

FRIDAY KENTUCKY KERNEL

TO THE
3RD
DEGREE
Denver quartet
to play in
Lexington | 3



February 21, 2003

Celebrating 31 years of independence

http://www.kykernel.com

UK kept facilities clear in case of outage

Reserved: No shelters opened on campus; UK offers empty dorm rooms to select students for a price

By Tracy Kershaw
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Some shivering students have wondered why UK — with three gymnasiums, empty dorm rooms and electricity — has not opened a shelter.

UK considered opening Memorial Coliseum as a shel-

ter, said Kelley Bozeman, UK spokeswoman, but wanted to keep the space available in case the dorms lost power. Then, UK would have had nowhere to house the estimated 5,100 students living in the dorms, Bozeman said.

The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government

did not ask UK to open a shelter, said Marianne Blodgett, a city spokeswoman.

UK housing administrators offered dorm rooms to those living in Greek housing and the 275 students living in UK apartments at University Commons.

UK was obligated to find free housing for members of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, who had to move into Haggin Hall Wednesday. SAE

is one of three fraternities operated by UK. Other Greek housing is privately owned, but leases land from UK.

So when the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority house lost electricity Sunday, UK administrators offered members rooms in Donovan Hall for \$12 per night, said Susan West, director of fraternities and sororities.

The sorority chapter adviser agreed to pay the hous-

ing fee for any members wanting to stay in the dorms, West said. Two of 42 AGD members expressed interest, she said.

"It was nice for the university to offer that because they weren't able to open it up to non-housing students," West said.

Some sorority members were not as forgiving. Many had already made arrangements, said AGD member Becky Collins, an accounting

senior, preferring to stay elsewhere rather than have the chapter pay.

"I can understand why they would have to charge, but I think it's ridiculous they would suggest it," she said.

West said UK was justified in asking the students to pay for the rooms.

"People have to pay for hotel rooms," she said. "Someone has to pay for those services."

Professors cancel class due to ice aftermath

No school? Crises, transportation cause some cancellations

By Ben Fain
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As ice clings to the branches of trees this week, class cancellation notices also cling to the doorways of some classrooms.

It's easy to tell that more classes than usual were canceled Wednesday and Thursday. While good news to some, these notices can cause frustration.

Brooke DeSpain, an undeclared sophomore, walked to the Classroom Building only to find her FAM 252 class canceled Thursday.

"It's just fine that my professor canceled class, but I wish I knew ahead of time," DeSpain said.

DeSpain is still without power in her University Commons apartment and is staying with friends.

The FAM 252 class had no lecture but still held a session for makeup exams, monitored by graduate student Jill Messer, the class's teaching assistant.

The class's instructor, Marcia Bell, said conditions at home prohibited her from coming to campus.

"I'm overwhelmed. Teaching wasn't on my mind today," she said.

"This is the fifth day my electric has been out. My basement is flooded, and we've lost everything we own in it. My house is uninhabitable."

Bell has never canceled class before, not

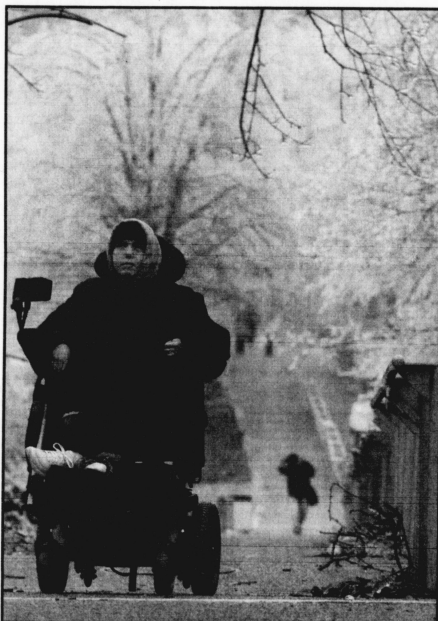
See CANCEL on 2

Disabled students deal with ice, debris

'Hectic'

Social work junior Ginger Burns navigates her motorized wheelchair across campus Wednesday. She said that the ice storm made getting from place to place difficult at times. "It's been real hectic with all these tree limbs," she said.

JOHN WAMPLER
PHOTO EDITOR



Ice storm: Some students who use wheelchairs say snow would have been worse

By Derek Poore
STAFF WRITER

Though ice and tree debris posed some problems for UK's disabled students, a snow storm would have been worse, many said.

Jacob Karnes, student affairs director at UK's Disability Resource Center, said he re-

ceived only one call from a student about campus conditions.

"I have not heard any dramatic complaints from students," Karnes said. He said that as long as sidewalks are clear, there are usually few problems. Most sidewalks have been clear since Wednesday.

Michael Brent, a journalism junior who uses a wheelchair, said he found few obsta-

cles on his way to classes Thursday.

"(Thursday) was the first day I was out," Brent said. "All the pathways were clear. There was some ice falling, but I really haven't had any trouble."

Snow, he explained, is more treacherous than ice.

"When it snows, the snow

See SNOW on 2

UK honors outstanding professors

'Great Teacher': President Lee Todd says faculty create bonds between students, UK

By Matthew Towner
STAFF WRITER

Six UK faculty members were deemed "great teachers" by the UK Alumni Association at an awards luncheon held Thursday.

