

Friday
March 25, 2005

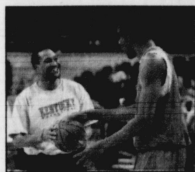
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THE KENTUCKY Kernel

Celebrating 33 years of independence

Cats
refuse to
look past
Utes



Page 3

New code could extend UK's authority

Off-campus incidents could result in university action under proposal

By Shannon Mason
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Proposed changes to the Student Code of Conduct could give UK jurisdiction over criminal acts committed by students off campus.

"Right now, if a student raped another student in the

middle of Rose Street, the university couldn't do anything because it's public property," said Tony Blanton, the assistant dean of students.

If such an incident were to occur, the only measures UK could take with the current policy would be to remove the victim from a class

if he or she shared that class with the offender. And that would only be if the victim agreed, Blanton said.

The revision would allow the university to deal with specific types of violent crime if the crime occurred off campus between two students or a student and an employee of the university.

This is one of three revisions to the code proposed by the Office of Student Affairs. Pat Terrell, vice president for

student affairs, said this is the first full revision of the code since it was written in 1967.

The revision of the code was drafted by a subcommittee of the Student Code Committee, which is made up of UK faculty, staff and students.

These changes do not include academic offenses.

Brad Hartsock, a student member of the Student Code Committee and food science

junior, said he is not in favor of giving UK jurisdiction except in certain circumstances.

"I am against such a provision except in the most extreme cases," Hartsock said, "as this could open the door to the university disciplining students for drinking violations or other nonviolent crimes which the Lexington government has already dealt with, and the university has no business dealing with."

Hartsock said the university's legal counsel tended to agree with him on that point, but "nothing is concrete just yet."

The second change would eliminate the University Judicial Board, which deals with violations of the code in regards to the university. It would be replaced by eight to 10 hearing officers who would individually deal with cases.

See Code on page 2

Council overrides water veto

By Elizabeth Troutman
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council ended attempts to condemn Kentucky American Water Co. last night in a 9-4 vote to override Mayor Teresa Isaac's veto.

Isaac vetoed a resolution to end proceedings toward the condemnation last week.

Councilman David Stevens was absent from last night's vote.

Vice Mayor Mike Scanlon called the override a turning point.

"I think any progress made is good for Lexington," he said. "We made progress tonight."

Scanlon said the override restricts Isaac from further exercising authority over the issue.

"I am pleased that condemnation is ending," Scanlon said. "I am pleased that a long, drawn out process is coming to an end. I am happy that substantially this is behind us now and that a corporate citizen can go back to managing the water company."

A three-member negotiation committee appointed by Scanlon met with Kentucky American in a series of settlement discussions in the past two weeks. The committee returned to the council last night with several settlement proposals.

Proposals include the water company's duty to fill all city pools, the continuation of Kentucky American's commitment to charitable and civic initiatives, and the implementation of a customer call center to handle customer services issues.

The council did not vote on the findings last night. The proposals of the negotiation committee, comprising Jacques Wigginton, Kevin Stinnett and David Stevens, will be reviewed by attorneys and returned to the council in two weeks for a vote.

Scanlon will appoint three council members to oversee the arrangement of the documents by attorneys today.

The council first voted to end the condemnation of Kentucky American in January, but the decision was reversed by Isaac's veto the following week.

Isaac proposed local ownership of Kentucky American in 2002. Kentucky American is currently owned by German conglomerate RWE.

Second District Councilman Jacques Wigginton held the swing vote of the council but suggested a formal negotiation process to finalize the issue. Wigginton voted to override last night.

He said settlement meetings with Kentucky American lasted only one to two hours.

"What we have is an agreement in concept and term," he said. "It's a good day in that it's out in the public; it's what the public can expect. And I think that's what people wanted to see."

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ONE FELL SWOOP



An adult red-tailed hawk catches a squirrel for a meal. The hawks are the second-most common in the state.

By Adam Siczko
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

At least two members of the most populous species of hawk in Kentucky have uncommonly made their home on UK's campus, said biology professor David Westneat.

Red-tailed hawks have been known to eat squirrels, chipmunks, mice, snakes and lizards. On more rare occasions, the hawks will hunt rabbits.

"In a day, they maybe eat one squirrel," Westneat said. "Of course, if they have a nest with nestlings, they'll be feeding them pretty constantly."

Occasionally, the hawks take baby birds from other nests, but their size is a factor in those efforts, Westneat said. "They're not very good at taking birds out of nests because they're so big."

