ignore the racial aspect of this power struggle. It is sad that America's racism must always make itself seen whenever African-Americans are involved in a controversial issue.

I saw it in the media's portrayals of Sprewell, which always seemed to show his most violent-looking picture on the front page, or his most renegade, kamikaze, out-of-control slam dunks, followed by his grimace as he jugged back during the court.

One analyst on the show "The Sports Reporters" even compared Sprewell's act to the O.J. Simpson case! Hearing this man compare Sprewell's incident to a violent murder made me so mad I turned my TV off immediately.

It is obvious that people are fuming over the fact that this young, black player was allowed to stand up to his superior (in a non-socially acceptable manner) without being killed or imprisoned.

It probably doesn't help that their screams for justice are being ignored by the droves of NBA teams that have lined up for the opportunity to acquire Sprewell and pay him even more money than he already makes.

They know his coach was an asshole, so they would be happy to have him.

At the same time, the Warriors have stunk up the NBA while maintaining loyalty to a coach that obviously doesn't know how to win.

My oh my, how times have changed in the land of the free, the home of the paid! It's about time we get used to it.

Kernel Columnist Boyce Watkins is a mathematics graduate student.



Boyce Watkins
Kernel Columnist

51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

Reeling 'em in

Life of a ska band not as glamorous as it appears

By O. Jason Stapleton
Entertainment Editor

One of the toughest parts of being a musician is living out on the road for most of the year.

Driving for hours on end to get to the next gig, living out of a suitcase and eating grease-laden fast food can really tax the body and spirit.

Those are just a few of the things the members of Reel Big Fish have learned to deal with since they made it big with their latest release, *Turn The Radio Off*.

"We're all sick right now, so no one's really that enthusiastic (about performing) right now," said Reel Big Fish trombonist, Grant Barry. "We've got small colds. It just doesn't help."

Being in close quarters with everyone doesn't help hygiene matter any.

"There's seven of us and right now the seventh person is trying not to get it," Barry said.

Add an unhealthy diet on top of that and it spells disaster for the average human immune system.

"All you eat is bad food," he

said. "It's just whatever the venue gives you or whatever happens to be close to what you are parked close to."

While the songs "Sell Out" and "She's Got A Girlfriend Now" are getting a substantial amount of radio play, Reel Big Fish is practically oblivious to the fact.

"We don't listen to the radio, because nothing works on our bus," Barry said. "I really don't know, but I do know by the number of kids that show up to the show that we're doing well."

"That is extremely ironic since the name of the album is *Turn the Radio Off*."

While the band achieves commercial success, they don't feel they are the type of sell-outs they sing about.

"We're just doing this for fun and to see how far we can take it," Barry said. "We're not sell-outs, we're just goofy guys who want to be entertainers."

The band came together when lead singer Aaron Barrett decided he wanted to be a big-time rock 'n' roll star.

"He's pretty much the one



SELL OUTS Reel Big Fish will be playing tonight at Bogarts in Cincinnati along with Mr. T Experience.

who's taken the most initiative," Barry said. "Before we had a record label or anything, it was all him."

Prior to Barrett's initiative all the respective members were "working in fast food and into other teenage things," Barry said. Reel Big Fish is currently tour-

ing with Mr. T Experience and will be playing tonight at Bogart's. The show should be a typical pop/ska concert.

"There will be a lot of 16-year-old girls, people jumping up and down and just normal teenage havoc," Barry said.

Snider hits town yet again

By Kevin Hall
Staff Writer

What has drawn Todd Snider back to Lexington for his second concert in less than five months? The horse farms? Wildcat basketball during March Madness? Sex? Drugs? Rock 'n' Roll? Try a framed piece of paper.

"I'm a Kentucky Colonel and he certificate says I get all the privileges that come along with it," Snider said.

What if that just meant free beer from Lynagh's bar?

"That would be plenty," he said. "I'll take whatever I can get."

Snider and his band, the Nervous Wrecks, will be back at Lynagh's tonight at 10. Fans expecting a high-energy show like the one in October will not be disappointed.

"It was fun in Lexington," Snider said. "That was our first show there and it went well."

When Snider plugs in his amps on this stop, he'll be doing so in

promotion of his upcoming album, *Visa Satellite*.

Originally due out in January, *Visa* was delayed until April 7 because of unfinished album art, according to Snider's record label.

Of course, that isn't the story according to Snider.

"I did a show in Los Angeles and said what I thought about L.A. and the next day my record got out," he said.

Snider said the officials were concerned about his mental health and decided to hold the record until April. "I guess they feel four months is long enough for someone to get their mental health back."

Apparently healthy enough to tour, but not yet well enough to release an album, Snider has hit the road to drum up support for *Visa Satellite*.

Snider describes the new songs as having a "Memphis-like" feel to them. "We had really gotten our live show together about a year before going into the studio to

make the record," he said.

"While we were recording and being a band, I was studying the sound of Memphis, really soaking it up; that influence is taking a big part of this band."

Visa Satellite also delves deeper into Snider's spiritual life, highlighted by one of his personal favorites, "Once He Finds Us."

"It's just a straight out Jesus song," he said. "We were originally going to put it on *Step Right Up*, but some people thought it would turn fans off."

"I was intimidated by all the influence I was getting to not make this declaration of faith at the risk of hurting my career, but now I feel like enough of an adult to go ahead."