The honorees were Lee Edgerton, College of Agriculture; Frank Romanelli, College of Pharmacy; B. Peter Sawaya, College of Medicine; and Kathi Kern, Hubert Martin Jr. and D. Stephen Voss, College of Arts and Sciences.

The Great Teacher Award is the longest-running award for faculty members, said Anne Haney, chairwoman of the awards committee. The alumni-sponsored program started in 1961 and has honored 196 UK faculty members.

UK President Lee Todd, a recipient of the award in 1982, said the teachers help UK develop lasting relationships with students past and present.

"The faculty are the glue that hold the alumni back to the university," he said.

UK Provost Mike Nietzel agreed. "These are the people that students tend to remember the university by," he said.

Nominations for the award were taken from students during the fall. The recipients were chosen by a committee appointed by the Alumni Association's Board of Directors and a student representative from the Mortar Board and Omicron Delta Kappa.

The candidates were not only judged on their classroom performance. Nietzel said recipients of the award usually "wrap their identities in their daily lives."

Hilary Hultman, who nominated Martin, said he aids students outside an academic setting.

"He's really supportive of the arts at UK and in teaching undergraduates as well," she said. "He's a treasure in our department."

Therese Bratten, who nominated Kern, said her professor's door has always been open. Bratten is also a Kernel cartoonist.

"She's the biggest encourager to me and other students," she said.

The nominating students praised the other recipients for their skills, including unique teaching methods, high availability and overall dedication.

The six recipients will be honored again at the men's basketball game on Feb. 26 and at commencement in May.



Edgerton



Kern



Martin



Romanelli



Sawaya



Voss

"These are the people that students tend to remember the university by."

— MIKE NIETZEL, UK PROVOST

UK graduate and Cinergy CEO to give lecture

Back on campus: James Rogers, who graduated 29 years ago, will talk about his experiences as a CEO

By Rebecca Neal
STAFF WRITER

When Cinergy Corp. CEO James Rogers was a student at UK, he worked evenings at the Lexington Herald as a reporter, thinking he wanted to go into journalism.

"But it came down to graduate school and journalism or law, and my dad said law because of the money," Rogers said.

Twenty-nine years after

graduating, Rogers, CEO and chairman of one of the largest diversified energy companies in the country, will speak to UK students Friday.

"It's my way of giving back, since I gained so much from the university," he said.

Rogers will be giving the 2003 Chelgren Visiting Lecture, a series created by Paul Chelgren, the former chairman of Ashland Inc. and a member of the Board of Trustees.

Rogers said he hopes his speech — "Corporate Governance and the Future of the Energy Industry" — will educate students about what it's like to be a CEO of a major corporation.

"I'd like to give insight into what CEOs do, what Cinergy does and a rounded view of how to juggle competing demands," he said.

One of the great chal-

lenges of being a CEO is managing work and family, he said.

"Some days it's more focus on business and others it's more on family. ... probably a disproportionate amount of time on business than family," Rogers said.

Rogers will address the recent corporate scandals including Enron, one of his former employers. Ken Lay, Enron's former CEO, who refused to testify before Congress about his company's collapse, recruited Rogers in 1985.

"I left my law practice in Washington D.C. for the job,"

See ROGERS on 2



Rogers

Explosion in Corbin factory leaves 30 workers hospitalized



Firefighters leave the scene of the CTA Acoustics plastics plant in Corbin, Ky., after it exploded Thursday morning, injuring more than 20 people and pushing an unknown chemical into the air, causing police and fire to evacuate the scene, and to evacuate all residents within a mile radius. An elementary school has also been evacuated.

Fire: Some victims are treated and released; several in critical condition are transferred to area hospitals, including UK Hospital

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CORBIN — An explosion and fire at a southern Kentucky insulation factory Thursday sent more than 20 workers to hospitals, many of them with critical burns.

"I didn't know how bad it was until I got outside and saw the smoke and the fire," said Helen Rutherford, 48, who has worked at the plant for 29 years. "What I saw today, I never want to see again."

The cause of the 7:30 a.m. explosion at CTA Acoustics was not immediately known, said cabinet spokesman Eddie Jacobs.

Jim Tomaw, legal counsel for CTA in Corbin, said the fire began near an oven where raw fiberglass is manufactured. He said 150 of the company's 561 employees were in the plant at the time of the explosion.

"It was just like a tornado came through," said Rutherford, of London. "A big puff of wind blew all my paperwork into the floor. It just got black. I heard like a muffled boom." Then workers were told to leave

the building. Elizabeth Ash, a spokeswoman for Madison Heights, Mich.-based CTA Acoustics, said 26 employees were injured in Thursday's blast. Some of the injured were burned over 90 percent of their bodies.

"We prepare as physicians for disasters — I have never seen this," said Dr. George Liu, a surgeon at Baptist Regional Medical Center. "The best thing people can do is pray for these people."

The Corbin hospital said it treated some 30 victims. While 10 were released, several in critical condition were transferred to burn centers at the University of Kentucky Hospital in Lexington, Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville and University Hospital in Louisville.

