

MONDAY KENTUCKY KERNEL

April 21, 2003

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TOUGH LOSS
SENIOR DAY
DISAPPOINTING
FOR SOFTBALL
TEAM | 5

SARS may keep students in U.S.

Warning: Provost warns students, faculty against travel to countries with high numbers of SARS cases

By Andrea Uhde
NEWS EDITOR

Ying Liang had been toying with the idea of visiting her parents in China for the first time in three years. Then SARS, a mysterious respiratory illness, broke out. Now Liang, a physiology doctoral student from Hebei Province, says, "I'm a little bit worried. Maybe I'll go back to China later."

UK officials are warning

students who will return to UK next year to consider not going to Asia or Toronto — areas where there have been the most reports of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome — this summer.

"We have concluded that UK students, faculty and staff should not travel to Asia this summer, especially to China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan and Vietnam," Provost Mike Nietzel wrote in a mass e-mail to UK stu-

dents, faculty and staff. Nietzel consulted with Dr. James Holsinger Jr., vice president and chancellor of the UK Medical Center, before making the decision.

UK has also canceled all trips to China and will not reimburse any UK employee traveling to these countries, Nietzel wrote. The KIIS China program, which offers study abroad opportunities for students, has been canceled.

"Virtually all U.S. schools with scheduled study abroad programs in China this summer have postponed them until the summer of 2004," Niet-

zel wrote. Also, UK is asking people already traveling in the areas to return to the United States.

Since its first appearance in November, SARS has infected more than 3,800 people worldwide, most of whom are in Asia, and has killed at least 205 people.

The illness may make it difficult for students who travel to China to return to school. "We fear that, as the disease spreads, there could be a ban on citizens from some Asian countries return-

See SARS on 3

New contract may keep Smith at UK



SCOTT LASHINSKY | KERNEL STAFF

UK basketball coach Tubby Smith signed a new contract Friday that guarantees him at least \$20 million over the next eight years.

Extension: As Athletics pours money into salaries, some wonder how academic funding can improve

By Derek Poore
STAFF WRITER

Tubby Smith was all smiles on Friday as he signed a contract extension potentially keeping him in the Bluegrass — and out of the NBA — until 2011.

The 8-year, \$20 million deal could make him the highest paid coach in the country, UK administrators pledged support for Smith at the UK Athletic Association meeting Friday. Although the athletic department is self-supporting, some observers are wondering if the high price is the right priority for a cash-strapped university.

John Thein, a higher education and public policy professor, said UK should find ways to obtain the re-

See TUBBY on 3



JOHN WAMPLER | KERNEL STAFF

Hopping downtown

Alexandra Reeves (left), a communication disorders graduate student, and Emily Hearn, a graduate student in the Patterson School of Diplomacy, stand outside the Gallery Soleil during Friday's Gallery Hop and listen to The Murders. The next Gallery Hop is the third Friday in June 20.

Ticket prices increase; new fund created

Money: UK says move will make UK competitive

By Derek Poore
STAFF WRITER

While students can rest assured that their ticket prices haven't gone up, their family members and other Wildcat fans will have to pay more to see UK home football and basketball games.

The Athletic Association Board of Directors approved a recommendation from the Ad Hoc Ticket Committee on Friday that addressed a number of issues involving ticket prices and donor prices for lifetime fans.

With the approval, ticket prices for all seats between the goal lines at home football games will increase from \$22 to \$29. End zone pricing will remain unchanged at \$22. The Louisville game will gain "rivalry ticket status" and cost \$40 per ticket. Ticket prices for UK home basketball games will also go up. Both lower and upper arena seats will increase by \$5 to \$22 and \$27, respectively.

Associate Director of Athletics Greg Byrne explained that unlike most benchmark schools, UK does not have priority seating, which decreases the revenue UK can bring in.

See TICKETS on 3

Election claims will be tried again

By Paul Leighty
STAFF WRITER

The Student Government post-election saga continues as SG's Board of Claims meets tonight for a second time. The board must re-evaluate seven election violation claims because the SG Supreme Court ruled Thursday two of the board members may have been biased.

"I'm not going to say there was an actual bias, but there was an appearance of bias," said Chief Justice Phillip Wheeler Sunday.

The court removed one board member, Michael Walk-

er, and recommended that the board's director, Tony Stoepel, also step down.

Mike McDonner, who represented presidential election runner-up David Hutchinson, argued that statements in the board's unanimous written decision indicated possible bias from Walker and Stoepel, who wrote the decision.

Walker denied any bias. Stoepel said he didn't want to comment until he spoke with Wheeler.

The court also agreed with McDonner that two students, Joe Ibershoff and Emily Rigdon, may not have been given a fair hearing. Their

claim argues a conflict of interest between Eric Mills, election investigator, and president-elect Rachel Watts.

Rigdon said Mills had told her he was not presenting the claim to the board. But Mills forwarded the claim to the board without presenting Rigdon's and Ibershoff's argument, saying he wanted to recuse himself for the possibility of bias.

McDonner also said the board should be replaced with a faculty adviser who would be less biased.

McDonner argued that Mills had not properly selected or presented claims.

Wheeler said the court had not seen enough evidence to agree with the claim.

Braphus Kaalund, who represented Watts at the hearing, said he didn't think McDonner's appeals were valid. "Basically what he's asking for is for you to take the students out of SG," he said.

Kaalund also said it was irrelevant some board members haven't studied law, while McDonner used federal and state court decisions to argue his case. "If all of these laws are to be applied, we would all have to first be admitted to the bar" and become lawyers, he said.

Earth Day events planned for campus

By Chelsea Rhinehart
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Students can celebrate Earth Day this week with free henna tattoos, free food and live music.

Green Thumb Environmental Club and ResLife Recycling are coming together again to co-sponsor Earth Day activities on campus.

"This should be the best Earth Week on campus in years, if not the best Earth Day series ever at UK," said David Hutchison, a Green Thumb member.

Hutchison plans to bring back everything that was successful last year — such as music and tie dying — and include more volunteers, environmental organizations, free food, activities and live local music.

On Tuesday, there will be live music, free food, henna and tie dying activities and information from local environmental groups from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the free speech area near the Student Center.

ResLife Recycling will have an Earth Day Concert at the amphitheater outside

Memorial Hall Thursday from 6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. All proceeds will go to the Wolf Run Wildlife Rescue, located in Nicholasville, and Students to Save Robinson Forest, a UK student organization.

The concert will include three to four local bands including Club Dub, The Fakes and Bluegrass Collective. The event is free, but students are asked to donate \$3 Tuesday or Thursday.

Originally declared in San Francisco on March 21, 1970, Earth Day has become a worldwide holiday to cele-

brate the March equinox: the beginning of spring and new life. Over time, however, Earth Day has changed its date to April 22.