Snider also got support from the album's producer, John Hampton. "John is a very spiritual and soulful type of person," said Snider. "When I told him the story of that song and how everyone said it wasn't a good career move, John asked, 'Do you want

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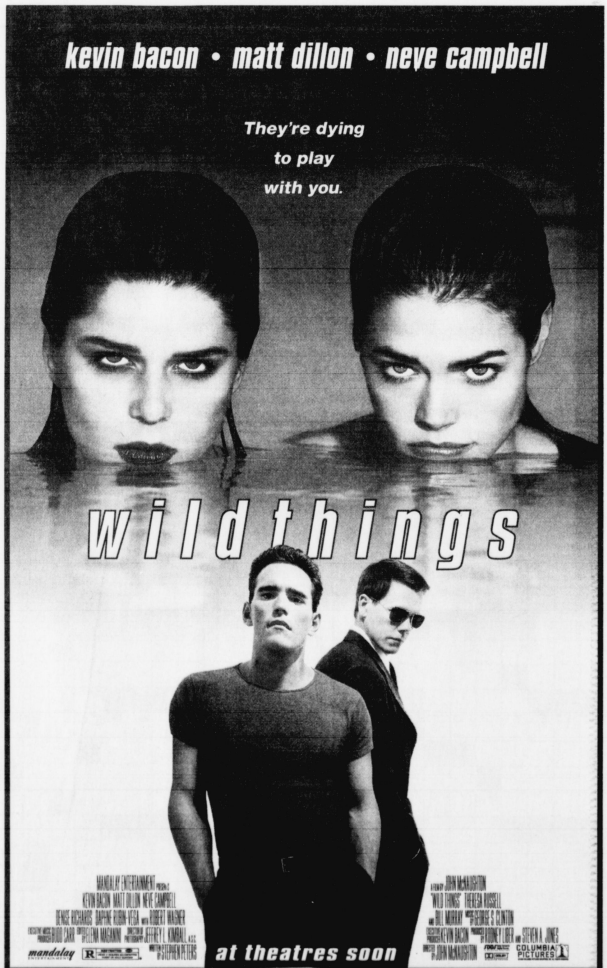
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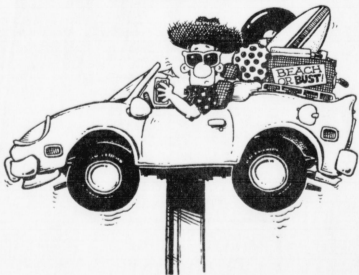
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KENTUCKY Kernel NCAA98 TOURNAMENT

See brackets, page B4

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MATT BARTON Kernel staff

STARING DOWN UK head coach Tubby Smith makes his first NCAA appearance as head coach of the Wildcats on Friday. Last season Smith's Georgia team was upset in the first round.

Momentum on side of UK

Wildcats peaking at right time

By Rob Herbst
Sports Editor

Arkansas head coach Nolan Richardson and South Carolina head coach Eddie Fogler come from different backgrounds. Richardson was born and raised in El Paso, Texas, while Fogler is a city-slicker from New York. Richardson wears outlandish-colored suits. Nothing but clothes from the J.C. Penney racks for Fogler.

But this weekend they cried common tears. Richardson lost to the Wildcats by 25 in the Southeastern Conference Tournament and Fogler lost by 30.

Those losses had both coaches singing high praise at the right time for the Wildcats — time for the NCAA Tournament.

"They're really outstanding. I think they have a chance to do extremely well in the tournament. They'll be awfully tough to beat in tournament," Fogler said after the Cats creamed Fogler's Gamecocks 86-56.

"They can play with anyone in the country. I'm very impressed."

Before South Carolina felt UK's wrath, the Razorbacks fell victim to the Cats, 99-74. Like Fogler, Richardson was also impressed.

"That was the greatest exhibition of basketball I've ever seen in the Southeastern Conference," Richardson said. "I'm very impressed with this Kentucky team."

Now the question is simple. Can the Wildcats keep up their impressive play and make a run for the NCAA Tournament title?

The No. 2 seeded Cats begin their run on Friday afternoon at 12:15 p.m. when

they play No. 15 seed South Carolina State in Atlanta.

Southeastern Conference titles are great for the Cats but there are higher goals UK looks to strive for.

"When you come to Kentucky, the SEC Tournament is a goal but it's not the ultimate goal. That's expected of us and that why we didn't cut the nets down," center Nazr Mohammed said. "We want to get to San Antonio and then we'll think about cutting nets down. That's what we're aiming for."

There was a time in January when a run for the NCAA title was a question mark. A home loss to Florida had people questioning when the Wildcats would get knocked out of the tourney.

Now the question isn't when UK will get knocked out but rather how far the Wildcats can advance.

"Going back to the preseason nobody really gave us a shot to win the regular season title much less the tournament title then everybody was

down on us after losing a few games and people were wondering how good this team was," senior Cameron Mills said.

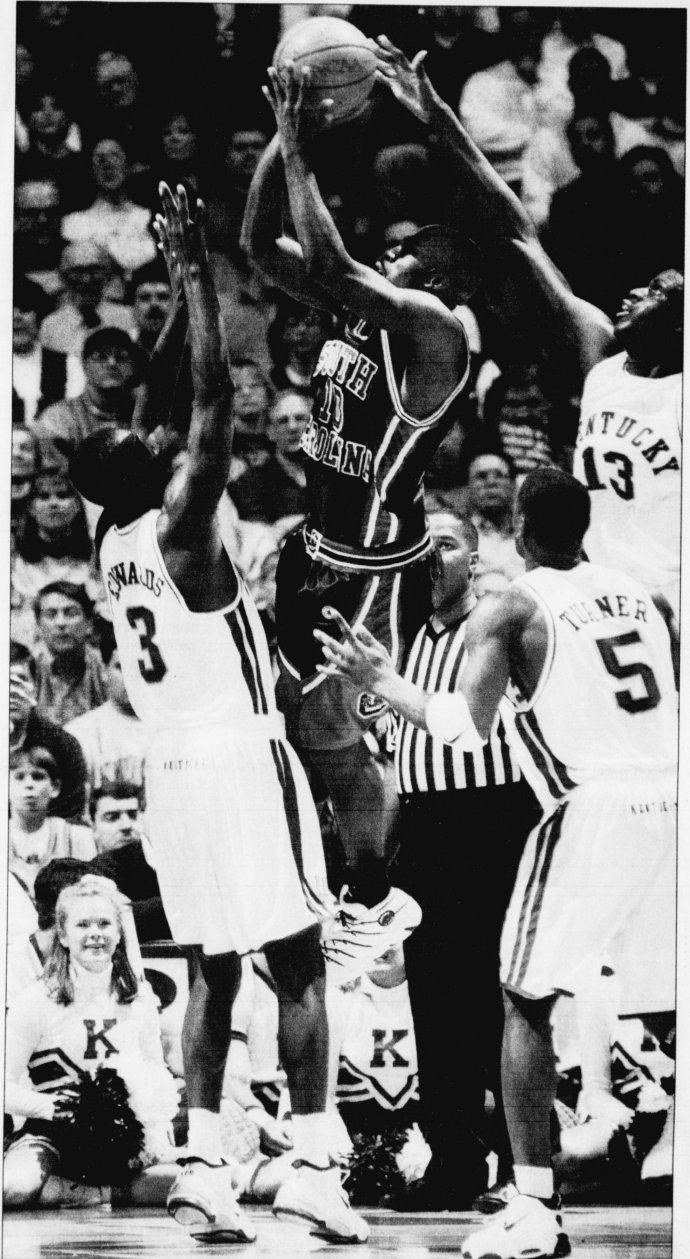
"We didn't listen to it and kept playing hard and now we're going for the NCAA Championship."