Earlier this month, the Kentucky Labor Cabinet proposed to cite CTA for an allegedly serious violation involving safety guards on machinery, Jacobs said. The company was cited in 1989 and 1993 for serious violations — conditions that are not intentional but could cause injury or

death. Those cases also dealt with insufficient safety guards on machinery, according to agency records.

The company settled the citations for \$3,600. State inspections in 1998 and 2000 turned up no violations. CTA received a governor's safety award in 2001 after going three years and 4 million hours without a lost-time injury.

The plant in Laurel County near the Knox County line makes acoustical and thermal insulation products for the industrial and automotive industries. Tomaw said sales from the plant average \$80 million to \$90 million per year.

Bob Terrell, director of the Corbin Office of Economic Development, said the plant 90 miles south of Lexington supplies materials for Ford vehicles.

Tomaw said the plant is undergoing a \$100 million renovation, but didn't believe that played any roll in the explosion and fire. A spokeswoman for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said the federal agency was providing routine assistance to local authorities in investigating the explosion.

"At this point we're not aware of any criminal activity," Laura Volk said.

CANCEL

Continued from page 1

even when her uncle died last semester, she said. At that time, she had her teacher's assistant teach the class.

Thursday, though, this was not an option since her lecture materials were left in the three feet of water in her basement.

"I wished I had had the 300 phone numbers of all the kids in my class so I could have told them I couldn't make it," Bell said. "I know these kids are going to fight to get to class — that's my worst fear."

Hyungsoo Kim, the instructor for a night section of FAM 668, was able to make it to campus Wednesday but canceled class on behalf of his students.

"Two of them e-mailed me that they were not able to come here," Kim said. One student was surrounded by flood waters in London, Ky. and another was stuck in Ohio, he said.

Although Kim's section of FAM 668 lasts two and a half hours and is held only once a week, he doesn't think it will be difficult to cover all of the material by the end of the semester.

"I planned ahead with an emergency or review class at the end of the semester," he said. Messer, also a student in Kim's class, was happy to have a break.

"Considering the weather, I didn't want to be out," Messer said.

Kim alerted his students that there would be no class by e-mail and phone, which was not a problem — there are only 14 students in the class.

When Messer received the news, she wasn't surprised.

"I've heard of a lot of classes being canceled," said Messer.

SNOW

Continued from page 1

piles up on the side of the road. It piles up on the curb cuts," Brent said.

Curb cuts are sections of tapered curbs that slope downward from the sidewalk to the pavement, usually for access to crosswalks.

"If [curb cuts] aren't clear it's difficult," Brent said. "For some reason they clear all the sidewalks but not the curb cuts." Brent said snowplows often push the snow off the road and back onto the sidewalks and curb cuts.

Some students did have difficulties with the ice.

Social work junior Ginger Burns, who also uses a wheelchair, had significant problems moving around, yet still was able to attend her classes.

"Some of the sidewalks were blocked off," Burns said. "The first big snow we had, I didn't go to class. Usually they keep the sidewalks clean but some of the ramps are harder to get up."

Mike Wiggins hasn't been able to attend class this week. He agreed that snow is the biggest problem for students using wheelchairs.

"I can't go out when it snows," said Wiggins, a communications sophomore. "Usually if it snows, I just stay right here (in my room). I'm afraid that if I get stuck in the snow, nobody would be around to help."

ROGERS

Continued from page 1

Rogers said.

He cautioned about jumping to conclusions before the investigations are finished, but said he has conflicting feelings about the business practices of Lay, a personal friend.

"If he wasn't paying attention to the details... then shame on him for that," he said.

Rogers said that "as a guy whose company burns 30 million tons of coal a year" he feels a responsibility to improving the environment.

A former consumer advocate

in Kentucky, Rogers now meets with top Washington administrators to ensure responsible environmental policy. The Danville native has visited the White House and has met with Cabinet members such as Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Christie Todd Whitman and Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham.

"Bush has been receptive, even though there's the perception that he isn't. He's been working on good environmental policy," he said.

If you go

James Rogers will speak at 10 a.m. Friday in Room 148 in the Business and Economics building.

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Rocky Mountain high: Denver quartet plays Lex



PHOTO FURNISHED

Three degrees of music

Three Degrees of Freedom members Paul Cox, Andy Clapp, Greg Page and Matt McClain will play at the Fishtank Monday night at 9 p.m.

Original: Three Degrees of Freedom will perform songs off their debut CD, *Vacillate*

By Robbie Clark
ASSISTANT SCENE EDITOR

As the ice begins to melt and more students begin to emerge from their dwellings in search of something to do, the Fishtank heeds their calls.

Three Degrees of Freedom, a quartet from Denver, will play at 9 p.m. Monday night at the Fishtank.

"People class us as a jam-band," said vocalist and guitarist Paul Cox. "That's the realm that has embraced us because nobody knows where else to put us."

The other members of the group include percussionist Andy Clapp, bassist Greg Pace and guitarist Matt McClain.

As a stamp of approval for the group, the *Denver Post* honored Three Degrees

of Freedom with "Best in Genre—Jam Band" in July of 2002.

Many more aspects of music can be explored as a jam-band than are available in other forms of music, Cox said. He says that with this style of music, the group has the opportunity to experiment with improvisation.