The founder of Earth Day, John McConnell, 87, has written that nothing should be done to officially call April 22 "Earth Day." On his Web site, McConnell writes that the true Earth Day is "nature's moment of the Equinox when the sun crosses the celestial equator causing the length of day and night to be equal — a state of equilibrium throughout the Earth."



ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS

The Low-down

With the support of the international community, may the Iraqi people become the protagonists of their collective rebuilding of their country."
—Pope John Paul II, while delivering his Easter Sunday message in St. Peter's Square.

Video explores Uruguay's past

"The Prehistoric Mounds of Uruguay: Linking the Past and the Future" (KET 2002) video will be premiered at 6 p.m. Friday at the William F. Young Library. The video will be shown following a brief presentation. The executive producers will then take questions. Traditional foods and refreshments will be served. For more information about the project, visit the bilingual Web site: www.dinacy.gov.uy/proyekt. The English version of the video is currently streaming live on the Archaeology Legacy's Institute Web site: www.archaeology-channel.org.

UK concert remembers Clooney

University of Kentucky students will perform a Rosemary Clooney Tribute Concert with special guest host Nick Clooney at 8 p.m. Friday at the UK Singletary Center for the Arts. The concert will feature many hit songs from the late Kentucky crooner's storied music and movie career. UK students and other special guest performers will sing, accompanied by the musical instrumentation of the Kentucky Jazz Repertory Orchestra. Tickets are available from the ticket office at the Singletary Center and may be reserved by calling 257-4929. Ticket prices are \$25 for general admission and \$10 for students.

Murder charge raises tensions

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. — A 21-year-old Hopkinsville man convicted of double murder in a fatal crash at an intersection is out of jail while his case is appealed. Meanwhile, critics and even some of the jurors who served at the unprecedented murder trial of Demond Brown say perhaps the punishment doesn't fit the crime. During his January trial, Brown, a black man, and his attorney wanted to make it clear to the all-white jury that he didn't deliberately run the traffic light when his car hit and killed Debra and Megan Conklin. No drugs or alcohol were involved in the crash. Instead, Brown made three crucial admissions to Christian County Commonwealth's Attorney Rick Boling. That he knew the traffic light was red; that he knew running a red light could cause an accident; and he knew car accidents could be deadly. Brown's admissions were enough for jurors to take the groundbreaking step in Kentucky of convicting Brown of two counts of first-degree murder in an accident that involved neither drugs nor alcohol. Brown said he never intended to run the red light. On March 19,



I AM THE WALRUS: Before he made it in Hollywood, Steve Buscemi was a New York City firefighter from 1980 to 1984 — and he continues to be a vocal and high-profile supporter. The actor featured in "Fargo" and "Con Air" joined about 50 demonstrators Saturday to protest a cost-cutting proposal to close eight firehouses. "I think it's a slip in the face, after all that they've done and all that they continue to do. They're just starting to come back," Buscemi said, referring to the 343 firefighters killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. "This is just terrible — a terrible message to firefighters because they want to save \$10 million or \$11 million a year." Mayor Michael Bloomberg, seeking to close a \$3.4 billion budget deficit, has proposed eliminating eight firehouses and eight last week at least 30 more may have to be closed if the city does not receive state or federal financial assistance.

Christian Circuit Judge John Atkins sentenced Brown to two 20-year prison sentences, to be served concurrently. That will keep him behind bars for 17 years before he will be eligible for parole. In contrast, Larry Mahoney, who killed 27 people in an alcohol-related bus crash near Carrollton in 1968, served nine years in prison.

Marines leave Baghdad; Army stays

The military presence in Baghdad lightened Sunday when Marines left the Army in control of the stabilizing capital. Celebrating Easter, a longtime Iraqi bishop voiced the fears of the Christian minority in urging safeguards against religious persecution in the new Iraq. The search for postwar order was reinforced by signs that Syria might help ease regional tensions. And authorities declared the Iraqi missile threat against Israel ended and prepared for the departure of U.S. soldiers manning defensive Patriot missile batteries south of Tel Aviv.

SARS prompts firings in China

BEIJING — Jolted by a jump in SARS deaths and a tenfold increase in infections in Beijing alone, China's Communist Party stripped the health minister and the capital's mayor of power Sunday. It also canceled an annual weeklong holiday for tens of millions of people to keep them from traveling and curb the spread of the disease. Just hours after announcing 12 new deaths nationwide, the official Xinhua News Agency said Health Minister Zhang Wenkang and Beijing Mayor Meng Xuenong were removed from their Communist Party posts but kept their government titles. The reported number of infections in Beijing increased from 37 to 346.

Man kills American missionaries

JIBLA, Yemen — A Yemeni man with suspected al-Qaida links told a court Sunday that he killed three American missionaries to defend Islam, believing they were sterilizing Muslim women and trying to convert Muslims to Christianity. Abed Abdul Razak Kamel, 30, said he moved from the capital of Sana'a to this city 125 miles south after he heard about missionaries working in Jibla at a Southern Baptist-run hospital. "I acted out of a religious duty ... and in revenge from those who converted Muslims from their religion and made them unbelievers," the bearded Kamel said as his trial opened under tight security.

Compiled from staff, wire reports

Kernel fills 3 leadership positions

Change: New summer, fall staff members discuss their thoughts and goals for leading the paper

STAFF REPORT

The Kernel Board of Directors selected next year's editor in chief, 2003 summer editor and student advertising manager over the weekend.

Andrea Uhde, Kernel news editor, will be editor in chief; Derek Poore, Kernel staff writer, will be summer editor; and McKensi Milburn, Kernel account executive, will be student advertising manager.

"There were a lot of great candidates and any one of them could have taken those leadership roles," said Chris Poore, student publications director. "I'm also excited about the potential that each of these new leaders has."

Uhde, a political science and journalism sophomore, said she is looking forward to next year. She said she wants to work on training new reporters, doing more investigative and enterprise stories and writing an ethics code for the paper.

"I really care about this paper and I love my job. This will be such an awesome experience, and I can't wait to get started," she said.

Poore, a journalism sophomore, said he wants to work on recruiting new writers this summer and covering different kinds of stories.

"Summer's a slow time on campus but there's still plenty going on administrative-wise, community-wise, and athletic-wise. I want to cover more feature and profile story opportunities in the summer," he said.

Milburn, an integrated strategic communication junior, said she is excited about the paper next year. "We have a lot of things goal-wise that we want to do," she said.

Among the things she wants to accomplish is to expand the number of special issues the Kernel does every year, including a Greek special issue.

