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# THE Kentucky Kernel

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## UK hoping Fletcher's budget plan fulfills its needs

By Sean Rose  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL



Gov. Fletcher addresses the state legislature tonight at 7 in Frankfort.

UK will find out tonight if Gov. Ernie Fletcher wants the state to give UK what it wants.

Fletcher will give his budget address at 7 tonight in Frankfort, where he will outline his priorities for the upcoming state budget process. UK is hoping for a sizable cut

of the budget to fuel the top-20 business plan.

UK has requested about \$18 million more in operating funds than it received for this year, as well as \$80 million in state bonds to complete construction on the bio-pharmacy complex and authorization of \$150 million in bonds to further construction on the new hospital patient care facility.

But as of now, Angie Martin, UK's vice president of budget and policy planning, said UK is "just waiting."

"We're hoping that they fund our top-20 business plan, but we just do not know at this time," Martin

said. "We have not been given any indication to this point what has been included in the governing budget for postsecondary education."

UK President Lee Todd said he was delighted by the response he's received about the top-20 plan so far, but wouldn't know what the state would provide until later today.

"I'm gratified at the response that we've received from the release of the plan," Todd said. "But we won't know until (this) afternoon, in all likelihood, what the budget proposal will offer."

Todd added that the final budget will most likely be different from the governor's proposed budget, as

compromises are reached between competing interests.

Another of UK's initiatives — pursuing greater authority to build and manage all its own construction projects without required state approval — cleared another hurdle toward becoming reality Thursday. The House approved a bill that would enable UK, and all state universities, to have that greater bonding authority by a 95-0 unanimous vote.

"This is certainly necessary for UK to achieve the mandate we gave them in 1997," said the bill's sponsor, Rep. Bob Damron, D-Nicholasville. He referred to House

"I know of no other top-20 research institution in the nation that has these types of shackles on their feet and their hands..."

Rep. Bob Damron  
D-Nicholasville, referring to UK's ability to fund campus construction projects

Bill 1 of that year, in which the state told UK to become a top-20 public research institution by the year

See Speech on page 2

## A real need to 'hear' King



Left: Rev. Jeremiah Wright gives the keynote speech at the Martin Luther King Jr. Day ceremonies downtown yesterday at Heritage Hall.

Below: Tiffany Kavanaugh, a cast member in the play "Crowns," sings during the Martin Luther King Jr. Day ceremonies at Heritage Hall.

PHOTOS BY KEITH SMILEY | STAFF



On holiday, speaker says true messages of civil rights leader have been distorted

By Clay McGuffin  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

In 1967, civil rights hero Martin Luther King Jr. gave a speech criticizing the divisive, politically explosive war in Vietnam. He talked of a dangerous era where "the giant triplets of racism, extreme materialism and militarism are incapable of being conquered."

At an event honoring his legacy almost 40 years later, Rev. Jeremiah Wright argued that those words could depict today's reality.

Including his belief that no one has truly listened to King.

"The vast majority of Americans didn't hear him, and on some days, it feels like no one heard him," Wright said.

Wright, an author and the pastor at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, criticized President George

See King on page 2

## Paramedics praising PolyHeme

Blood substitute receiving high marks in UK-run clinical trial

By Darush Shafa  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK's participation in a cutting-edge nationwide study is coming to a close, and physicians and paramedics involved in the trial of a new blood substitute have voiced optimism about the product's future.

A clinical trial of PolyHeme, a blood substitute developed by Northfield Laboratories Inc. of Evanston, Ill., has been in progress in the Lexington area since 2004. Dr. Andrew Bernard, a UK trauma surgeon and chief investigator in the trial, said the study is near completion.

"It has gone smoothly," Bernard said, summing up the study, which he estimated will end sometime in the first half of this year.

More than 600 people have been enrolled in the study. Some people receive standard treatments and some receive saline fluid and other blood volume expanders — which do not carry oxygen. Others receive PolyHeme, which carries oxygen the same way blood does and boosts blood pressure in patients who have suffered trauma.

PolyHeme is derived from hemoglobin, the chemical that carries oxygen in the blood and gives it its red color. Though derived from blood, PolyHeme is simply the chemical and contains no actual biological part of blood, which means there is no risk for rejection, transmission of disease or major side effects. The only side effect that has been reported with PolyHeme was a mild red rash around where it is administered, which does not itch

"It's something paramedics have wanted for years and years."

Paul Abercrombie  
Lieutenant, Lexington Fire Dept.

See Blood on page 2

## BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK

### Cats head to Georgia with skid on mind

By Josh Sullivan  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

For the second game in a row, a solid offensive performance from center Randolph Morris failed to revive the slumping UK men's basketball team.

The Wildcats dropped their third consecutive game on Saturday, losing to Alabama 68-64 in Rupp Arena. In just his second game of the year, Morris once again gave the Cats the post presence they sorely lacked while he served a 14-game suspension, scoring 19 points and pulling down six rebounds.