"Improvisation on stage is a lot of fun and helps keeps us fresh," he said.

With improvisation, Cox said, "the musicians' affinity with the audience is more apparent, and lets the group 'connect with the audience every night.'"

The audience is very important, Cox said. Interaction with the fans at a concert helps keep the members of Three Degrees of Freedom true to themselves and those listening.

"The fans are very honest and critical," Cox said. "They'll tell us what they don't like, and most of them know what they're talking about."

The members have been playing together for just under two years, a short amount of time compared to other seasoned jam-bands that rely on familiarity with the other musicians to maintain cohesiveness when playing together.

Cox said the players in Three Degrees of Freedom are in tune with each other on stage.

"It's just like we're finishing each other's sentences," he said.

When the band first began playing in Denver, the problem was not being an amateur group, but having

enough material to cover an entire gig.

"During the first couple of months, we had enough material to play about an hour and a half," Cox said. "People would ask us if we could fill a four-hour gig, and we would take it knowing damn well that we didn't have enough material to play."

Having to fill large amounts of time with a relatively small amount of material is what kindled the group's interest in improvisation, Cox said.

The band will be showcasing material from their debut album *Vacillate*, due for release in March of this year.

"(This album) is the best representation we have for our band on CD," Cox said.

“Improvisation on stage is a lot of fun and helps keep us fresh” - PAUL COX, GUITARIST FOR THREE DEGREES OF FREEDOM



PHOTO FURNISHED

Jazzing it up

Jazz singer Regina Carter will perform at the Singletary Center on March 2 at 8 p.m. Carter is a part of the Spotlight Jazz series.

KYKERNEL.COM

Apply February 21st through March 21st for the Alpha Lambda Delta Scholarship. Pick up forms at the Academic Scholarship Office, 211 Funkhouser, or the UK Career Center, 408 Rose Street. For more information call 257-2751

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CAMPUS CALENDAR
Week of February 17- February 23
The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Registered Student Orgs. and UK Depts. and is available for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information is to appear at: http://www.uky.edu/Campus_Calendar. Call 257-8867 for more information.

MEETINGS *Revival Bible Study, 7:00pm, Student Center, Rm. 245 (FREE) ARTS/MOVIES *Opening Reception "A Feast of Images" in conjunction with the Kentucky Women Writers Conference, Gallery Top, 5:00-8:00pm, Ruestel Gallery SPECIAL EVENTS *LSAT Prep Weekend, Friday evening and Saturday morning. Advance registration and fees currently being accepted. Contact Central Advising Service, 257-3383 *University of North Carolina-Grainstore Road Trio, John Jacob Niles Center for American Music, Rm. Lucille Little Fine Arts Library *Phat Car Show April 12 th , 2003. Currently accepting applications online at: www.phatcarshow.com *La Residence française, 5:6pm, Keeneland Hall SPORTS *The Krews Do practice, 5:30-7:00pm, Alumni Gym Loft	Fri 21
ACADEMIC *College of Engineering, 9:00am-1:00pm, College of Engineering SPORTS *The Krews Do practice, 11:00am-12:30pm, Alumni Gym Loft SPECIAL EVENTS *UK School of Music Gala *Day of Percussion *LSAT Prep Weekend, Friday evening and Saturday morning. Advance registration and fees currently being accepted. Contact Central Advising Service, 257-3383 INTRAMURAL/RECREATION *Self-Defense Kempo class, 3:00-5:00pm, Alumni Gym Loft, Free! No experience needed.	Sat 22
MEETINGS *Jude Club, 5:00pm, Alumni Gym Loft *International Student Bible Study, 6:30pm, Baptist Student Union *Alpha Kappa Psi Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm, Student Union, 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 Library *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 SPORTS *UK Men's Basketball Game vs. Mississippi State, 2:00pm, Rupp Arena	Sun 23

DIALOGUE

4 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2003 KENTUCKY KERNEL

Editorial Board

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Cole Schmidt
CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST

Contemplating the past while fighting off insanity

About 60,000 Lexingtonians spent the better part of this week sans electricity, myself included. The resulting free time allowed for a lot of soul-searching. That's what I did, anyway. I found it extremely disconcerting that, without TV and an electric razor, my life, or lack thereof, is brought to a screeching halt. I wondered what existence was like for those before the invention of such gadgetry. Are we better off than them? Or do we rely so heavily upon technology that we have forgotten how to live?

For the first couple of powerless hours I was in disbelief. I absent-mindedly wandered from room to room flipping switches and expecting a reaction. Meanwhile, my modernized brain tried to comprehend why the hot dog I had placed in the microwave 45 seconds ago was still cold. I honestly didn't know. The crash of a falling tree jugged my memory, and I recalled my tendency to take things for granted. Electricity is what makes things work and I didn't have any.

Sitting by yourself in the dark is only fun if you're a madman. I, on the other hand, require constant sensory input. The TV usually satisfies my craving but, apparently, it needs electricity to do so. Boredom set in rapidly, and time passed like a slug. I tried to read an old newspaper but, for some reason, up-to-the-minute political commentary isn't that exciting in retrospect. Candle in hand, I searched my darkened room for anything to keep me sane.