Jay Blanton, chairman of the Kernel board, said the board was impressed with all of the candidates for each position. "I can't remember a time that we had this much depth and this much quality" in applicants, he said.

"It symbolizes the work that Tracy (Kershaw, current editor) and Chris (Poore, student publications director) have done and that everybody at the Kernel has done."



Uhde



Poore



Milburn

Are You Experiencing Anti-Christian Bigotry on Campus?

Deliberate discrimination against Christians is now the official—or unofficial, but actual—policy at an increasing number of publicly funded colleges and universities.

In the name of "diversity" and "tolerance," schools are systematically violating the rights of students who follow Jesus. *Are you or a campus Christian group to which you belong being singled out for unfair treatment?* The answer may be "yes" if your school:



- Dictates leadership standards, including requiring leadership positions be open to students who don't believe in your group's mission (think of an atheist Bible study leader!).
- Restricts where or when your group can meet or engage in expressive activities, but places no such limitations on other groups that, for instance, advocate radical feminism or abortion.
- Enforces a speech code that limits you or your group's right to speak disapprovingly of extramarital sexual, homosexual, or other behaviors.
- Restricts how or where your group can advertise (i.e. speech zones), or censors the ads' content—but places no such requirements on other student groups' ads.
- Mandates "diversity training" that attempts to force you to affirm behavior or viewpoints that violate your faith or conscience.
- Applies one set of rules for Christian groups seeking access to the student fee funding pool, and other rules for secular student organizations.

Does any of this sound familiar? If so, don't sit back and allow it! Legal remedies may be available. Call the Alliance Defense Fund for free legal help today!

As America's leading Christian public interest legal alliance, with more than 600 trained volunteer attorneys working with more than 20 allied legal groups, the Alliance Defense Fund is actively defending Christian students and student-led Christian groups whose constitutional rights have been violated.

We want to help you and stop the anti-Christian bigotry that may exist on your campus.

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SARS

Continued from page 1

ing to the U.S.," Nietzel wrote. Karen Slaymaker, assistant director for international studies, said many Asian students are worried that if they leave, they will have a difficult time getting visas to return. "It's not just SARS that students worry about. It's if they need to apply for another visa when they go home.

They're concerned about getting denied a visa," Slaymaker said. "I know some families are saying, 'don't come right now. There's a real concern about interruption of education.'"

For Liang, the decision to hold off on visiting her parents was easy. A friend in Beijing had warned her the trip would be too risky. "She said the situation is serious," Liang said.

Liang is hopeful that her family and friends will be safe. Her parents have been study-

ing a manual on how to prevent infection of SARS and they're taking "traditional medicine" that may help prevent infection, she said.

Gang Wang, president of the Chinese Student Society and an electrical engineering graduate student, said the threat of SARS is enough to keep Chinese students from visiting family. "I think most people don't want to go back to China or go back to Asia during the summer," he said.

He isn't seriously worried

about his family though. "My family told me it's OK right now, not too serious," Wang said. "As far as I know, it's not a big problem right now. Not many people get SARS."

Zhiqiang Gao, a chemical engineering graduate student, agrees.

"I think the SARS is not as serious as other people say," said Gao, who is planning as a precaution, on waiting until later in the year to visit his family in central China. "I think it's in control."

It's not just SARS students need to worry about. ... They're concerned about getting denied a visa."

- KAREN SLAYMAKER, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

TUBBY

Continued from page 1

sources the athletics department uses to raise its money.

"Sophistication and effective fund raising on all levels," is key to raising money, Thelin said. "Ivy league schools have wonderful athletic programs but raise more money (for academics) than athletics," he said.

Smith's contract extension also includes post-season compensation. Each year that Smith's team wins the SEC championship or makes the NCAA tournament, he will receive a single payment of \$15,000. A Final Four berth would give him an additional \$50,000 bonus, and he'll get \$50,000 more if his squad accomplishes a cumulative team

grade point average of 3.0 or better and if 90 percent of basketball players meet the NCAA satisfactory progress requirements.

Smith, flanked by UK President Lee Todd and Athletic Director Mitch Barnhart, said Lexington should be his home for many years to come.

"I want to thank Dr. Todd and Mr. Barnhart and his staff," Smith said to applause from a contingent of visiting Board of Trustees members, athletic and administration staff and media. "I look forward to spending quite a few more years here."

"Our industry is a crazy industry," Barnhart said, "and I'm confident he wants to be here."

"We've had a tremendous year," Todd said that strikes us proud but it's (the way) which you've done it

and the way which you continue to do it."

Smith said it was not about the money.

"Money has never yet made anybody rich — it's all about the people you surround yourself with," he said. "We have the No. 1 basketball program in America, and we want to keep it that way."

"The (Barnhart) has a great vision along with Dr. Todd," Smith said. "We're 100 percent willing to make that dream become a reality," he said of athletic department goals such as a basketball practice facility. "That practice facility ... is going to be critical for continued growth."

The board also approved women's basketball coach Mickie DeMoss's contract, along with an increase in non-student ticket prices for football and basketball games and a new K Fund for donor fund-raising efforts.

Smith's contract extension details

- Base salary: \$200,000
- Majority of the remainder of compensation made through radio and television endorsements
- Contract extends to April 3, 2011
- Use of two late-model quality automobiles for official and personal use
- Reimbursement of business-related automobile expenses
- 50 "prime lower level basketball tickets" for UK home, away and post season games
- Eight home UK football tickets
- \$1.5 million bonus for completing contract through April 3, 2007
- \$2.5 million additional bonus for completing contract through 2011

TICKETS

Continued from page 1

"They have a priority seating plan in place," Byrne said of other universities. He explained that UK was ranked next to last in the Southeastern Conference in "annual giving" revenue, which comes from the Blue and White fund, a donation medium that contributes to student-athlete scholarships and athletic facility construction and maintenance. In 2002 UK made just over \$4 million in donor revenue, while Florida, the highest revenue receiver in the Southeastern Conference, totaled \$23.7 million.

UK needs to create resources to succeed in "across-the-board" athletics, said Executive Senior Associate Director of Athletics Rob Mullens.

"Our goal is not to have the highest prices," Mullens said. "It's to compete where

we need to compete."

Barnhart concurs. "We want integrity in ticketing and donor policies. (The Southeastern Conference) is the most difficult conference in America to break through. You can't do it with one hand tied behind your back."

"You've got some coaches doing laundry at ten o'clock at night," Barnhart said of the lack of student managers. "This is where the newly created K-Fund comes into place."

The Fund — which replaces the Blue and White fund — is where the priority seating comes into play Byrne said. According to the plan, donors to the fund will be given priority points depending on how much money they contribute — to which the most points goes the best seats.