For a short stretch in the first half, it looked as if the light bulb had finally switched on for the Cats (10-6, 0-2 Southeastern Conference). After two Morris free throws tied the score at 14, sophomore guard Rajon Rondo snagged a steal off the full-court press and hit Morris for a thunderous dunk, prompting a Tide timeout. That began an 18-9 run that put the Cats up 32-23.

Consecutive 3-pointers for Al-

abama (9-6, 2-1) then cut the Wildcats lead to three at the break.

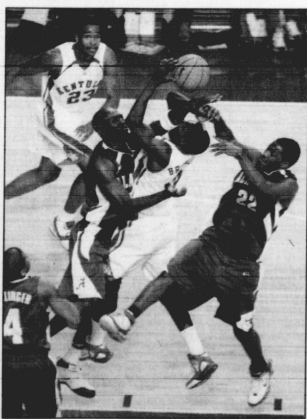
With the game neck-in-neck five minutes into the second half, Morris picked up his third foul and was forced to play tentative defense down the stretch, allowing Alabama forward Jermaine Davidson to take over the game, scoring almost at will in the post.

"He's an outstanding player," Morris said of Davidson, whom he played against in high school in Atlanta. "We should have forced him to the trap and made him kick it out of the double-teams."

But instead of being forced to pass out of the paint, Davidson scored 13 of his game-high 28 points after Morris' third foul. The Cats led 53-50 with 7:44 to go, when Davidson torched the UK post defense on three consecutive possessions, scoring seven points in just over a minute to put the Tide up 58-53.

"We had the lead and we were playing scared," said UK

See Cats on page 2



Alabama senior forward Jean Felix blocks a shot by UK sophomore guard Rameil Bradley during the second half of the UK's 68-64 loss to Alabama on Saturday at Rupp Arena.

PHOTO BY KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

## Moviegoers question portrayal of Coach Rupp, UK in 'Glory Road'

By Ryan Mabry  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Was legendary UK men's basketball coach Adolph Rupp racist?

The newly released movie "Glory Road" does little to answer that question in portraying the quest of Texas Western — a team with a black starting lineup — to get to the 1966 NCAA men's basketball championship game, where it faced UK, a team without a black athlete. Pat Riley a starter on that 1966 UK team, has called Texas Western's 72-65 win "the Emancipation Proclamation of 1966."

In the process, the movie — released Friday nationwide — left questions about the UK head coach's views on racism up for interpretation from moviegoers.

"(Rupp) just didn't seem to be a racist," said Steven David, 23, of Fort Knox, Ky. "He had one of the first

black players (in the Southeastern Conference)."

"He was probably a man of his time," added Tyrone Tyra, 45, of Detroit.

Although most of those attending the movie did not believe Rupp was a racist, many of them questioned the movie's accuracy.

"If he was still alive, would his family be upset about this?" asked Amanda Wiggins, a biology freshman. "Because his character kind of acted a little prejudiced."

Most of the screen time for Rupp, played by Jon Voight, occurred during the championship game that UK lost.

"(Voight) would say things like, 'Make sure you cover him on defense,' and they'd make him look like he was being racist," said Andy Bates, a history junior. "He was just trying to win the ballgame."

See Glory Road on page 2

Newsroom: 257-1915

## Speech

Continued from page 1

2020. Damm's bill passed the House in 2004 and 2005; in both years, it died in the Senate.

"I know of no other top-20 research institution in the nation that has these types of shackles on their feet and their hands preventing them from moving the university forward," he said. "It allows universities to provide services so directly needed in a timely manner."

Mike Goins, spokesman for state budget director Brad Cowgill, said education was important to the Fletcher administration, but added that there are many issues that require funding.

"Certainly, the governor has mentioned that education is important to his administration," Goins said.

"We have a lot of competing inter-

ests; I wouldn't say that they're (higher education) the top," Goins said. "They're certainly one of the many competitive factors for dollars we'll have in this budget."

Todd said what the top-20 plan asked for was realistic enough to be met by the state.

"We've laid out a realistic — and, I think, modest — proposal for what it will take to transform this institution over the next 15 years," Todd said. "In fact, many of the legislators and others I've met with have remarked how surprised they are that the cost figure is not higher."

The Council on Postsecondary Education requested a 17 percent increase for base funding after receiving a nine percent increase last year, said Sandra Woodley, vice president of finance for the council.

"We requested \$141 million new dollars," Woodley said. "We hope the government will be able to provide a significant level of our funding."

## Blood

Continued from page 1

and disappears after a few hours.

"It looks, so far, that the drug is as effective as blood," Bernard said. "Nothing has developed in the course of the study that suggests we should stop early."

PolyHeme is being used in Fayette County as well as in several surrounding counties within a certain distance of UK Chandler Medical Center. Personnel with the medical services have praised PolyHeme.