There was a small, battery-powered radio in my closet, and I learned from the Internet that people used to listen to them. So I did. The whole experience was nauseating; radio has become so disgustingly repetitious that it's no wonder people watch so much. Granted, I'm only 20 years old, but my preconceived notions of radio are rooted in imagery as old as most grandmas. That is, my expectations were pretty high.

I had always pictured myself as a sweater-clad youngster, sprawled out on a hardwood floor and listening to my favorite program on a radio the size of a refrigerator. In the meantime my dad would methodically puff his pipe on the Davenport. "How do you think the Lone Ranger is gonna get out of this mess?" he'd ask. It would be warm and simple.

Back in the real world, however, I was freezing my ass off while being subjected to the insane advertisements of personal injury lawyers and tire salesmen. Every so often, Eminem would yell things.

Nature's never-ending quest for equilibrium soon brought the temperature inside my house to an intolerable 38 degrees. I had no choice but to gather my belongings and seek refuge and entertainment elsewhere. Like a pioneer, I loaded my covered wagon (Ford Windstar) and headed out west (Hamburg Pavilion). I planned on loitering for a while. I wandered through every store the center had to offer, starting with the larger chains and working my way down to the more exotic boutiques.

I managed to stay busy and warm, but somehow ended up with a hypoallergenic mattress pad, a slang dictionary and a shoe-shine kit. This was unsettling. With my normal wardrobe of Goodwill clothes, an empty belly, and now a bunch of useless crap in bags, I was starting to feel like a genuine derelict. A couple more minutes on the street and I would have been pushing a shopping cart filled with aluminum cans. It was getting dark anyway, so I made my way back to the minivan.

With no place left to go and nothing left to do, I pulled out my notepad and wrote the beginnings of what you are now reading. This, it occurred to me, is what people did before electricity. They sat down and did something meaningful; something that they enjoyed and that others might benefit from. The ice and snow were no longer sources of contempt, and I was now able to appreciate their beauty.

I reclined in my leather captain's chair in the hopes that a new position might afford a better view. I gazed up into the glassy limbs of a nearby tree. Fluorescent light from surrounding stores was reflected by the frozen water and refracted into a tiny rainbow that illuminated the page I had been writing on as well as my mind. "Damn it," I thought, "I missed Friends."

Cole Schmidt is an undeclared sophomore. His views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.

Animal cruelty bills cut down party lines

While it seems like the buzz in Frankfort has been all about deficits and the need for a new budget, other issues are making their way into the limelight at the state capitol.

Senators and representatives are considering one Senate and two House bills aimed at instituting harsher penalties for acts of animal cruelty. If passed, the bills would require certain acts of animal abuse be prosecuted as felony offenses, rather than misdemeanors, meaning much harsher penalties for violators.

About 150 citizens attended a rally in Frankfort this week in an attempt to raise public awareness of the issue and send state lawmakers a message. Sen. Tom Buford, R-Nicholasville, who sponsored the Senate bill, spoke at the rally and encouraged supporters to maintain their fight to pressure their legislators to approve the measures.

At a time when rampant fiscal shortcomings threaten to dominate lawmakers' agendas, it's good to see citizens and elected officials working together for a noble cause.

While it may not be the most glamorous,

headline-snagging fight a politician or activist could wage, this campaign to combat animal abuse is worthy of our support, and it's long past due in Kentucky. Ours is one of only 13 states that has not enacted some type of legislation adding felony penalties to anti-cruelty laws.

This all comes on the heels of last year's uproar over the Henry County animal shelter's practice of shooting stray dogs that were scheduled to be put down, rather than using a lethal injection.

A citizen secretly videotaped the shelter's disposal practices over a two month period, then released the footage. The public backlash forced the shelter to abandon its inhumane method.

Public sentiment and political pressure can yield a similar result in Franfort this legislative session. If an issue exists that should truly be immune to partisan bickering, this is it. There's no excuse at all for harming defenseless animals, and there's no excuse for refraining from using state power to protect them.

UK history and journalism collide during Great Ice Storm

This article was compiled by Professor Buck Ryan's Journalism 101 class. All the students are journalism majors unless otherwise noted.

The lights, the flashing and the whirling, like a macabre alien attack, are what merchandising major Carrie Bolton remembers about the Great Ice Storm of '03. Her ceiling fan flickered on and off while out her window she saw the sickly green flash of a transformer popping in her backyard.

No wait, that flash wasn't green; it was a "gorgeous" turquoise for Heather Pease, 18, who was frozen by the sight of dying transformers elsewhere Saturday night.

For a third student flying back from La Guardia Airport, she saw the lights of Bluegrass Airport dive into an ocean of darkness. As she searched for streetlights below, the plane "violently lurched upon the pavement." Nicole Barth, 19, had landed the hard way back to school.

At 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2003, on the official restart of classes after a historic two-day layoff (we thought winter could never close UK), students in Professor Buck Ryan's Introduction to Journalism class wrote some



Buck Ryan
JOURNALISM PROFESSOR

history in a hurry.