Success in the tournament is nothing new for the Cats. In the past two years UK has made the NCAA final both times — one win and one loss.

But this UK squad is a new regime. New coaches, new players, new season.

That doesn't matter, Mohammed said. The basic components are for a title run are there.

"It's Kentucky-type ball come tournament time," Mohammed said. "Everyone plays and everyone contributes. We all get pumped come this time."



JAMES CRISP Kernel staff

TRIPLE TEAMED South Carolina point guard Melvin Watson gets defended by three Wildcats. The Wildcats come into the NCAA Tournament on a roll after winning the Southeastern Conference Tournament in impressive fashion.

Tourney form

'Total team effort' catapults Big Blue

By Jay G. Tate
Sports Editor

ATLANTA — UK's 99-74 win over Arkansas in the Southeastern Conference Tournament semifinals was dubbed by head coach Tubby Smith as "a total team effort."

And though little skepticism surrounded that succinct analysis, the game was much more than that.

It was a glimpse into the 1997-98 Cats nearing comple-

tion. Nearing that point where a coach says he's still not happy, but he is. Nearing an area where few teams can encroach.

A good place to be just prior to the NCAA Tournament.

UK's game against Arkansas was a total team effort to the 10th power. It was a lesson in how to maintain even flow after blitzing an opponent so quickly, so completely that a 22-7 lead in less than six minutes prompted a second, a third and perhaps even a fourth glance at the Georgia Dome's massive mid-court scoreboard.

Are the Cats really shooting 8-of-9?

Yes they were. After forward Scott Padgett missed the first shot of the game, center Nazr Mohammed gobbled the rebound and put it back in.

2-0. Then Heshimu Evans hit a three-pointer in transition.

4-0. Then Evans dunked in transition after an Arkansas score.

6-3. Then Jeff Sheppard hit a

See TOP FORM on B2

Some tiny schools take giant steps into tourney

By Jay G. Tate
Sports Editor

It all starts in a small gym resembling that room where you did jumping jacks in P.E., circa sixth grade.

Cinder block walls. Off-white paint. A piano.

A stage to one side flanked by a curtain dirtied after years of undying service.

That's Long Island University's Schwartz Athletic Center, capacity approaching an ele-

mentary school assembly, where Fairleigh-Dickinson won the Northeastern Conference Tournament Championship last Monday.

Not an easy feat. LIU was one of the nation's highest scoring teams this season, racking up nearly 100 points per game. Moreover, the Blackbirds were riding a 23-game home winning streak going into the tournament.

But FDU eventually prevailed when it counted, 105-91.

"It's such a great thing, especially for us seniors," said FDU

point guard Rahshon Turner, who finished with 37 points. "Right now this is like a dream."

And for many small schools, just making the NCAA Tournament is the dream.

Today is another great day for Prairie View A&M, which pulled off a huge upset in the Southwestern Athletic Conference Tournament to earn a No. 16 seed in The Big One.

Prairie View revived from a 20-point deficit to edge Texas Southern, 59-57.

See UNDERDOGS on 2

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Top form

Cats slaughter Hogs in SEC Tournament

From PAGE B1

three-pointer.

9-5.
A Mohammed dunk.
11-5.
And so on.
This is Arkansas?

"That was the greatest exhibition of playing basketball I have ever seen in the Southeastern Conference," said Hogs' head coach Nolan Richardson. "They played every phase of the game well."

Some might dismiss UK's first half, which ended with a 58-33 UK margin, as an extended run — a team that got hot and stayed hot. But it was much more than that.

The Cats — near the bottom of the SEC in free-throw shooting — had managed to connect on all seven of their attempts. Jamaal Magloire, one of the team's poorest free-throw shooters, had earned five trips to the line — and hit all five.

Was he surprised?
"No — it was nothing but good as soon as I got out there," he said. It was nothing but good for other Cats as well. Wayne Turner, who would eventually earn accolades as the tourney's Most Valuable Player, scored no points in the first half against Arkansas.

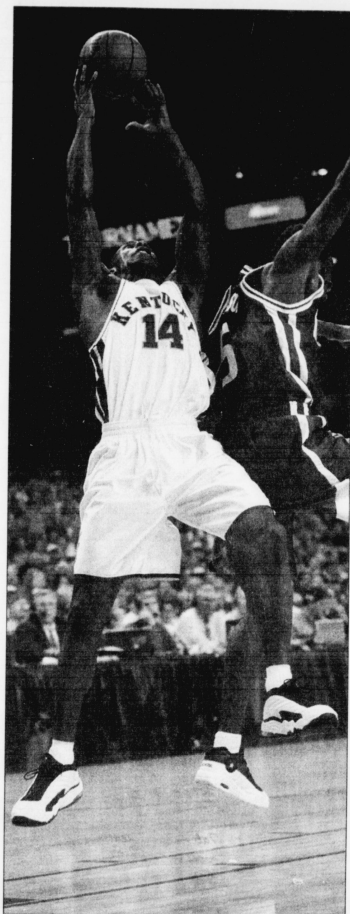
But it was all good. He hadn't scored because he hadn't taken a shot. Instead, he notched six assists. He was leading his team. And he was doing the things he thought he needed to do.

"I was coming into this tournament thinking that I had to make some smarter decisions and to try to get some assists," Turner said.

The Arkansas game wasn't a fluke. UK blitzed South Carolina by 30 points the next day to earn its umpteenth SEC Tournament title.

But that win was still a day away when Mills sat back in his locker room chair and pondered his team's accomplishment against the Razorbacks.