"The study has been something new for us," said Lt. Paul Abercrombie of the Lexington Fire Department. "It's been kind of a challenge for us, but it's gone quite well."

In addition, Abercrombie said, he and other paramedic crews were enthusiastic about a blood substitute like PolyHeme, since paramedics cannot transfuse blood and no other oxygen-carrying blood substitute is in use.

"It's something paramedics have wanted for years and years and years because paramedics can't (transfuse) blood products," Abercrombie said.

Bernard also credited paramedics for prompting the study. "If there is one single group of people responsible for mak-

ing it possible, it's the paramedics," he said.

Carlos Coyle, a paramedic and assistant manager of Madison County Emergency Medical Services, said he was pleased with taking part in the trial.

"The folks here at our service really embraced the opportunity to take part in cutting-edge research," Coyle said, adding that the patients enrolled in Madison County have reported no complications.

"This far, our experience has been promising."

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## Cats

Continued from page 1

head coach Tubby Smith.

The Cats allowed the Tide to shoot 72 percent (13-for-18) from the field in the second half.

"When a team shoots 72 percent against you, you're not really doing much defensively," said Smith.

Despite the defensive ineptitude, the Cats were in position to win the game in the closing moments. UK retook the lead with 1:21 left on a driving lay-up by Rondo, but Davidson converted a 3-point play at the other end, nailing a jumper while getting fouled and sinking the free throw, to give Alabama a lead they wouldn't relinquish.

The Cats lost their second straight home game for the first time since the 1989-90 season.

## Sims, Perry injured

Junior forwards Bobby Perry and Rekaun Sims were in street clothes during the Alabama game. Sims is suffering from a bulging disc in his back, while Perry is nursing an ankle injury. Before practice yesterday, Smith said Perry would likely play against Georgia tonight, while Sims will almost certainly sit.

## A Polish message, via foot

Junior center Lukasz Obrzut came to practice yesterday sporting new customized Nikes. He'd written phrases in Polish on the toes of each shoe.

"It's just to remind me how I need to play," he said.

One shoe reads, "Play smart, play aggressive, play for your mother." The other says, "Be a beast."

At yesterday's press conference, Tubby Smith agreed that Obrzut must be more beastly when he gets rebounds in the post and try to score immediately instead of passing the ball back out to the

perimeter.

"He's seven feet tall; why wouldn't you go back up? It boggles my mind," he said.

## Georgia on their minds tonight

Tonight against Georgia, the Cats will try to avoid going 0-3 in the SEC for the first time since the 1976-76 season. Smith expects the Bulldogs (11-5) to be extra motivated when the teams tip off at 9 p.m. on ESPN.

"Coach has told us that other teams smell the blood and they're going to play their best game," said Obrzut.

To make matters even tougher, Georgia head coach Dennis Paiton has had success against the Cats in recent years. In 2001, his Western Kentucky Hilltoppers, led by current Cat Patrick Sparks, shocked UK in its season opener at Rupp. In 2003, in his first year at the helm of Georgia, his Bulldogs took both regular season games against the Cats.

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## Glory Road

Continued from page 1

Bates was also displeased with the movie's portrayal of UK.

"I got tired of seeing Confederate flags waving," Bates said. "Also, UK running out to 'Dixie' instead of the school song — that was a little bit Hollywood."

Tyra said the focus wasn't on UK. "Actually, there really wasn't that much UK in it," Tyra said. "When you really look at it, it was really more about the kids of Texas Western and what they

did. So, I think that made it more accurate."

David said that Esther Rupp, the UK coach's wife, played a large part in shaping his beliefs about the coach.

"I don't think he (Rupp) was a racist, because his wife went to talk to Don (Haskins) wife, and they had a little talk about that racism," David said. Don Haskins was the head coach of that Texas Western team.

Larry Tiller, 34, of Estill County, thought the movie represented a compromise.

"Maybe they were a little hard on (UK) through the movie, but I think at the end the credits kind of softened the blow a little bit," said Tiller, referring to

the interviews that were shown of several of the people who were depicted in the movie during the end credits.

Regardless of what the movie's audience thought about its truthfulness, all agreed that it was worth watching.

"It was a pretty good movie; you know, true story, so I really liked it," Tyra said.

"It was better than my expectations," Tiller said. "Really, it was well-made."

According to boxoffice Mojo.com, "Glory Road" was expected to gross nearly \$16.5 million in its opening weekend.

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## King

Continued from page 1

W. Bush's foreign policy and American materialism in his keynote speech that concluded yesterday's downtown events honoring King. Wright quoted extensively from King's "Beyond Vietnam" speech of 1967, an address criticizing then-President Lyndon B. Johnson's foreign policies in Vietnam.

Wright said the real messages of King have been edited out of history and only his less controversial speeches are remembered.