The class of 80 represents a cross-section of UK athletes (gymnastics, soccer and volleyball) and a former track star; a new honor society inductee and other honors students; a Bill Billiter journalism scholarship winner; two candidates for the Student Government Senate; and an amateur photographer. For the students who lived in Lexington nine years ago, this ice storm was much worse — no comparison for one former 10-year-old schoolkid.

So here is their story of what it was like to live through the Great Ice Storm. Their deadline was 90 minutes or less.

"Trees fell, cars crumbled and then everything was dark," said Reid Johnson, 19. "At any moment I could hear the rain of ice come down, followed by the crack of thunder as the limbs fell to earth."

Krysti Hessler, 19, a journalism freshman, took a stroll down Woodland Avenue to photograph the damage. "Small tree fruits were totally encompassed in ice," she said, "shivering and choosing to jump off the tree and shatter, rather than wait it out."

For two 19-year-olds, Hope Meisinger, an English major, and Nick Stebbins, a business major, the weather scene was a crime. "The storm stole my pet fish in the middle of the night and left his glass tank cracked," Meisinger said. Stebbins got mugged by the freezing rain. "I went running one evening

and the ice blew into my face like small daggers, both numbing and stinging my skin at the same time. As I walked back, I could hear thousands of tiny pieces of glass striking each other as they hit the ground."

For Jennifer White, a triple major, "the storm came when the nation was screaming about the dangers of terrorism," then it snapped us back "so that we would not miss what we were all too crazed to see. The trees, our homes, our families were all trapped with us in a very silent, very brilliantly timed, cold but real picture of our lives."

Erin Taylor, 21, left her "dark freezing-cold prison of a house" to see that her "brand-new car was buried under a pile of huge ice-covered tree limbs." A tree limb also hit Michel Scott's "poor, defenseless, never-bothered-you-so-why-are-you-bothering-it car."

Jesse Morgan, 21, heard "the sound of wine glasses clinking together as they do for a toast," then "a crash accompanied by screeching and scratching." She "watched a shadow pass by the blinds." The victims were two oak trees, and for her, Mother Nature's heart is cold as ice.

For Rachel Tierney, 18, getting around town was an Olympic event. "My car seemed to be a figure skater ... though not nearly as graceful," she said.

Jami Wiedmar, 19, an education major, has seen fire and ice. "My hair caught on fire ... as

I stumbled through my apartment with a candle," she said about her search for textbooks.

For Laura Willis, 19, "the ice was like an angry ex-boyfriend, relentless and unwilling to give up." Joanna Day, 18, is just counting down the hours until she doesn't have to wear gloves in her apartment.

There's Mother Nature and then there's Taryn Lorenzen's mother, who "said we had to be back early because there was supposed to be a 'big ice storm,' which meant nothing to me because she calls me at school the night before we get an inch of snow to tell me to prepare for a blizzard."

There's ice and there's Vanilla Ice. "Rain dropped, ice formed, trees fell, power was lost, classes were canceled and students exclaimed," said Tamara Evans, 19. "Ice, ice, baby."

For Sasha Stave, a pre-broadcast journalism major, one question echoed through her friends: "If a tree falls on me, do I get free tuition?" Stave called the storm "a beautiful state of emergency."

"It is kind of scary looking yet so pretty at the same time," said Jana Cooper, 19, an undeclared freshman. Something like a flying saucer, you might say.


Buck Ryan, executive director of the First Amendment Center at the University of Kentucky, can be reached by e-mail at buckryan@pop.uky.edu.

"The lights, the flashing and the whirling, like a macabre alien attack ..."

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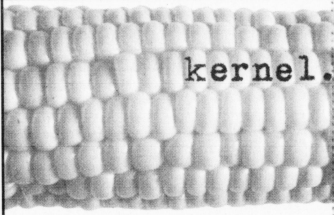


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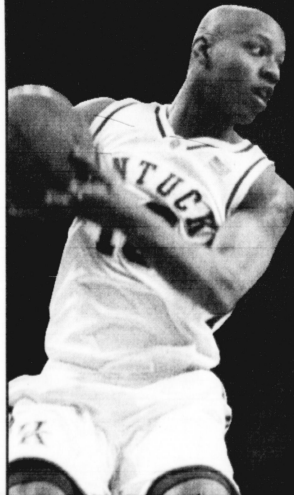
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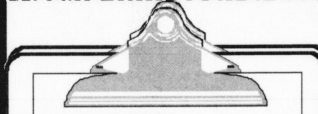
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- Step 5. After the fifth Bulldog is announced, yell: "Welcome to Rupp!"
- Step 6. After the MSU Coach is announced begin chanting:

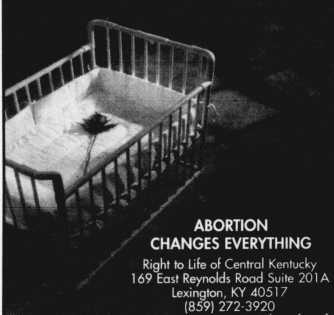
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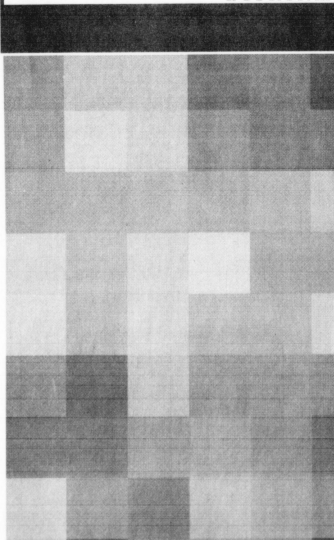
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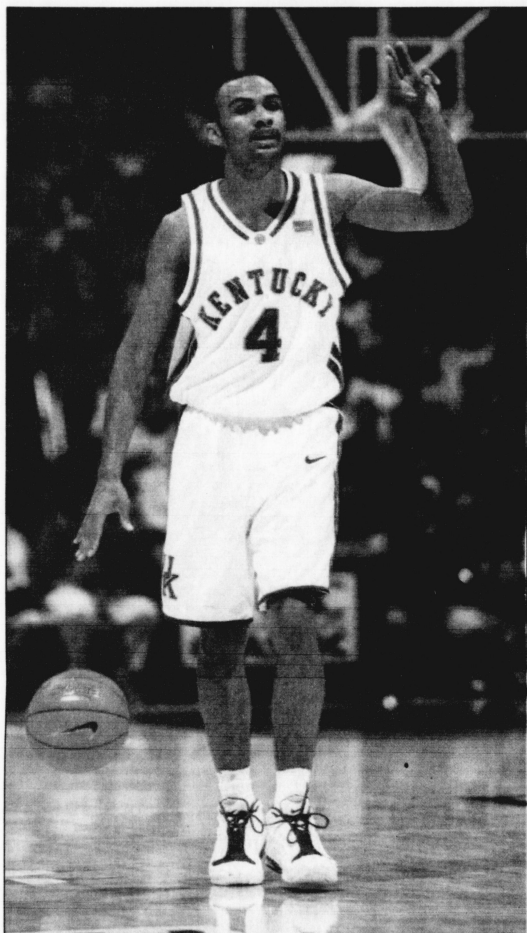


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Marching toward March

UK junior point guard Gerald Fitch directs the Cats on a set play. Fitch is one of four Cats, who average double figures in scoring. UK hosts Mississippi State Sunday at Rupp Arena.

Battle of division leaders: Smith keeps Cats focused while shrugging off constant compliments from coaches

By Travis Hubbard
SPORTSMANLY EDITOR

Tubby Smith has no trouble knocking his players' egos from their perches. But he might have to start using the same approach to the compliments his peers are throwing his way. The UK basketball coach has steered his team to a 21-3 record and the nation's longest current winning streak (15 games), while starting 11-0 in the Southeastern Conference. The Cats have also climbed to a No. 2 national ranking in both The Associated Press and ESPN/USA Today top 25 polls.

The players get reality checks at daily practices when Smith reminds them they still have areas to improve on, but what about Smith?

"I think this is one of the better Kentucky basketball teams they've had in the last 10 years," said Mississippi State coach Rick Stansbury during the weekly SEC coaches' teleconference Thursday. Stansbury's Bulldogs will try to end UK's 15-game winning streak and unblemished conference record Sunday at Rupp Arena.

"Tubby has done a tremendous job. From where they started their season, to where they are now, Tubby has done an excellent job."

Even former UK coach Rick Pitino, whose Louisville squad was the last team to beat UK on Dec. 28, admits UK is the best team in the nation right now.

But just like he mandates to his players, Smith keeps a watchful eye on the next task at hand. Instead of boosting his own ego, Smith points out the obstacles Mississippi State poses for the imposing Cats.

"As we move along and wind down conference play, we're going against one of the hottest teams in Mississippi State," Smith said during the teleconference. "Obviously, Mario Austin is an impressive player. I've always been impressed by Timmy Bowers. They're coming off a big win against a good Auburn team."

The same Auburn team UK defeated by 16 Jan. 22, the Bulldogs beat up 63-46 to gain sole possession of first place in the SEC Western Division.

Stansbury has to convince his team it is capable of beating the Cats on the road.

"I think our team's playing with a lot of confidence," Stansbury said. "Any time you go on the road and win, it gives you a lot of confidence. Unfortunately, we have to go to Kentucky. Kentucky, with Rupp Arena, is the best team in the country."

"You've got to have a very good basketball team to win there. There are a lot great basketball teams who are not going to win there."

But Smith said Wednesday, after the Cats handled Arkansas on the road, that Mississippi State is as hot as the Cats — or at least any other SEC team.

"They started (slowly) because they didn't have Mario Austin," Smith said. "Starting out 0-3 in the conference, they were playing pretty tough teams to start out with. Florida, at LSU, at Alabama."

Since then, MSU is 7-1 in the SEC.

On Sunday, the teams will prove which is hottest, and whether Smith has to keep shrugging off compliments.

UK vs. MSU



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WEEKEND SPORTS



FILE PHOTO

Julie Joy and the UK gymnastics team competes against Auburn tonight. The GymKats are looking for their first conference win.

Swimming/diving
- The UK swimming and diving teams continue to compete in the Southeastern Conference Championships through Saturday.

Softball
- The UK softball team (4-6) play Oregon at 10 a.m. today at the Houston Invitational in Texas. The Cats will also face Texas-San Antonio, Texas Tech and Houston during the three-day tournament.