"We played so aggressively," Mills said afterward. "If we can play like that and hold on for seven more games, we'll be fine."
He smiled.



MATT BARTON Kernel staff

I'VE GOT YOUR BACK UK forward Heshimu Evans and the Cats hope to grab this year's NCAA Tournament title.

SEC sends five for the big prize

By Rob Herbst
Sports Editor

The NCAA Tournament selection committee pulled no surprises on Southeastern Conference teams. Those who were expected to get in — UK, South Carolina, Ole Miss, Arkansas and Tennessee earned invitations.

And those that faltered toward the end (namely Vanderbilt) will play in the NIT Tournament.

But while the selection committee didn't surprise anyone, an SEC team or two may shock some with upset wins.

UK No. 2, South — The Cats clearly proved they were the class of the SEC as they blitzed through last week's SEC Tournament. UK creamed Arkansas by 25 points and put down a 30-point thumping against South Carolina in the tournament final.

UK's road to the Sweet Sixteen seems relatively simple with South Carolina State and either UMass or St. Louis.

But then it gets difficult with most likely Michigan and Duke lying in wait for the Cats.

South Carolina No. 3, East — The Gamecocks a favorable three seed after getting drubbed by the Wildcats. But head coach Eddie Fogler doesn't really care about seeds.

"Seeding doesn't matter. We proved that last year," Fogler said. USC entered last year's tournament as a two seed but made a first-round exit thanks to Coppin State.

This year South Carolina will take on Richmond in the first round and most likely have to face a hot Xavier team in round two. Connecticut and North Carolina loom ahead if the Gamecocks can make a miracle run.

Ole Miss No. 4, Midwest — After making only its second ever NCAA Tournament appearance last year Ole Miss was star-struck and promptly lost to Temple.

Now this Rebels team isn't "just happy to be there."

"We are not going in overexcited, overwhelmed and in awe. We are going in to win basketball games in this tournament," head coach Rob Evans said.

Ole Miss takes on Valparaiso in the first round and should have no problems. If the Rebels can get past Texas Christian or Florida State in round two, the Rebels will most likely get a chance to face Kansas.

With SEC Player of the Year Ansu Sesay, an Ole Miss win over Kansas is possible although he struggled in the SEC Tournament.

Arkansas No. 6, West — The Razorbacks would have been seeded higher but three losses in their final four games didn't impress the selection committee.

But despite its recent struggles head coach Nolan Richardson is pleased with how the season has gone.

"In 34 years this is the most overachieving basketball team I've ever coached," he said.

"I'm real proud of them because we did it with mirrors. These kids proved me wrong."

Arkansas could make a run thanks to a favorable bracket. Mediocre Nebraska takes on Razorbacks in the first round and Utah, not a scary three seed, looms in round two.

Tennessee No. 8, West — This year's Vols' squad resembles this year's Ole Miss team.

"We're just happy to be there," said UT head coach Jerry Green.

It doesn't sound like the attitude of a team expected to advance far in the tournament. But even a winning attitude might not take the Vols far. A tough Illinois State team meets the Volunteers in the first round and Arizona would face Tennessee in round two.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.



Underdogs

Schools experience magic in Big Dance

From PAGE B1

"I think going to the tournament is a once-in-a-lifetime for a lot of students," Coach Elwood Plummer said.

And it is truly once-in-a-lifetime.

Prairie View wobbled to a 10-16 regular season record and things looked bleak. At-large bids are old wives tales in the SWAC, even if the Panthers had gone 26-0.

They didn't.

Today is another great day for UNLV, which upset three consecutive opponents who had defeated the Runnin' Rebels earlier in the season to win the Western Athletic Conference Tournament.

Eight years ago, they were national champions. Seven years ago, UNLV was 10 points shy of Duke in the national semifinals.

Three years later, they were 10 points shy of everyone.

The Rebs aren't from a small

school. UNLV isn't a nowhere, nobody school no one has ever heard of. But the program fell far in a short amount of time.

And they've climbed, step-by-step, back just high enough to see the places they used to rule.

Today is another great day for the College of Charleston, who won its second-straight Trans-American Athletic Conference Tournament last week.

The memories of last season's upset NCAA tourney win over Maryland are alive and well. The Cougars won the conference regular season with new players. They won the conference tournament with new players.

They're going to the NAAs with new players.

"I am as proud as a peacock," Charleston head coach John Kresse said after his team's 73-62 win over Florida International.

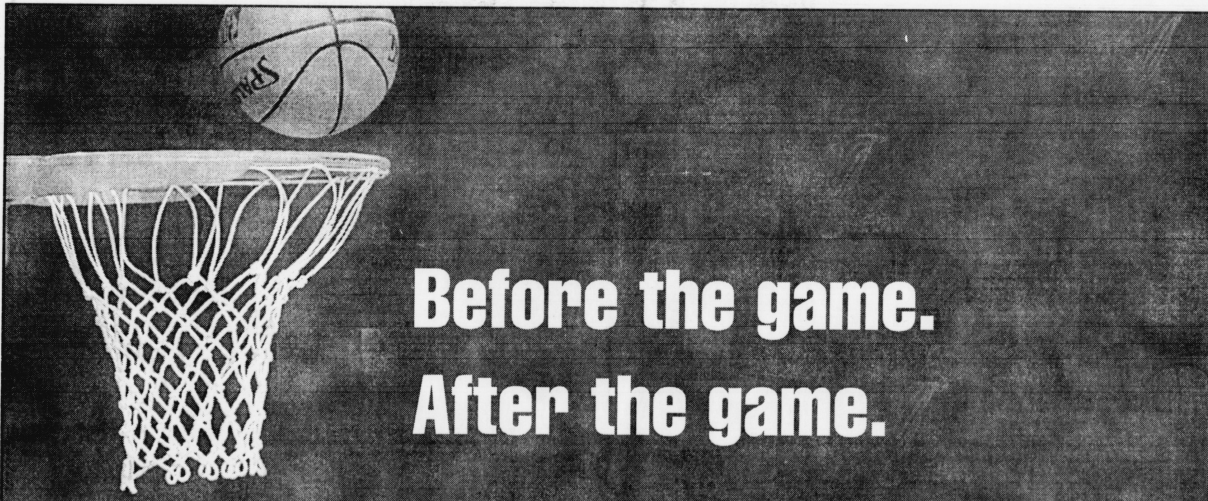
That's the beauty of March Madness.