"Too many of today's preachers are dichotomously opposed to King's ministry," Wright said. "They teach prosperity. He taught peace."

Wright urged the crowd to protest Bush's foreign policy in Iraq.

"To those policies, you have to say 'Hell no!'" Wright said. "Hell no, you cannot lie about why we went to war, why our boys and girls are dying needlessly like in Vietnam."

Wright said King presented an anti-war message; something Wright thinks still applies today.

"He was an apostle of non-violence, against all war, particularly and especially those wars to which we were led by lies," Wright said after his speech.

God loves the world. That is the message of King's speech.

Wright's speech came after

a breakfast sponsored by the Education Foundation of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., which has a chapter at UK, and a march through downtown Lexington.

During the breakfast, Reed Polk, a commentator for WKYT-27, recounted meeting King when he introduced him during an address at the Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, where he was studying at the time.

"I remember that precise moment with him and of how he did reach out to me and was so interested and it was consistent," Polk said. "It was not just, 'Let's do this for 30 seconds and end it'; it was that kind of consistency and concern that I tried to take with me."

Having personally known King, the holiday has special meaning for Polk.

"A holiday like this allows you to look back and remember, also to look around and see what's going on, and then look ahead and see what I can do to take this thing to the next step," Polk said.

"We shall overcome." It's not just a song; it can become a motto and it can be ours," Polk said, recalling the rallying cry from the civil rights era.

"Remembering and looking gives you the view to look out the window and see where you need to go."

Lexington activist Msiba Ann Beard Grundy encouraged the audience to make a real difference.

"Sprinkling a handful of black and Latino faces here and there will do no more



HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE MARCHED IN A PARADE DOWN VINE STREET AND MAIN STREET IN DOWNTOWN LEXINGTON YESTERDAY AS PART OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY CEREMONY.

than new brass door knobs on a house that is falling to the ground," Grundy said. "Leave here and run from here determined to kiss cosmetic

(changes) goodbye and say hello to serious, thoughtful changes."

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## Buckethead: a cutting-edge metal oddity

By Nathan Thacher  
KERNEL MUSIC CRITIC

Dearest music consumer, have you been looking for just the right album to listen to while stepping on kittens? A little background music while you dispose of that corpse you "found"?

In either case, Buckethead has you covered — is there anything he can't do?

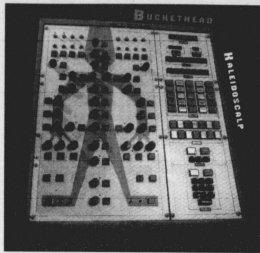
Buckethead, that silent, shambling pile of hair and guitar magic, is at it once again with his latest solo effort "Kaleidoscopic," a title that well describes the fantastic, schizophrenic malice that marks the album. This album, not unlike 2004's "The Cuckoo Clocks of Hell," is very loud and psychotic at its core, but it shows a greater level of savvy and artfulness than its noisy predecessor.

The improvements with percussion and looming synth noises in particular make the album more challenging and diverse, and somehow, even more strange. "Kaleidoscopic" can be gleefully sadistic or confusingly queasy at just about any point, and try-

ing to make sense of what's going on or where a song is headed is an exercise in futility.

Few guitarists, living or dead, can boast of a technical prowess as impressive as Buckethead's. He obviously spends hours on end every day noodling away on his guitar with a bucket over his head, and the results are astounding. "Kaleidoscopic" offers 13 songs played as fast as Buckethead can pick and a pood drum machine that must be all but exhausted after trying to keep up with him.

Almost every song has some impossibly fast and complex prog metal riffs, but without warning, the ferocity is inevitably inter-



rupted by dissonant, growling mechanical effects. The skittish nature of the songs, each one composed of dozens of separate movements of varying speed and tone, makes it hard to tell when one weird song ends and the next baleful one begins.

It's odd for the sake of being odd, and it works wonderfully. Even without a single lyric in 50 minutes of music, Buckethead is able to convey plenty of rage and nuttiness with a

bleak yet fiery air. In short, it's metal for folks in the loony bin.

And with titles like "Frankensuss Laboratories," "Breakfast Cyborg" and "The Android of Notre Dame," the listener's imagi-

nation is free to run wild with campy madness as to what all the explosions and screeches are meant to signify.

The first track ("Frankensuss") covers a lot of ground very quickly, and sets the many tones and moods that are to follow. There are moments of Buckethead racing the drum machine (and winning) and a wall of thunderous noise results. But moments of wistful or even slightly funky guitar riffs slow down the action, but only for 20 seconds until the bass-lathered roaring resumes.

Whether it's "Music Box Innards" or "Rack Maintenance," all of the songs are inventive and fierce, equally capable of making guitar junkies think they're in heaven at first listen. "Kaleidoscopic" is fun, though not very easy on the ears, and not for just any occasion. If you find yourself listless with soft, straightforward music, Buckethead will kick you in the pants for being such a wimp, and you'll thank him for it.