However, this means that current donors that have prime seats in Rupp Arena or Commonwealth Stadium will have to start paying more to keep their seat.

The plan includes the

raising of prices for donor-held seats over the next two years.

"People who've been paying to the Blue and White will keep doing what they have been doing," Byrne explained. "Next year, 50 percent of the new giving level will be phased in. 2004-05 will be the other half."

This may be especially hard on donors who have not been paying as late. Byrne said up to 2,900 UK football accounts and 1,800 basketball accounts are held by donors who have not been contributing recently. They also emphasized that donors who aren't paying must begin paying — or they will lose their seat.

With all the increases in the budget and fund raising, a former UK assistant professor in politics and policymaking education believes the amount of money spent on athletics is not feasible.

"Given how dire the needs are on the academic side of things, it's almost unconscionable to me that peo-

ple in the state and in the university are willing to spend these kind of dollars," said Dr. Stephen Clements, who left UK in January for a position at the Kentucky Educational Professional Standards Board.

Clements also questioned placing athletics before academics. "What's the proper sequence?" he asked. "Is it right to move forward with the athletic budget before moving forward with the academic budget?"

Ticket prices

- Basketball prices around the NCAA:
 Duke: \$50-\$25
 UNC: \$25 (conference), \$20
 Maryland: \$31
 Connecticut: \$27
 UK: \$22, \$22
 Kansas: \$25
 Vanderbilt: \$25, \$19, \$14
 Indiana: \$23-\$16
 Louisville: \$21

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18-22 year olds

Earn Good Money UK Research Study

www.uky.edu/surveys/bodyresponse/ for more information




UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY



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CAMPUS CALENDAR

Week of April 21 - April 27

The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Registered Student Orgs. and UK Dept. can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information is appear at: www.uky.edu/CampusCalendar. Call 587-8867 for more information.

MEETINGS

- *Arrival Bible Study, 7:00pm, Commons Market, Rm. 306A, Free!
- *Feminist Alliance Meeting, 7:30pm, Student Center, Rm. 105
- *Freshman Casa, 7:00pm, CSF Building
- *Bible Study, 7:30pm, off Campus
- *American Civil Liberties Union Meeting, 8:30pm, Student Center, Rm. 231
- *Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) Meeting, 7:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 105
- *Rock Climbing Club, 8:00pm, Climb Time

ACADEMIC

- *Math Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 10:00am-2:00pm & 2:00pm-6:00pm, Math Resource Center, 063 Classroom Building
- *Math Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-10:00pm, Commons Rm. 307
- *French Tutoring, 2:00-5:00pm, Keeneland Hall Lobby

SPECIAL EVENTS

- *Anti-War Peace Stroll, 11:30am, Patterson Office Tower Plaza
- *YWCA Spouse Abuse Center, 5:30pm, 105 Student Center

INTRAMURALS/RECREATION

- *Self Defense/Kempo class, 6:30-8:00pm, Alumni Gym Loft, Free! No experience needed.

MEETINGS

- *Alpha, 7:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 119
- *TYT Worship Service, 7:30pm, 429 Columbia Ave
- *Conversational English Class, 3:30pm, Baptist Student Union
- *Green Thumb Environmental Club Meeting, 7:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 106
- *UK Student Union Meeting, 8:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 228
- *UK Berean Bible Study, 8:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 113
- *UK InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, 7:15pm, UK Student Center, Rm. 230, Free!

ACADEMIC

- *Chemistry Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-9:00pm, Holmes Hall Lobby
- *Math Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-9:00pm, Holmes Hall Lobby
- *Math Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-10:00pm, Commons Rm. 307
- *Physics Tutoring, (All 100-level courses & 211/213), 6:00-9:00pm, Holmes Hall Lobby
- *Physics Tutoring, (All 100-level courses & 211/213), 6:00-9:00pm, Holmes Hall Lobby

SPORTS

- *Women's Rugby Practice, 4:45-7:00pm, Rugby Pitch
- *UK Shaolin-Do Karate Club, 6-8:30pm, Alumni Gym Loft
- *The Kwon Do practice, 6:30-9:00pm, Alumni Gym Loft

SPECIAL EVENTS

- *Earth Day Fair, 10:00am-2:00pm, Student Center Patio Free Speech Area
- *Arborston Brightener, 2:30-4:30pm, Student Center, Rm. 106C
- *Sax Ensembles Concert, 7:30pm, Singletary Center, Free!

MEETING

- *Encounter, 7:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 230
- *Institute of Religion/Doctrine & Covenants Study, Noon, Student Center, Rm. 119
- *Dressage Team, 5:00pm, Garrigay, 2nd floor conference room
- *Landscape Society Meeting, 6:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 106
- *Fellowship of Christian Athletes, 9:00pm, CSF Building, Corner of Woodland and Columbia
- *Table Française, French conversation group, 3:00-4:30pm, Student Center, Rm. 228
- *College Democrats Meeting, 7:45pm, Student Center, Rm. 211

ACADEMIC

- *Chemistry Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 8:00-10:00pm, Commons, Rm. 307
- *Math Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 8:00-10:00pm, Commons Rm. 307
- *Beginning and Intermediate Japanese Tutoring, 7:00-8:30pm, Young Library, check the circulation desk for the room.
- *Math Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 10:00-2:00pm, Math Resource Center 063 Classroom Building
- *Math Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-10:00pm, Holmes Hall Lobby
- *Math Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-10:00pm, Commons, Rm. 307
- *Physics Tutoring, (All 100-level courses & 211/213), 6:00-10:00pm, Commons, Rm. 307
- *French Tutoring, 4:00-5:00pm, Keeneland Hall, Commons, Rm. 306
- *How to Excel/Precentration, 7:00pm, Commons, Rm. 306

ARTS/MOVIES

- *French Film Series, 7:00pm, WT Young Library Auditorium, Free!