Gymnastics
- The GymKats (4-7, 0-4 in the SEC) hit the mats on the road at Auburn tonight against the Tigers (9-3, 2-1).

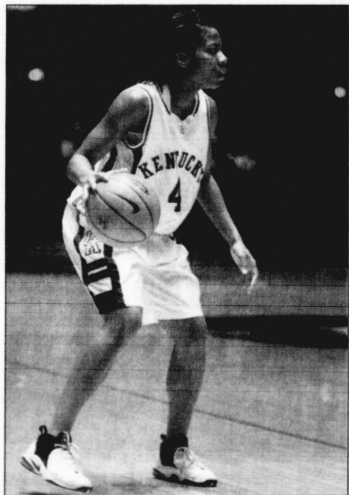
Women's tennis
- The UK women's tennis team travels to North Carolina Friday to face the Tar Heels. The Cats return home to host Purdue at 1 p.m. Sunday at the Hilary J. Boone Tennis Center.

Men's tennis
- Coming off a narrow 4-3 loss to No. 1 UCLA Tuesday, the UK men's tennis team will continue play in the USA/ITA National Team Indoor Championship.

Baseball
- The Bat Cats (2-1) play The Citadel Friday in the Charleston (S.C.) Crab House Challenge. UK will also face Boston College and Richmond this weekend.

Rifle
- UK's rifle team competes in the Great American Rifle Conference Championships in Cincinnati, Ohio, this weekend.

Adams delivers, ending UK skid



ROBBIE CLARK | KERNEL STAFF

Rita Adams scored 13 points and made a 3-pointer with just over one minute to play last night, helping UK defeat Florida 49-47.

By Travis Hubbard
SPORTSMANLY EDITOR

Rita Adams was the difference in her return from a two-game absence, nailing a 3-pointer with 1:19 remaining to put the UK women's basketball team ahead 49-45 against Florida last night to end a six-game losing streak.

Adams — who missed the last two games because of the death of her brother — scored 13 points, but her final basket put UK (10-13, 3-8 Southeastern Conference) up for good.

"(The plan) was to get the ball inside," said UK coach Bernadette Mattox, "but when you're a senior leader and she felt it, you have to take that shot."

Florida (8-16, 0-11) responded with a turnaround jumper in the lane by Vanessa Hayden with one minute to play to pull within two. Florida had a chance to tie on its next possession, but Payne stole the ball from Tishona Gregory.

When junior SeSe Helm missed the front end of a one-and-one, Florida had another chance to tie, but Sarah Lowe missed a layup at the buzzer after a baseline-to-baseline drive.

"I think experience

made the difference," said Florida coach Carolyn Peck. "Especially Rita Adams in the backcourt."

UK had no answer for Hayden, who scored 17 on six-of-11 shooting and grabbed 17 rebounds. Still, Peck wasn't satisfied with Florida's inability to get the junior center more shots.

"They started to double down on Vanessa, and she began passing it out of the post, but I didn't think that was necessary," Peck said. "She's strong enough and big enough to score."

Payne said Hayden's height gave UK trouble.

"I don't think we had a problem stopping her, but she used her height to her advantage," Payne said. "She has such long arms she can just grab rebounds."

UK prevented Florida from earning its first SEC win, but more important gave the Cats confidence they can win close games.

"That was our main focus — not to let them come away with their first win," Payne said.

Adams made sure of it. "It's a big relief," Adams said. "This is a big win because now we know what to do when the next big game comes up."

Sportsbytes

Former Cats to sign autographs Saturday

The public is invited to an autograph session on Saturday with participating Kentucky basketball lettermen who are returning for the 100 Years of Kentucky Basketball Reunion Weekend.

The session will be held at the UK Basketball Museum located at the Lexington Civic Center adjacent to Rupp Arena. An admittance fee will be charged.

200-medley relay team sets school record

AUBURN, Ala. — The UK men's and women's swimming and diving team had a record-setting day Wednesday at the Southeastern Conference Swimming and Diving Championship at Auburn's James E. Martin Aquatic Center.

The men's swim team set a school record in the 200-medley relay with a time of 1:28.06. Fernando Barros, Roger Watkins, Daniel Cruz and Clay Casparovich beat the previous record of 1:28.32 set by Barros, Watkins, Shaun Zitzan and Aaron Workman in 2001.

The team finished fifth on Wednesday, ahead of Tennessee, Georgia and South Carolina. The finish also marked the first time ever the Cats finished in front of UT.

In the 800-free relay, Cruz, Joey Faltraco, Steven Manley and Daniel Farnham finished with a time of 6:28.89, which would have been good for fourth place and a berth in the NCAA Championship.

However, the team was disqualified for a false start, negating the result. The highlight for the women was an eighth-place finish in the 200-medley relay (1:44.65) and the 800-free relay (7:30.32).

In men's diving, senior All-American Clayton Moss was looking to win his third consecutive 1-meter springboard title. Moss led the pack heading into the sixth and final dive with a score of 294.00.

After Florida's Zach Wilcox finished his final dive, Moss needed 51.3 points to secure his third-straight SEC title, but missed on his final dive and scored just 45.5 points to finish in second.

Compiled from wire reports