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## Students spring toward Johnson Center to exorcise winter weight

By Ellie Fairbanks  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

With Spring Break less than two months away, the urge to work out and get in shape can be seen clearly in the Johnson Center.

"This time of the year is definitely more crowded than the fall semester," said Kathy Rose, the Johnson Center's facility director. Rose estimated Johnson Center traffic would increase by up to 800 people a day from the average daily total of 3,000 people per day last semester.

As the spring semester begins, many students return to campus with goals and New Year's resolutions of getting in shape and eating healthy.

"After being at home for so long where it's so hard to bring yourself to work out, I plan on going to the Johnson Center frequently to get in shape for the spring," said Jennifer Prichard, an elementary education sophomore. "I think it's important to stay healthy, and since the Johnson Center is so close and free for students, it's really easy to go over there to work out."

While many students have aspirations of establishing a workout routine, all too often they abandon those goals, either because the results are not immediate or because they simply become too busy once classes start, said Beth Atnip, a senior wellness specialist at the Johnson Center.

"Every year, attendance is at its highest this time of the year, and then as soon as Spring Break is over, it dies back down again," Atnip said. "We want students to realize that they shouldn't just be working out to get in shape for Spring Break, but they should be changing their lifestyles in order to lead a healthier life."

In order to help students stick with workout routines, the Johnson Center offers many group fitness programs and a campus fitness challenge. Group classes include absolute abs class, cardio challenge, kickboxing, cycling, yoga, Pilates and step aerobics. Atnip said she thinks working out with others tends to keep students motivated.

The fitness challenge began yesterday and runs through March 10 and requires students to work out

for at least 30 minutes 32 times before Spring Break — an average of about four workouts per week.

In order to keep a workout routine that will last longer than the two months leading up to Spring Break, Atnip offered the following suggestions:

- Set an achievable goal.
- Instead of just working out for a couple of weeks and then losing interest, set a goal for yourself that you can attain and that you will work toward," she said.
- Work out with a friend.
- "When you are responsible for someone other than yourself, you'll feel obligated to work out," Atnip said.
- See the big picture.
- "Losing weight and getting in shape isn't something that will happen overnight," she said. "You have to be able to see that this is a lifestyle and behavior change."
- Get involved in a program.
- "Whether you join a group fitness program or complete the fitness challenge," she said, "this will make it easier for you because you have other people in your same program and you work toward a com-

mon goal."

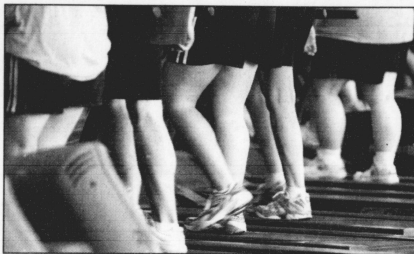
■ Leave time in your schedule for working out.

"When students get too busy with school, they tend to slack on working out," she said. "Build an exercise routine into your day as you would classes and study time."

■ Realize long-term goals

"To be healthy students need to see beyond the immediate results," Atnip said. "You have to look at yourself in 30 years and ask, 'Will I be healthy then?' We have to see beyond the now."

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Students crowd onto a row of treadmills in the Johnson Center. Attendance at the South Campus facility is expected to rise as students rush to get in shape for Spring Break.

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## IN OUR OPINION

### City council should can current party plan

The Lexington Area Party Plan, a symbol of contention between UK students and older residents in the areas surrounding campus, may soon be changing.

The city's Town and Gown Commission will be reviewing the plan, which was originally passed in 2001, with an eye toward revising it. Under the ordinance, properties that are the subject of two or more disturbance complaints in one year are deemed "no party properties" and face steep fines for provoking further complaints.

But Lexington police have had trouble enforcing the law, the Herald-Leader reported last week. Although police say there have been fewer loud parties, they have found that it is difficult to notify those who have attained "no party" status and that the courts often reduce citation fines under the plan to less-expensive noise ordinance violations.

If the plan is unenforceable, there is no question that it needs to be revised or taken off the books. It is a waste of time and taxpayer dollars for the police to spend extra time trying to enforce this law while the courts constantly reduce the steep fines that give the plan its teeth.

More importantly, the party plan is not a very good law in the first place — another good reason to take it off the books. Because the plan targets the property where a party occurred, rather than the residents who held it, it gives great incentive for outgoing residents to throw a huge end-of-the-year bash and leave the new move-ins stuck with a "no party" property.

On the other hand, students

need to be considerate of their neighbors, and there should obviously be legal consequences for noisy disturbances. But students who have just moved in to a house should not be punished for the wrongdoings of their predecessors. Perhaps a better solution would be higher noise-ordinance fines for repeat offenders — even if they have moved somewhere else — so that the people actually causing the disturbances would be the ones facing harsher consequences.