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The Associated Press contributed to this story.



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Selection time

Tourney decisions not an exact science

By Brett Dawson
Senior Staff Writer

Wake Forest? Iowa? Ball State? Pop, Pop, And pop. Bubbles burst all over the country last Sunday when the NCAA Tournament's field of 64 flashed across television screens everywhere. And on campuses from Vanderbilt to Fresno State, basketball fans hung collective "F" signs.

So what's the deal? What goes into determining that, say, Western Michigan is worthy of a date at the Big Dance and, say, Georgia Tech isn't? Plenty, as C.M. Newton, UK's athletic director and the head of the selection committee, will tell you.

So here's the deal: The committee examines a team's in-conference record. You can bet fans of Wake Forest and Georgia Tech, both from the Atlantic Coast Conference, were muttering being sent to the NIT, particularly in the face of Florida State, a team that spluttered down the stretch in their league.

But FSU — the first team ever included in the field of 64 with 10 conference losses — had quality wins over Arizona and Connecticut early in the season. Still, the Seminoles' losing conference record will stomp out at the payers.

"That's never been a consideration," Newton said of conference records. "We look at overall records — we really haven't paid attention to the records necessarily in the league as either helping or hurting a team."

Fact Compensator matter. The committee makes no secret of its regular use of the ratings percentage index (RPI), conducted by the NCAA staff. It not only helps measure a team's overall strength, but the strength of its non-conference schedule, one of the single most important factors considered.

how a team does against the top 50 teams in the country, particularly the top 25? Newton said via teleconference last week, "and to see whether or not their schedule is padded at the other end of that, with teams that are below 150 in the RPI."

Hence the exclusion of Iowa, a Big 10 team whose pre-conference schedule included the lowly likes of Northern Iowa and a rebuilding Iowa State.

"Iowa is one of the teams so difficult to consider," Newton said. "For whatever reason, Iowa's non-conference schedule just didn't measure up."

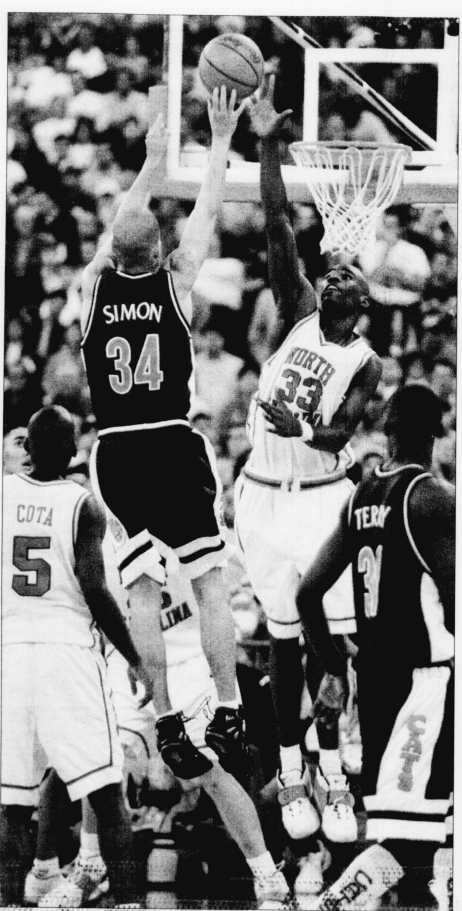
Fiction: Twenty wins means you're in. Forget about it. Just ask Alabama-Birmingham (20-11), Ball State (21-7), Dayton (20-11) or Gonzaga (23-9), just a few of many 20-win teams that failed to get an invite.

"Twenty wins as the history of this tournament has shown, is not the magic number," Newton said. "Other than those 30 automatic qualifiers, in essence we become an invitational tournament. When that happens all the teams that go in the good are compared against each other, and won-lost is only one factor."

Fact: The committee will forget who you were and where you came from. These guys aren't history majors. Newton stressed that wins last season won't get you anywhere this time around. Nor will a conference's recent showing in the tourney help any of its member institutions this spring.

Therefore, it didn't do Vanderbilt a bit of good that the Southeastern Conference has won two national championships in the '90s and has sent at least one team to the Final Four every year since 1991.

"What happened last year is really of no consequence," Newton said. "This Kentucky team, for example, has a totally different personnel than last year's team. Therefore, it would be foolhardy of the committee to consider what Kentucky did being a national runner-up last year."



SHOOTIN' THE MONEY BALL 1997: Final Four MVP Miles Simon (above) led Arizona to a 66-58 win over North Carolina in last year's National Semifinal. The Wildcats and North Carolina seem headed for a Final Four rematch in San Antonio.