SPORTS

- *Women's Rugby Practice, 4:45-7:00pm, Rugby Pitch
- *Equestrian Team, 8:00pm, Ag. North Building

SPECIAL EVENTS

- *YWCA Spouse Abuse Center, 5:30pm, 105 Student Center
- *Flowers for Elderly, 2:30-5:30pm, Student Center, Rm. 106
- *Manchester Center, 3:30pm-5:30pm, Manchester Center
- *Lexington Center for Health Rehabilitation, 2:30-5:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 106
- *Head the Nedy, 10:00am-1:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 106

MEETINGS

- *UK Lambda, 7:30pm, UK Student Center, Rm. 231
- *Institute of Religion: History of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 12:00-12:30pm, UK Medical Building, 3rd Floor
- *Deviations & Lunch, 12:00pm, 429 Columbia Ave, \$1.00
- *Freshman Focus, 7:30pm, Baptist Student Union
- *Conversational English Class, 7:30pm, Baptist Student Union
- *Synagoga, 6:00pm, CSF Building
- *Annex International Meeting, 7:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 228
- *Annex Bible Club, 7:00-9:00pm, Chemistry Physics, Rm. 163

ACADEMIC

- *Peter S. Beagle, writer of screenplays, non-fiction, and fiction, 6:00pm, WT Young Library Auditorium, Free and open to the public!
- *Math Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 2:00pm-6:00pm, Math Resource Center, 063 CB 2nd floor

SPORTS

- *Team Radio License Training Class, 7:00-8:00pm, Chem-Physics Building, Rm. 163, Free!
- *MESA Recognition Dinner, 8:30pm, Applebee's
- *Cards for Kids, 10:00am-12:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 106
- *Hops Center, 11:15am-1:15pm, Student Center, Rm. 106
- *Breakfast, 5:00-6:00pm, Commons Market and Blazer Courtyard, Dinner \$8.95
- *Green Thumb Concert, 6:00pm-10:30pm, Memorial Hall Amphitheatre
- *Humanitarian Concerts in Iraq and Afghanistan, 7:00pm, Classroom Building, Rm. 102

INTRAMURALS/RECREATION

- *Self Defense/Kempo class, 6:30-8:00pm, Alumni Gym Loft, Free! No experience needed.

ARTS/MOVIES

- *UK Women's Choir Concert, 7:30pm, Singletary Center, Free!

MEETINGS

- *International Christian Fellowship, 7:00pm, St. Augustine's Chapel

SPECIAL EVENTS

- *die/Closure Unwrapping, 5:30-7:00pm, Commonwealth House
- *Critical Mass Bike Ride, 5:30pm, Woodland Park parking lot!
- *Le Residence Française, 5:00pm, Keeneland Hall
- *Manchester Center, 3:30pm-5:30pm, Manchester Center
- *Ice Cream Party, 3:00pm-4:00pm, Front Lawn of Student Center

SPORTS

- *The Kwon Do practice, 6:30-7:00pm, Alumni Gym Loft

ARTS/MOVIES

- *UK Wind Ensemble Concert, 7:30pm, Singletary Center, Free!

SPORTS

- *The Kwon Do practice, 11:00am-12:30pm, Alumni Gym Loft

SPECIAL EVENT

- *Give Back to the Gorge, 10:00am, Red River Gorge
- *Florence Crittenton Home 3:00pm-5:00pm

INTRAMURALS/RECREATION

- *Self Defense/Kempo class, 3:00-5:00pm, Alumni Gym Loft, Free! No experience needed.

MEETINGS

- *International Student Bible Study, 6:30pm, Baptist Student Union
- *Alpha Kappa Psi Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 203

ACADEMIC

- *Math Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-10:00pm, Commons Rm. 307
- *Math Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-9:00pm, Holmes Hall Lobby
- *Physics Tutoring, (All 100-level courses & 211/213), 6:00-10:00pm, Commons, Rm. 307
- *Chemistry Tutoring, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-10:00pm, Commons, Rm. 307
- *Biology, (All 100-level courses), 6:00-10:00pm, Commons, Rm. 307

ARTS/MOVIES

- *UK Symphony Band Concert, 3:00pm, Singletary Center, Free!
- *UK Combo Concert, 7:30pm, Singletary Center, Free!

Mon 21

Tues 15

Weds 16

Thur 24

Fri 25

Sat 26

Sun 27

Houseplants color rooms, promote mental health

Growing pains: Students can find health benefits, decoration while taking care of houseplants

By Brittany Clark
STAFF WRITER

Houseplants aren't just for Grandma anymore.

Many college students are adding a potted plant or vase of flowers to their living areas, bringing some life to dreary dorm rooms and apartments.

Between classes, parties and part-time jobs, students find that a plant fits into their schedules better than a pet, yet still offers the satisfaction of taking care of something.

Carol Baskin, a biology and agronomy professor at UK, says that houseplants give students "the pure pleasure of watching them grow."

"We have long associated plants with the comforts of home. There is a sense of well-being about them," Baskin said. "Nice plants are like music or poetry. It's something you can enjoy without conditions."

Besides being aesthetically pleasing, there is evidence that having a plant or flower arrangement at home could be good for physical health.

"Houseplants make people feel calmer and more optimistic," wrote Chicago cardiologist Bruno Cortis on the Web site mothernature.com.

"One study has shown that hospital patients whose windows faced a garden recovered more quickly than those whose faced the wall," he wrote.

Baskin also feels plants offer some emotional benefits.

"They have actual benefits for making a person feel happy. You are caring for something, being responsible for something," Baskin said.

Other benefits lie within individual plants. Students

Blossom

Merchandising sophomore Melissa Brunkhart arranges a plant in her residence hall room.

"They help you feel less trapped into the dorm rooms," she said.
BRITTANY CLARK | KENNEL STAFF



prone to kitchen mishaps may consider an aloe vera plant for the healing effects of its gel on burns.

Spider plants are ideal for beginners because they do well in most lighting situations, grow quickly and create little "spider babies" that can be cut off and planted elsewhere.

Baskin recommended the broad leaved ficus, or rubber plant, because they are "pretty tolerant of neglect and actually do better if you don't water them very often."

For those who like flowering plants, Baskin suggests the kaffir lily, which grows from a bulb.

"It flowers around midtime of spring semester," Baskin said.

Another option for flower fans is to "force" bulbs like tulips, daffodils or hyacinth. This process involves planting a bulb in tinfoil and letting it chill in the fridge or other cool place for about 12 weeks. The plant will bloom when removed from the cold.

No matter if it is a spider plant or a five-dollar Gerber bouquet from Kroger, plants are an effective way to brighten up your space.

All in bloom

For more info on houseplants and flowers, visit these Web sites:
www.gardensnet.com/hplants
www.uky.edu/ka/horticulture/homhouseplants.html

Monica Lewinsky on prime time

Post president: Lewinsky helps women find love

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES—Monica Lewinsky, who knows about the risks of sharing romantic confidences, sticks to listening in the new reality TV dating show "Mr. Personality."

She gets high marks from Hayley, the 26-year-old Atlanta woman who searches for true love among 20 masked men with Lewinsky by her side for support. The Fox series debuts Monday.

"She's exactly what I needed to get through the whole thing," said Hayley, whose last name was withheld by Fox. "More than a host, she was like my buddy, my best friend, my confidant, the big sister I never

had."

Lewinsky didn't talk about her personal life and Hayley didn't ask.

"I didn't even go there with her. She probably wouldn't feel comfortable rehashing it," Hayley said Friday.