Students often see the party plan, as well as the keg-tagging ordinance, as symbols of the Lexington government's hostility toward students. Dick DeCamp, who represents the Third District (which contains UK and the neighborhoods surrounding campus) on the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council, often speaks as if his only constituents in the district were the older residents, not students.

But until we UK students organize ourselves politically, we should only expect to see more of the same. As Student Government presidential candidate Tommy Cunningham rightly pointed out last year, UK students could fill up to four council seats — the Third District seat and the three at-large seats — if we fielded students or student-friendly residents to run for them and then we voted as a bloc.

This fall brings mayoral and council elections. Are we, as students, paying attention? And if not, do we have the right to complain when the council passes anti-student laws? The answer to both, unfortunately, seems to be no.

### Humanities grant reflects crucial step toward top 20

In the quest to achieve top-20 research institution status, it was the vast majority of UK's financial efforts have been funneled toward science and engineering.

Though excellence in those areas is essential for a university to become elite, it's important that other critical fields not be ignored. And thanks to a recent grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, UK can direct more focus toward the arts and architecture.

The NEH recently awarded UK's Gaines Center for the Humanities \$220,000. Over the next four years, the grant will be matched 4:1 by private donations, resulting in a \$1.1 million total endowment.

UK was one of just four colleges

to earn the grant, which is awarded on a competitive basis. It was the only public institution to win money.

The grant will help the Gaines Center in its effort to work with Lexington leaders on designing local buildings and attractions to make the city more aesthetically pleasant. It will also help the Gaines Center in one of its key missions: to enrich the education of humanities and architecture students.

The NEH grant is a boon for the city, the state and UK. To reach its top-20 goal, UK must focus beyond the sciences. Hopefully, even more private aid for UK programs is coming down the pipeline, since it seems additional state and federal funding is just wishful thinking.



CHRIS STEWART, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Hockey column a tad too icy

I'm not a student at UK, but I am an avid fan of UK hockey. I haven't missed a game this season in or out of town — that includes their games in Oklahoma!

I recently read Chris DeLottell's article regarding the Cool Cats' decision to change coaches. It's quite obvious that young DeLottell's intent was to debase and unfortunately not to write an article based on facts or interviews with players. The article was also repetitive and poorly written, which doesn't bode well for The Kentucky Kernel — especially if he's the assistant sports editor.

Perhaps next time, DeLottell or some competent writer could write a story worth reading. For instance, your readers would be interested to know that even though hockey is the third-most-attended sporting event (after basketball and football) at UK, the athletics department still chooses to treat the Cool Cats like second-class citizens. But I guess a story like that might be a little too cutting-edge for DeLottell to tell.

Next time DeLottell submits an article, please check to make sure it isn't half a page worth of his baseless opinion.

KELLI PENDLETON  
Cool Cats fan

### DeLottell unfair to team, fans

When reading Chris DeLottell's Jan. 13 column about the UK hockey team I was amused by one-sided and false the article was. I am close

friends with many of the players on the team and know former Coach Mike Sosnowski and General Manager Ian Ward as well.

I have attended every game since my freshman year and can tell you that at the University of Southern Indiana game a helmet was not thrown into the stands but thrown behind the goal where fans are not allowed.

Also, the fights and penalties in the game were not silly. The team they were playing was playing dirty and unfair, which anyone who was actually at the game could see. One Kentucky player got taken out for the rest of the year because of an unsportsmanlike act from the opposing team.

The Southern Indian players harassed the Cool Cats so much that players who normally have a cool head in the game were forced to act. The Cool Cats play well; they have many good players, not only from the previous years but also that came in this year.

Obviously, coaching is going to be a factor in the team's losses. It takes not only a team but a coach to win. It was a team decision to let Sosnowski go; no one acted alone. I know for a fact the team is looking forward to playing for Coach Rob Docherty and that the team will go on to be far more better than they already are.

The column printed in The Kernel was not only one-sided but false and made the team look bad for doing something they felt would help the team. Whoever wrote the article should make sure to get more information and know what they are talking about.

I know that the article not only upset players on the team, but also the fans. If there is one thing the team is missing, it is not accountability. If there is one thing that the article written was missing, it was facts and a good journalist.

BRITTANY LEE  
elementary education junior

## Yes, it has gay cowboys — but that's no excuse to ignore 'Brokeback'

It's the same circular conversation with nearly the same verbatim result.



Crystal Little  
KERNEL COLUMNIST

don't understand; it's an excellent heart-breaking and beautifully shot and just so good." (Insert a patronizing nod here.) "But they're gay."

"Why does that matter? The storyline is universal." "If you want to go see two cowboys get it on, go ahead — I won't."

That's basically a Cliff's Notes version of every conversation I've had with every straight male friend (and my mother, who's still scandalized at the thought of her only daughter voluntarily watching what the media has so lovingly deemed "the gay cowboy movie") about "Brokeback Mountain."