The 1998 NCAA Tournament Field

TEAM	RECORD	CONFERENCE	COMMENTS
1 North Carolina Tar Heels	30-3	Atlantic Coast	The Tar Heels are the cream of the NCAA Tournament crop. No question. Champions of the non-deserted Big East. Does that make them good all of the sudden?
2 Connecticut Huskies	29-4	Big East	Big losses to UK and slinging monkey of first-round NCAA loss last year is fuel.
3 South Carolina Gamecocks	23-7	Southeastern	Big losses to UK and slinging monkey of first-round NCAA loss last year is fuel.
4 Michigan State Spartans	20-7	Big Ten	Maize and Blue is a bubble but rest of the team are role players at best.
5 Princeton Tigers	26-1	Ivy League	Nasty defense already gave UNC trouble early in the season. Best 'Tiger squad in years.
6 Xavier (Ohio) Musketeers	22-7	Atlantic 10	Slugged through the conference season. Some are still believers. Don't be.
7 Indiana Hoosiers	19-11	Big Ten	Oklahoma's run-in gun to boot for Hoosiers' slow offensive and defensive plans.
8 UNC-Charlotte Panthers	19-10	Conference USA	Sean Colson and DeMarco Johnson are strong, but C-USA pedigree wanes.
9 Illinois Chicago Flames	22-5	Midwestern Coll.	The conference gets three teams? 'Til Give thanks to the RPI, which ranks UNC 17th. Quick team led by Big 12's best Corey Brewer, who is one of the nation's best scorers.
10 Oklahoma Sooners	22-10	Big 12	Quick team led by Big 12's best Corey Brewer, who is one of the nation's best scorers.
11 Washington Huskies	18-9	Pac-10	Tom McCulloch must have career day against Xavier's top post together.
12 UNLV Runnin' Rebels	20-12	Western Athletic	Showed a lot of heart winning the WAC Championship with '76. Kapono Kumbula rose.
13 Eastern Michigan Eagles	20-9	Mid-American	57-point guard Earl Boykins is tough, but may meet his match in MSU's Creves.
14 Richmond Spiders	22-7	Colonial Athletic	Used to be the upset kings years ago. USC is a prime suspect for an upset.
15 Fairleigh-Dickinson Knights	23-6	Northeast	Up tempo to the Nth degree, but scoring titles in the Northeast Conference mean little.
16 Navy Midshipmen	19-10	PacWest	Get Navy guys to hijack the North Carolina team plane and send it to Norway.
1 Arizona Wildcats	27-4	Pac-10	Miles Simon and Mike Bibby's last ride. They'll win five games, but then hit 'erase.
2 Cincinnati Bearcats	28-5	Conference USA	Adds from a slippy 25-point loss to Xavier, the Bearcats have been done every game.
3 Utah Runnin' Utes	25-3	Western Athletic	Still the same. Tough on paper. Soft on wood.
4 Maryland Terrapins	19-10	Atlantic Coast	Highest RPI schedule rating in the country right now. Obama Ekaxe — name says it all.
5 Illinois Fighting Illini	22-9	Big Ten	They win three losses in party laden Big Ten could mean big time results.
6 Arkansas Razorbacks	23-8	Southeastern	Only one loss, but unless someone aside from Bradley scores, it's a short ride here.
7 Temple Owls	21-8	Atlantic 10	Defense wins championships, right? Not with Temple, which often fails to score 50.
8 Illinois State Redbirds	20-8	Southeastern	Giach Green? Tennessee hasn't won an NCAA Tourney game since the rocks cooled.
9 Illinois State Redbirds	20-8	Southeastern	Giach Green? Tennessee hasn't won an NCAA Tourney game since the rocks cooled.
10 West Virginia Mountaineers	22-8	Big East	WV 13 in the last 14 games, but were over the likes of Northern Iowa and Creighton.
11 Southern Illinois Salukis	22-9	Midwestern Coll.	Best seats. Not of last. Going to have the greatest Temple's matchup game.
12 South Alabama Jaguars	21-8	South Belt	Jags are all about defense, allowing an NCAA-second best 54 ppg. Illinois is nervous.
13 Utah State Aggies	21-7	Big West	Aggies are last in Big West in assists. They play with Utah State talent.
14 San Francisco Dons	19-10	West Coast	Placed third in their conference but with the tourney. Average across the board.
15 Northern Arizona Lumberjacks	21-7	Big Sky	Put on an impressive show against national power Montana St. in Big Sky Tourney.
16 Nicholls State Colonies	19-9	Southland	Not worked.
1 Kansas Jayhawks	34-3	Big 12	LaFrentz and Pierce are top-notch, but backcourt better not have to score.
2 Purdue Boilermakers	29-7	Big Ten	Superior rebound keeps Purdue alive. Early-round exits are a tradition, though.
3 Stanford Cardinal	26-4	Pac-10	Decont team played a decent season in the decent Pac-10. Decent chance to win two.
4 Mississippi Rebels	22-6	Southeastern	The loquacious Rob Evans knows his team needs a big game from Sean away from.
5 Texas Christian Horned Frogs	27-5	Western Athletic	They score a lot (101.3 ppg) but they were last in the WAC in defense. That's a bad thing.
6 Clemson Tigers	18-13	Atlantic Coast	A total mystery as to how on earth they are a 1st rounder. And why they are a No. 5 seed.
7 St. John's Red Storm	22-9	Big East	Former phenom Felipe Lopez finally gets a big audience to watch his wizardry.
8 Rhode Island Rams	22-8	Atlantic 10	Finished with the No. 25 ranking all year. Hancock found a way back into the tourney.
9 Murray State Racers	25-3	Midwestern Coll.	They had Duke on the ropes last year and this will be the year they finally win one.
10 Detroit Titans	24-5	Midwestern Coll.	Michael Jordan is the reason, though he's leaving his team needs a big game from Sean away from.
11 Western Michigan Broncos	20-7	Mid-American	A good offensive team that's shooting better than 40 percent from three-point range.
12 Florida State Seminoles	17-13	Atlantic Coast	Ten ACC losses make FSU another mystery team. UK recruited Randall Johnson.
13 Valparaiso Crusaders	21-9	Mid-Central	Valpo gets great play from point guard Bryce Drew. His dad, Homer, is the coach.
14 College of Charleston Cougars	24-5	Trans-America	The Lexus of small school powerhouse. Coach John Kresse is one of the good guys.
15 Delaware Blue Hens	20-9	America East	A great mascot. Never seen a blue hen. Could best Purdue 1-of-100 times.
16 Prairie View A&M Panthers	13-16	SW Athletic	Their football team hasn't won a game in years.
1 Duke Blue Devils	21-10	Atlantic Coast	Great at every position, though Brand and Burgess are nonetheless freshmen.
2 Kentucky Wildcats	29-4	Southeastern	Playing perhaps the best ball of anyone in the NCAA right now. Is Steph ready?
3 Michigan Wolverines	24-9	Big Ten	Ended in the badbox by being the inaugural Big Ten Tourney. Finished 4th in Big Ten.
4 New Mexico Lobos	23-7	Western Athletic	Biggy 10 guard Raquan Chevy severely limits how far his team can go.
5 Syracuse Orangemen	24-8	Big East	Not worked.
6 UCLA Bruins	22-8	Pac-10	36-point loss to Duke lamed heads and made 'tourney cheer' a pertinent phrase.
7 UMass Minutemen	21-10	Atlantic 10	Lan Ketter is pretty good. Team is pretty good. SLU's Larry Hughes even better.
8 Oklahoma State Cowboys	21-8	Big 12	When Eddie Sutton brings his team back to Tulsa, applause will be at a premium.
9 George Washington Colonials	24-8	Atlantic 10	From all accounts, Mr. Washington is an honest man. Honestly, GW can't win.
10 George Washington Colonials	24-8	Atlantic 10	From all accounts, Mr. Washington is an honest man. Honestly, GW can't win.
11 Miami (Fla.) Hurricanes	19-9	Big East	Another NBA-style team. Williams gives Hughes the ball and prepares to rebound.
12 Iowa State Cyclones	21-10	Conference USA	Canoe mis Constantino Pope, who was impersonated by Georgia's Marwan, but I'm.
13 Butler Bulldogs	22-10	Midwestern Coll.	What is a Giant? It's a Giant speaking in gibberish. Speaking of gibberish.
14 Davidson Wildcats	20-9	Southern	One of three MCC really to get a shot. But USC RPI is their better. He's really a 1.
15 South Carolina State Bulldogs	22-7	Mid-Eastern Athl.	Davidson has only one player — guard Mark Donnelly — scoring in double figures.
16 Radford Highlanders	20-9	Big South	Point guard 'Moo Moo' Blaney, a possible NBA-level talent. That movie starring Sean Connery was pretty good, wasn't it?