Lewinsky, who declined a request to be interviewed, was a White House intern who had a sexual relationship with President Clinton. She discussed it with her friend Linda Tripp, who secretly recorded the talks and handed the tapes over to investigators.

Hayley, of course, knew her chats with Lewinsky were on the TV record as they assessed potential dates

—all with their faces hidden so Hayley would have to judge them on character, not appearance.

"She was someone who was a listener. She played the role so wonderfully," Hayley said of Lewinsky.

Is the unlucky-in-presidential-love Lewinsky a good counselor?

"I wouldn't exactly call her a dating guru," Hayley said, adding that she was more a sounding board than an adviser. "When I had someone there to talk to, it made my decisions easier."

Lewinsky, a TV novice who has been designing handbags, was picked as host for two reasons, executive producer Brian Gadsinsky said.

"First, tune-in, curiosity. We thought she'd be a great

choice to garner interest in the show," Gadsinsky said Friday. Lewinsky also was right for the job, he said.

"We wanted to find someone who had the attributes of a great personality, who was very friendly. Someone who was not a cutout, not polished, but accessible."

Gadsinsky called the job a "whim" for Lewinsky, who had been in general discussions with Fox when the show emerged as an opportunity.

Lewinsky told Newsweek magazine she's unsure whether she'll continue in television and is considering law school or graduate school in psychology.

"I'm trying to see what is going to work best for me and what is my career," she said.

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Cats looking for win after loss to Auburn

Senior day: UK seniors say goodbye Saturday during their last SEC home game against Tigers

By Matt Bowling
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The UK softball team celebrated senior day on Saturday as they hosted the Auburn Tigers.

After putting a stop to a 21-game losing streak with a win over Indiana last Wednesday, the Cats' future began to look brighter. Now four games later, the streak is back. With a 1-0 loss to the Tigers, the Cats fell to 10-38 overall (1-25 in the SEC).

Freshman pitcher Amy Kendall gave up only four hits and struck out five Tigers. Kendall was on her way to pitching a shutout game until the sixth inning, when Auburn scored the only run of the game.

With two outs, the Tigers' Kasey Angulo hit a double, bringing home Shannon Anderson for the score.

In front of a large crowd, the Cats recognized three seniors: undergraduate assistant coach Bethany Wiegand, catcher Lyndsey Angus and second baseman Nikki Jones.

Signs in the outfield displayed the seniors' names in recognition of their contributions to the program.

Jones leaves Kentucky assured she has made her place in the Kentucky record books. She holds the record for the best single-season batting average in Kentucky history after she

batted .442 during her junior year.

This also puts her at number five in SEC history.

Jones is also the career UK batting average leader with .359, while teammate Angus is a very close second at .358.

Both players have shown great character on and off of the field and were inducted into the Frank G. Ham Society of Character. The Society of Character was designed by UK to help student-athletes realize the value of higher academic achievement, a higher level of maturity, self-responsibility, and greater overall success.

Teammates said the seniors have been a positive influence for the program.

"While Nikki (Jones) is so strong in the infield and Lyndsey (Angus) is so strong behind the plate, they have both offered a helping hand in teaching everyone to make the team better," Kendall said. "They will be missed."

UK has only one more SEC team to face before the SEC tournament begins May 9.

Following Wednesday's match-up against Louisville, the Cats will head to Arkansas to try to advance in SEC play.

The Cats' last home game will be Wednesday April 30 when they host in-state rival Western Kentucky

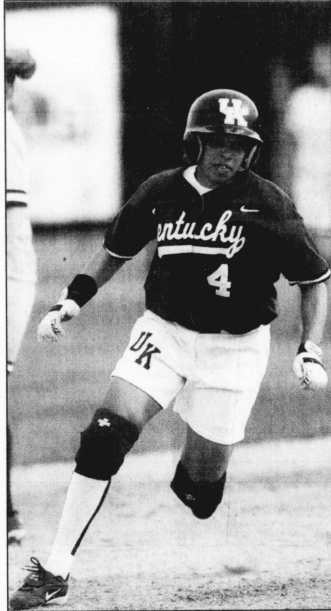


PHOTO FURNISHED

Down to the wire

As senior Nikki Jones prepares for her last nine games with UK, the Cats hope to improve their record of 10-38 with another win.

Bat Cats defeat Vols 2-1 in series

By Ben Roberts
STAFF WRITER

With the Bat Cats just three outs away from their first SEC series sweep in three years, the visiting Tennessee Volunteers rallied with two runs in the ninth inning to snatch a 9-6 victory Sunday at Cliff Hagan Stadium.

UK (16-22, 4-13 SEC) led the contest 8-7 after eight innings and seemed poised to finish the job in the ninth. Then the Tennessee offensive onslaught began. The first three Volunteer batters of the inning managed hits off UK relievers James Rodriguez and Kalen Gibson, with one of them crossing home plate. Later in the ninth, with two outs and a runner on third base, UT catcher Javi Herrera singled in the game-winning run to give his team a 9-8 lead.

Bat Cats head coach Keith Madison viewed the game as a typical series closer in SEC play, with both teams having a chance for a victory until the very end.

"This is the type of game I think about when I think about an SEC Sunday game," Madison said. "It was a little high scoring, with a lot of hits. Usually in these games whoever gets the last chance will have the best chance to win."

Despite the heartbreaking loss, Madison saw many positives in a back-and-forth game that saw six lead changes.

"I was very pleased with the way our guys competed today," Madison said. "We kept coming back with clutch plays and clutch hits."

Junior second baseman Spencer Graeter had four of those hits, going 4-5 with two RBI and two runs scored. In all, the Bat Cats tallied 11 hits on the afternoon.

Senior catcher Caleb Brock also came through big at the plate for the Bat Cats with a three-run double in the third inning that gave UK a 4-1 lead early in the game. Brock would put the Cats ahead again in the fifth with a sacrifice fly that made the score 6-5.

"I knew I was up against an aggressive pitcher, so I was looking for a fastball I could drive," Brock said of his bases-clearing double.

Another positive for UK over the weekend was the fact that they finally won a three-game series in conference play, an achievement that had been eluding them all season.

"Winning the series was very important," Brock said. "We're getting towards the end of the season so it's important for us to win a few series to stay in the hunt. It is definitely a confidence booster."

Madison attributed the successful weekend to good pitching and solid defense.

"We need to keep playing like we did all three games this weekend," Madison said.