Enter defeat, stage left.

I've fought this decidedly

losing battle for a week and a half, and as much as I'm loath to admit it, I'm tired.

I can argue for hours about how everyone can find common ground with the unrequited love theme, or the brilliance of the cinematography, or Heath Ledger's stellar performance. Come on — I forgave the man for "A Knight's Tale" after seeing "Brokeback." That has to count for something.

I can protest that the sex scenes — of which there are surprisingly few — are tastefully done, and then apologize for not being able to come up with a less trite way of explaining that the sex honestly isn't explicit. I mean, the audience obviously knows what's going on, but it's not like watching a tawdry production starring Ron Jeremy.

I can counter that if it were two gorgeous cowgirls onscreen rather than two hot Marlboro men, straight guys would pack the theater.

But all these quantifiers ring hollow in the ears of my dissenters.

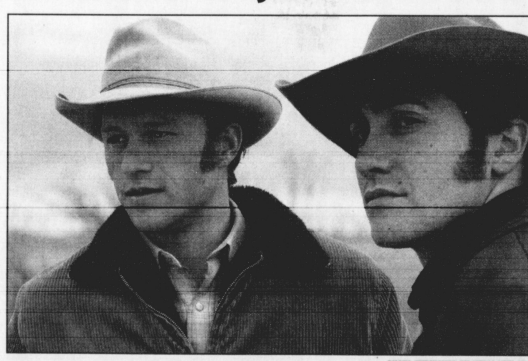
Instead, I'm met with, "I don't care — it's still cowboy

sex."

At that point, I'm tempted to respond with a flippancy, caustic comment involving the status quo and latent homosexuality. At that point, I want to shake my head and dismiss the conversation entirely. Thanks, guys. Way to pass up what's been rightfully hailed as one of the best — and certainly most talked about — films of the year. Way to be closed-minded. Way to reinforce the notion that straight men are inherently homophobic.

But I don't make such an unfair attack — a sad, juvenile attempt to breach an impasse between two conflicting schools of thought. And it would do nothing to further my own argument; instead, it would just prove how vindictive I can be.

So I've tried to temper my frustration with this perceived mental block in the average straight man's psyche. Maybe the hostility isn't all motivated by homophobia. I understand that a lot of people see homosexuality as wrong. Immoral. Completely against their personal doctrine.



Heath Ledger (left) and Jake Gyllenhaal star in director Ang Lee's "Brokeback Mountain," which has received attention mostly for its portrayal of gay cowboys, but is also a more universal story of love and heartbreak.

All right — then you'll have to allow me my belief that bigotry is wrong. Immoral. Completely against my personal doctrine.

But I'm not endorsing "Brokeback" simply because I have no problem with ho-

mosexuality. I think the film is worth watching simply because it's been critically acclaimed as one of the best and most controversial movies of the year. Believe it or not, it's a beautifully told love story. And I wonder

if a lot of people — i.e., straight men — aren't watching it because they're afraid they'll actually like what they see. Aside from the cowboy sex, of course. Crystal Little is a journalism senior. E-mail: little@kykernel.com.

### Online Poll Question

Do you think the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council should repeal the Party Plan ordinance?

Vote online at [kykernel.com](http://kykernel.com)

### Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Brenton Kenkel or Assistant Opinions Editor Wes Blevins.

E-MAIL

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Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the Opinions page reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of The Kernel.



## 'Excited' Cats vault to home win

By Eric Lindsey  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The biggest crowd in UK gymnastics history witnessed the Cats' first home win of the season in their first match.

In front of the announced sellout crowd of 6,103 at Memorial Coliseum, the Wildcats (3-0) defeated Illinois State and Southeast Missouri State on its 23rd Annual 'Excite Nite' and home season-opener.

The Cats won with a team score of 194.50. Southeast Missouri State came in second with a score of 185.200, followed by Illinois State with 181.525.

Junior Krystle Cook and freshman Natalie Rubinstein led the way by tying for the best all-around scores, each posting a 38.975. "I think it was a really great meet," said Cook. "We had some ups and downs, but we were really resilient and we did a great job of just keeping with it and kept fighting."

Cook, named UK's "Gymnast of the Week" last week for her Jan. 6 performance in a win against Michigan State, won the all-around competition title for the second time in a row and was.

With three returning seniors from last year's team, coach Mo Muhammad realizes his remaining upperclassmen are the keys to a successful season.

"We need our upperclassmen to step up because upperclassmen lead your team," said Muhammad. "We need Lucy (Burgin), Krystle Cook, Staci O'Keefe and Rachel Riley to really step forward and take hold of this team."

Saturday the older Cats got plenty of help from their younger teammates.