1998 NCAA individual leaders

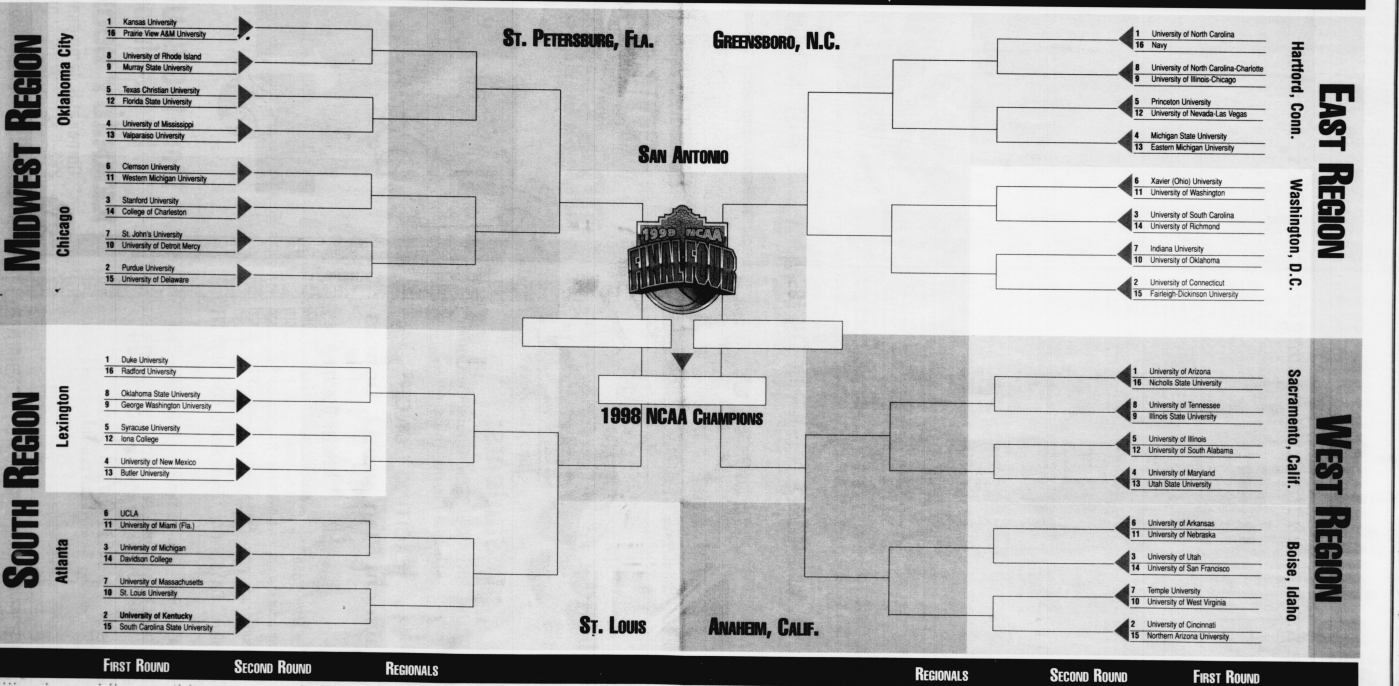
Scoring*	Assists*	Field Goal Percentage
1 Earl Brown (Mich.) 26.0	1 Ed Cox (UNC) 7.8	1 Dejon Wiley (Michigan) 51.6
2 Mike Miller (Ill.) 24.7	2 Mervyn Green (Michigan) 31.7	2 Todd McClurg (Ill.) 50.6
3 Robert Johnson (UNC) 22.9	3 Sean Colson (UNC-Char.) 7.6	3 Arnona Turner (San. Wash.) 50.2
4 Brian Moore (Miami State) 21.7	4 Greg Stubbins (Ohio) 51.8	4 Brad Miller (Texas) 48.4
5 Scott Winger (Ill. Mich.) 21.7	5 Zoran Vukovic (Vanderbilt) 44.4	

1998 NCAA team leaders

Scoring*	Assists*	Field Goal Percentage
1 Duke 30.6	1 North Carolina 23.7	1 North Carolina 51.4
2 Arizona 28.2	2 Arizona 19.4	2 Northern Arizona 51.4
3 Miami State 28.1	3 Miami State 20.2	3 North Carolina 51.4
4 Duke 28.2	4 Kansas 19.0	4 Princeton 50.0
5 Florida 26.8	5 Princeton 18.7	5 UCLA 49.8

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First Round Second Round Regionals Second Round First Round

Big bullies

The four favorites will be tough

By Matthew May
Assistant Sports Editor

There is a reason this time a year is called March Madness.

Just ask defending National Champion Arizona.

Last year, the No. 4-seeded Wildcats stormed the NCAA's annual bash by running and gunning their way through six straight games, including upsets of No. 1-seed Kansas, No. 1-seed North Carolina and No. 1-seed and 1996 champion Kentucky.