SPORTSWEEKLY CALENDAR

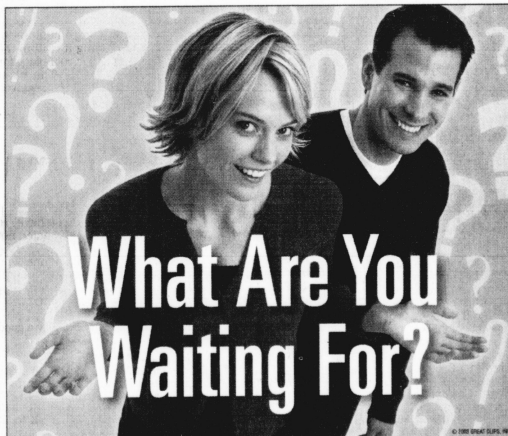
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TUESDAY APRIL 22	Baseball @ Louisville 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY APRIL 23	Softball @ Louisville 5:00/7:00 PM
THURSDAY APRIL 24	Track & Field @ Penn Relays April 24-26 - Philadelphia, PA.
FRIDAY APRIL 25	BASEBALL VS GEORGIA 7:00 PM - CLIFF HAGAN STADIUM Men's Golf @ SEC Championships April 25-27 - Sea Island, GA.
SATURDAY APRIL 26	BASEBALL VS GEORGIA 4:00 PM - CLIFF HAGAN STADIUM (SEC-TV) FOOTBALL SPRING GAME 1:00 PM - COMMONWEALTH STADIUM Softball @ Arkansas 12:00/2:00 PM Track & Field @ Cardinal Invite - Louisville, KY.
SUNDAY APRIL 27	BASEBALL VS GEORGIA 2:00 PM - CLIFF HAGAN STADIUM Softball @ Arkansas 2:00 PM (SEC-TV)

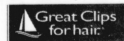
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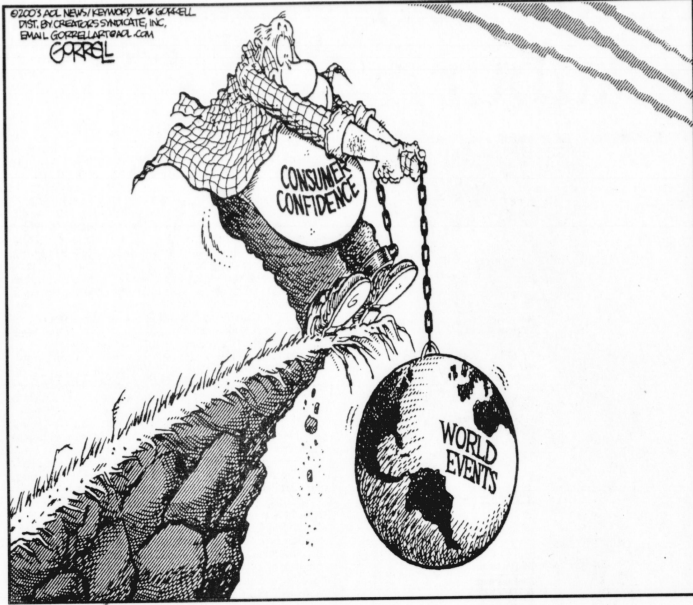
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READER RESPONSE

Reader needs to straighten facts

To the editor:

This is in response to Erin McKenzie's letter to the editor from April 17. McKenzie writes: "the thoughtful reader must sometimes take with the proverbial grain of salt the spewings of authors who don't have their facts straight." Well, I guess we all had to take a grain of salt with McKenzie's "spewings." That is, unless there actually is some "push to allow women golfers to participate in one of the most prestigious and competitive events in the world of professional golf."

This is certainly not the "push" that Kernel columnist Jared Whalen was referring to in his column, which

draw fire from McKenzie. The "push" at Augusta National is to allow females into an all male club. I believe Whalen's point was simply that there are other examples of gender inequality that could be addressed by Martha Burk and her organization before directing all their time and resources at allowing a "privileged white" woman to join an elitist club.

Right or wrong, I feel confident this is the issue Whalen was addressing. As to whether a woman can participate in the Masters, the only place I know of where this is an issue is in McKenzie's head. It's not as if women can't play in major golf tournaments; it just hasn't been tried.

Hootie Johnson, the chairman of Augusta National, has stated he has no problem allowing a woman to play in the Masters, as long as she qualifies by her play on the course, just like the men. Incidentally, Annika Sorenstam, a member of the LPGA (women's tour) will play in the Colonial golf tournament, an upcoming PGA (men's) tour event next month.

Nevertheless, I express no opinion as to any of these issues. I simply urge McKenzie to follow her own advice and get her facts straight before "spewing."

MATT WALTER
 UK COLLEGE OF LAW

Bush's tax cuts and patriotism

One of the long-standing debates in American politics is whether or not "liberal Republicans" are true members of the GOP or just elitist, opportunistic, devoid of ideology "moderates" who as Ann Coulter once put it "don't realize they're in the wrong party."



M. Edward Guest
 KERNEL COLUMNIST

Predominantly, these Republicans are from the Northeast and represent the rapidly deteriorating Rockefeller wing of the Republican Party. In some liberal circles, they are known as "Good Republicans," especially when they abandon the party (Sen. Jim Jeffords, Ind.-Vt., to become an independent in 2001) or lean so far to the Left that the term "moderate Republican" is laughable (Sen. Lincoln Chafee, R-R.I.).

Those two gentlemen were notorious for their anti-conservative positions, but it now appears that pro-Bush forces (the usual suspects) are attempting to "cleanse" the party of undesirable characters who dare break from Bush's edict on tax policy.

The Republican Party is synonymous with tax cuts, even in rather dreary economic conditions, with many asserting that if it does not stand united for tax cuts as a tool to stimulate the economy, it has greatly marginalized itself in the minds of Americans.

Of course, to many Americans, the GOP has already marginalized itself, but I digress. Sen. George Voinovich, R-Ohio, and particularly Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, have been vilified for their courageous/politically motivated decision to vote with the Daschle Democrats in weakening the second Bush tax cut. This includes the central piece of the Bush

stimulus package: the ending of double taxation on dividends, one of the most ambitious legislative endeavors since the Clinton Health Care initiative of 1993-1994.

The pro-Bush force in question, The Club for Growth, one of the nation's leading proponents on tax-cutting proposals, has criticized the legislators, by (what else) playing the French card. "Franco-Republicans" have thus far stood strong, and progressive (or ultra-liberal) organizations such as NOW have tossed Snowe for her political acumen and her brash behavior.

Why is this important? Back in the 2002 campaign season, Democrats rallied against Bush for seamlessly intertwining national security issues with partisan politics, in essence insinuating that failure to adhere to the president's position was, in a de facto sense, unpatriotic. Some claim that incendiary remarks (pertaining to the looming vote on Homeland Security legislation) cost Sens. Max Cleland, D-Ga., and Jean Carnahan, D-Mo., their respective seats. Is Bush now attempting (or acquiescing to) the same thing on his own political party?