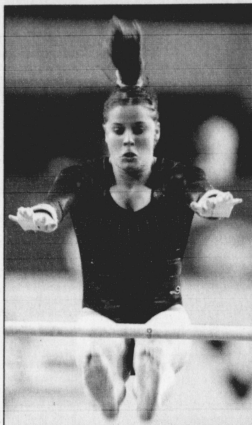
Freshman Heather Hite followed up her stellar performance against Michigan State with another impressive outing by posting the best floor performance with a score of 9.825. Rubinstein rebounded from an admittedly shaky start in her first collegiate meet by wowing the crowd with each event.

"The first meet was my first college meet and I had a lot of nerves going into it," said Rubinstein. "But this one, I just kept it together and found my focus and went out there and had fun."

Muhammad agreed with the freshman's assessment of her performance.

"She was focused; she was hungry," Muhammad said. "Her parents were in that huge crowd so she wanted to show them along with everybody else that she was doing the right thing by being here at UK."

That huge crowd included Olympic gold



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

Sophomore Crissy Cannon competes on the uneven bars during gymnastics Excite Nite on Saturday at Memorial Coliseum. UK defeated Illinois State and Southeast Missouri State.

medalists Dominique Moceanu and Svetlana Bogunuskaia along with 13-time UK All-American Jenny Hansen.

"I think it's just wonderful how all these people in this city are behind these girls," Moceanu told Dick Gabriel, the night's master of ceremonies and a sports anchor at WKYT.

Hansen and the two Olympians gave the current Cats pointers after the match, something the UK gymnasts appreciated.

"It was nice to know they were there to support us and just being there to give us advice after the meet was great," said Cook. "They thought we were on the right path, so we must be doing something right."

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## New energy, coach lead Cool Cats to weekend split



ANDREW HUGHONS | STAFF

Junior defenseman James Tracy battles for the puck with a Dayton player during the Cats 4-3 overtime loss Saturday. The Cool Cats traveled to Dayton, Ohio, the night before and picked up a 6-2 victory.

By Laura Nelligan  
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The Cool Cats have gotten a fresh start to the new semester.

Friday, they traveled to Dayton, Ohio, with new attitudes, a new head coach and two new players.

And the unranked Cool Cats won, 6-2, against a Dayton team ranked 10th in the Southeast Region in Division II of the American Collegiate Hockey Association.

Then the Flyers came to Lexington the next night, looking for revenge.

When Saturday's game went into overtime at 3:3, it was looking like a perfect weekend for the Cool Cats — until a holding penalty on freshman forward Tony Valerino gave Dayton the power play that set them up to score the winning goal.

"It was a hard loss (Saturday) night, but a super weekend," said new head coach Rob Docherty, who also commented on the team's "new attitude" despite the loss of sophomore forward Andy

Bertram and senior forward Joe Obermeier for the rest of the season with injuries.

"They really seemed to be re-energized," Docherty said.

"It was probably the best attitude I've seen in the past two and a half years (since I've been here as assistant coach)."

Docherty said Saturday's game was a little tougher than Friday's, but the team did great against a highly ranked Dayton squad.

"It was a hard-fought battle," Docherty said. "We took a ton of shots and we had a ton of chances. We tried everything and we threw everything we could at them. Then we got that lousy call in overtime and it cost us the goal." That "lousy" call happened when Valerino and a Dayton player collided and their facemasks locked, taking them both down on the ice. As they were trying to pull each other apart, Valerino put his arm around the other player and the referee called holding on Valerino. Other UK players helped pull their facemasks apart.

"I couldn't believe it actu-

ally happened," Docherty said. "We took a stupid penalty in an overtime game. Then going on a power play cost the goal. And in overtime, that's it."

Newcomers Chris Protenic and Tommy McCurrie, who came to UK after playing junior hockey together scored all three of Saturday's goals. McCurrie has been practicing with the Cool Cats all year, but wasn't eligible to play right away because of the time lapse between high school graduation and starting college.

"Both of them are excellent hockey players," Docherty said. "Their attitudes just pick up everyone else's. It changes the tempo."

Protenic scored two goals each game.

"It was a blast," he said. "I think this weekend was a complete turnaround. (Docherty) has very realistic expectations. He definitely has his heart in the right spot. He really cares about the players."

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### SPORTSBRIEF

**Cheerleaders notch 15th national title**  
UK's cheerleading squad took home their 15th national

championship — their third in a row — Sunday at Disney's Wide World of Sports. It was the team's 11th national

championship in 12 years. Since 1995, UK has won the title every year except 2003.

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**JUMBLE** THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by Henri Arnold and Mike Anglin

Unscramble these four Jumbles. One letter to each square. To form four ordinary words.

The clues are something like this:

**NELLK** \_\_\_\_\_  
Globe, House, Meats, Services, Inc. (all plurals)

**LEBLE** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CRADOW** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**FLOWWL** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: "\_\_\_\_\_"

Yesterday's Jumbles: MOUND, NEEDY, BURNAL, NOGO  
Answer: What the pilot became when he bought a turn — "SCROUNDED"

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