What a difference a year and National Championship make.

This year Arizona finds itself seeded first in the West Region, after spending the entire season ranked in the Top 5.

The Wildcats are one of four "favorites" that have been dubbed as head-and-shoulders above the rest of the field. They started their season off with a flurry of outstanding opponents, including Kentucky, Duke, Kansas and Florida State. When the smoke cleared, the Wildcats had gone 7-3, losing to three those teams (Duke, Kansas and Florida State) while beating only Kentucky. After that rough stretch, The Cats rebounded to run off a 19-game winning streak that ended March 5 with a one-point overtime loss to Southern Cal. Included in Arizona's run were spankings of Stanford (twice), Washington (twice) and UCLA.

By storming back to defeat UCLA last weekend, Arizona solidified their spot as a No. 1 seed.

"We expected that after the win against UCLA we'd definitely be a No. 1 seed," Arizona head coach Lute Olsen said. "That win at UCLA was a great sendoff for us."

The silver-haired Olsen will bring with him a plethora of guards who can dominate a game. All-Americans Mike Bibby and Miles Simon combine with Michael Dickerson and Jason Terry to form the nation's most explosive backcourt. Dickerson averages 18.7 points a game, Simon 17.3, Bibby 17.2 and Terry 11.1. All four have

NCAA studs? This year's No. 1 seeds

	Duke Blue Devils ▼ 29-3 (South) 2 Titles, 9 Final Fours
	Arizona Wildcats ▼ 27-4 (West) 1 Title, 3 Final Fours
	North Carolina Tar Heels ▼ 30-3 (East) 3 Titles, 11 Final Fours
	Kansas Jayhawks ▼ 34-3 (Midwest) 2 Titles, 9 Final Fours

outstanding three-point range and shoot over 76 percent from the free throw line, giving them all the ingredients for a repeat.

This year's sentimental favorite is head coach Roy Williams' Kansas squad, which has been snake-bitten in recent years.

The Jayhawks, led by All-Americans Raef LaFrentz and Paul Pierce, are seeded No. 1 in the Midwest after posting a 34-3 record. KU has also fared well against a difficult schedule, beating Arizona, Florida State, Massachusetts, Texas Christian and Oklahoma State. Two of KU's losses (Hawaii and Missouri) came while they were without the services of LaFrentz, the other came at the hands of Maryland.

KU may be in trouble as they limp into the tournament after a rash of injuries. Both LaFrentz and guard Billy Thomas are hobbling, prompting Williams to say KU has to be prepared to play without either player.

"If we don't have them at full speed, or at all, we still have to play," Williams said. "We've got to get something done for everybody else

in case they can't go."

The other two No. 1 seeds, ACC rivals Duke and North Carolina, played three outstanding games this season, two of which went to the Heels. Both faced a difficult ACC schedule, as well as tough non-conference games, but both have question marks as the games begin.

UNC is led by All-American Antawn Jamison, who is averaging a robust 22.9 points and 9.8 rebounds a game. The junior forward is the key to UNC and routinely allows forward Vince Carter and guard Shammond Williams to get open for big scoring nights.

Freshman center Brendan Haywood said Jamison is Carolina basketball.

"He's our heart and soul. He's our leader," Haywood said. "Our offense is pretty much designed to go through him all the time."

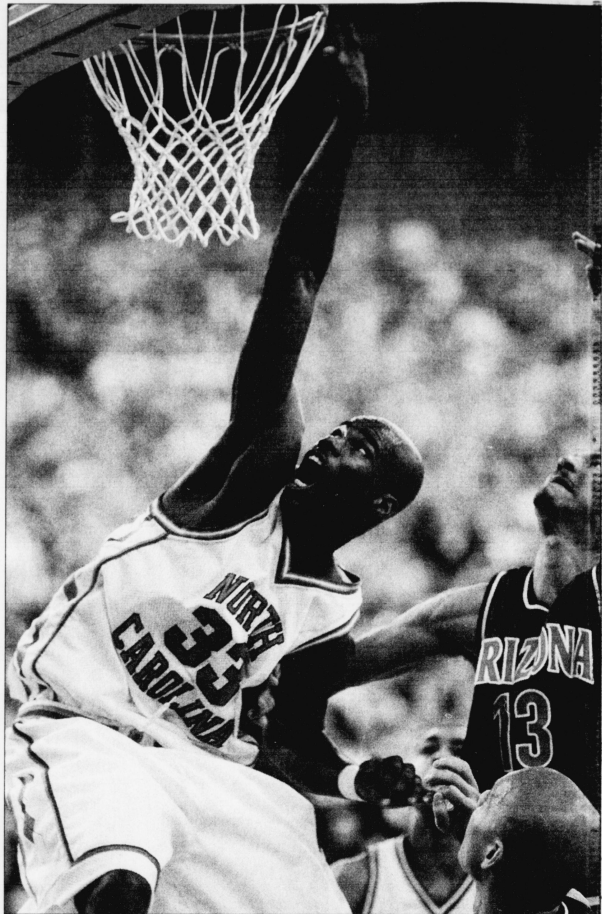
UNC will need Jamison to continue to put up big numbers because of its lack of depth (they use a six-man rotation). If they can stay out of foul trouble, they could run through the tourney like they have their opponents this far, which included UCLA, Purdue and Princeton.

The last team is Duke, the South's No. 1 seed. The Blue Devils have blistered opponents this year by an average margin of 22.9 points, including Arizona and UCLA. Despite their prolific offense, which comes from the balanced outside attack of guards Trajan Langdon (15.3 points a game), Chris Carrawell (9.4), and Roshown McLeod (14.7), Duke's inexperience and tough draw are areas of concern for head coach Mike Krzyzewski.

"We believe we can go into the tournament with the mindset that we can win the whole thing," he said. "This (playing in Lexington) could be draining and distracting."


If Duke can matchup with low-post teams and not become a one-dimensional team as they have at times, they will be a threat to take home the title.

But always look for a Cinderella, like 1997 Arizona, to add to the Madness.



JAMES CRISP Kernel staff

HANG TIME North Carolina's Antawn Jamison (No. 33) will lead the NCAA Tournament-favorite into action Thursday against No. 16-seed Nancy.



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