Admittedly, Voinovich is in a precarious position. He is up for re-election in 2004 and probably needs the support of the president to withstand a tough Democratic challenge. But more than 60 percent of Americans remain unconvinced that another tax cut is necessary or warranted.

The position of the Democratic Party, for once unequivocally, is to reject any Bush tax cut that involves revolutionary cuts in dividend taxes and to welcome any renegade Republicans who seek to undermine such a proposal. This denies the president his biggest weapon in terms of revitalizing the economy. Because Bush has slim majorities in both the House and the Senate, he must preside over something akin to an economic boom by the

fall of 2004, or he will suffer the fate of his father. A larger, more philosophical issue is developing: Can one be a Republican if they're not willing to back the Milton Friedman school of thought, advocating all forms of tax cutting legislation, or do they become ostracized by the pro-Bush forces and inevitably replaced?

Many observers have argued that prevailing sentiments of pro-choice and aversion to tax cuts by the GOP "left" are the only strand preventing the party from becoming an extremist entity, out of touch with the modern electorate.

Some of the more ideological in the party could care less if the liberal wing of the GOP completely vanishes from the political scene, but is that hubris of the worst kind? Studies have shown that women GOP enthusiasts are far more moderate than their male counterparts, how are they going to take what many perceive to be a bullying of Snowe? In truth, it comes down to an executive decision — just how important and how successful do the president's economic advisers (and the man himself) believe this bold package (\$50-\$72 billion) will be?

I am adamantly opposed to this pending legislation. Of course, I'm almost universally opposed to tax cuts in general. But I respect the fact that many scholars dissent from that opinion. I also comprehend that in politics you often have to play to win, which is exactly what the president is trying to do in this circumstance. He wants all systems to be go for an economic recovery because that's what a fickle populace will judge him on.

If that means potentially alienating centrist Republicans and their legions, and doing so by coercing them back onto the tax-cut train, then so be it.

M. Edward Guest is a history sophomore. His views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.

U.S. sanctions against Syria seem unlikely

President Bush's warnings to Syria and statements of other top U.S. officials about the possibility of Syria's possession of technology and weapons of mass destruction have opened a new challenge for the United States, the Middle East and the international community.



Ridvan Peshkopia
 KERNEL COLUMNIST

There exist different opinions about why the U.S. leaders are stating this position. Some of these opinions point to the necessity for the Bush administration to legitimize its military intervention after the failure to find considerable quantities of chemical weapons in Iraq. Others think that these declarations have been pronounced in an attempt to steer the attention of the international opinion away from the looting of the precious human cultural heritage from Iraqi museums and the overall anarchy that rules in this country as a consequence of the regime's collapse.

Iraq's developments teach us that Bush's communication with the public is a very straightforward one. Actually, we have many reasons to think that what the president promulgates soon has to become U.S. policy. Therefore, I think that these warnings should be considered seriously, and the world should expect some interesting (though probably bitter) developments.

The first means already assumed against Syria have been sanctions. It is likely that, in order to concentrate on establishing the public order and security in Iraq, the United States might defer any possible plan (if it exists) to attack Syria. Thus, the only leverage still remaining in place is the implementation of sanctions. This will be an unprecedented experience because while until now the United States has sanctioned the sanctioning of different remote countries (including Cuba and Nicaragua), now the sanctions seem to be imposed against a country that borders another country in which the United States has a significant military presence.

However, a very common question comes out again: Do these sanctions function? In political and academic circles there exists a long-standing debate about the effectiveness of sanctions against bully regimes. Nevertheless, if we rely on Shambaugh's theory of dominance and dependence, different political developments breed different situations that condition the outcome of sanctions. The situation that the United States is already involved in the region and its leverages against Syria merits a unique analysis.

I think, regardless of a substantial U.S. military presence on the Syrian border, it will be very difficult for the United States to implement a successful sanctioning of Syria. If we rely on Dreznar's theory of sanctions, if the international cooperation in sanctioning a target (Syria in this case) is not put under the umbrella of any international organization, it will be very difficult and costly for the primary sanctioner (the United States) to establish multilateral sanctions.

In the concrete case, there are two options: either to establish a sanctions regime with Syria's major trade partners (Germany, France, Italy, China, Turkey and Lebanon), or to sanction Syria only with its neighboring countries (Turkey, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan and Iraq). The first coalition seems actually impossible, but even the second one does not sound very sustainable. Turkey does not seem much in accordance with the U.S. policy in the region and repetitively complains about the economic damage the Gulf War of 1991 and the recent Iraq campaign caused. An additional trade reduction with Syria will make Turkey seek an economic redemption by the United States.

The situation appears similar with Jordan, while Lebanon is experiencing a high Syrian political influence. Although the U.S. military presence controls Iraq, no one is sure about the sentiments of the future Iraqi government toward sanctions against other "Muslim brothers" and "Arab brothers." The oil, a major good the United States might keep from flowing to Syria, might enter the country from other Arab states through maritime shipments.

Furthermore, Syria has a positive trade balance that makes it able to respond with counter-sanctions toward countries that sanction it.

It sounds impossible for the United States to establish any coalition under an international organization. Simultaneously, it seems impossible also for it to build just a regional loyal coalition. The other solution remains force unilateral sanctions. For these sanctions to have success, the United States needs to have leverage. The United States is not an important trade partner for Syria. Therefore, U.S. sanctions are not likely to harm it.

The United States might use a military blockade. I think it will be difficult to successfully implement such leverage. It will be extremely expensive to persuade Turkey to allow U.S. troops on the Turkish-Syrian border. The same situation might happen with Jordan also. Meanwhile, controlling the long Iraq-Syria border against smuggling and blocking the sea will drain enormous funds.

This entire situation might create uncertainty to foreign investments in Syria. A possible withdrawal of these investments might simulate a similar situation with what Philip Levy concludes as a positive impact of international sanctions against South Africa during the 1980s.

However, there are two major differences between these two cases. First, the Syrian government is in thorough control of the society, and public turmoil that might accelerate the withdrawal of foreign investments has little chance to happen. Second, the Syrian economy is not much dependent on foreign investment.

Through a national, pan-Arabic and pan-Islamic mobilization, the regime of al Assad might survive for a long time, while the White House will be accountable for the financial burden of maintaining sanction enforcements and have to scramble every year to persuade Congress to approve funds for these enforcements.

In conclusion, there is no way for a successful sanction regime against Syria. Meanwhile, I don't think the White House is unaware of this. Thus, there are two ways to understand the recent statements of the U.S. officials toward Syria: either it is a political gesture to win time, or — what to me sounds more likely — it is just the foreword of a new war.

Ridvan Peshkopia is a student at the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration. His views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.