The red-tailed hawks live in Kentucky year round, but they've usually found a mate and are starting to breed in the early spring, Westneat said.

Red-tailed hawk hatchlings take at least two months before leaving the nest. That's a fairly long time, Westneat said, but the hawks won't leave the nest until they are ready to fly.

"Of course, there's not very many predators of them," Westneat said, referring to their size. "Their nests are very high up."

Scientists do not know the significance of the red color in the hawk's tail. Westneat said the color red doesn't appear until adulthood, so it could be a sign of age. But it's also puzzling that both sexes have the colored tail.

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Baptist students offer alternative response to gays

Open Door group hopes to provide support for those 'struggling' with sexual identity

By Keren Henderson
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Dissatisfied with some evangelical Christians' response to homosexuality, five students from the Baptist Student Union have started Open Door, an organization for students "struggling" with their sexual orientation.

"It seemed to us that there was very little being done by the Christian community to address homosexuality," said Jeremy Tackett, a communication senior who helped start the group this semester. "And the only efforts anyone has seen so far have been negative."

Open Door is the first organization of its kind in UK history and the only one at a Kentucky university, Tackett said the group, which meets every Monday for discussion, is not designed to fight the gay and lesbian community.

"We are not a protest group, but a support group," he said. "Our only purpose is to serve as one part of an effort to help people leave the homosexual lifestyle who have chosen to do so."

Jonathan Bopp, former president of Lambda, UK's student organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students, said he thinks the students responsible for Open Door have good intentions.

At the same time, he said he questions their ability to keep the positive image they claim.

He said he sees a disconnect between "we love you" and "we think you are going to hell."

"It comes out as not very heartfelt," he said. "Although he disagrees with the group's position on homosexuality, Bopp said the organization could be helpful for some students."

"There are people out there looking for a group like that," he said. "They are finally away from their parents and dealing with their feelings for the same sex but don't want them. Maybe they've gotten into the wrong crowd. A group like Open Door would be a good way to deal with that."

Members from other Christian groups on campus said they support Open Door. Some said they questioned the idea that the Christian community is mostly negative toward homosexuality.

It's not possible to generalize about the Christian response since it is so varied, said Stephanie Short, president of Christian Student Fellowship.

"I know that the church that I attend in the Lexington community has responded to homosexuality with the love of Christ," she said.

Each Open Door meeting is a little different depending on who shows up, Tackett said, but one thing always remains the same — all discussion is confidential.

Chris Stump, a communication sophomore who left the homosexual lifestyle two years ago, said the group is a comfortable place to talk.

"I would have come to a group like this when I was struggling with it," he said. "I wanted to change and knew I needed help. They can talk about those things and do a good job communicating the loving Christian view."

Email news@kykernel.com

UK 67, XAVIER 62

Cats keep dancing on Potts' 31

By Lindsey Keith
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Sara Potts was just not ready for her career end.

Down 14 points in the second half, the Xavier Musketeers thought they had the game in hand.

But Potts refused to let her career end. The senior forward scored 29 of her 31 points in the second half, leading the Cats to a 67-62 victory last night in the quarterfinals of the Women's National Invitation Tournament.

"Wow. What a game," said UK head coach Mickie

DeMoss. "I thought we had a great comeback. But what I liked is how we never quit and never stopped believing. I saw it in our seniors' eyes that they did not want it to end."

UK (19-15) finally got a win against the Musketeers — avenging a 75-67 loss on Dec. 28 to Xavier (22-10). The Cats did it in dramatic fashion, putting the Musketeers away in the final minute of play.

"We had to be more aggressive," DeMoss said. "We talked about if we wanted it to end right here. They are coming into our house, and we had to be the aggressors."

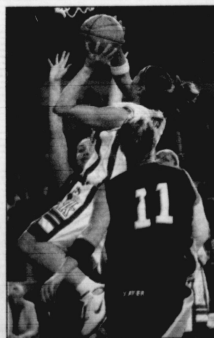
Potts finished her second straight 30-point performance with 31 points and nine rebounds.

The Cats will host West Virginia (20-12) in the semifinals of the WNIT at 7 p.m. Monday at Memorial Coliseum.

"It was a case of their star player taking over," said Xavier head coach Kevin McGuff. "Sara Potts is amazing — she hit every big shot they needed."

McGuff's Musketeers ran into a UK team that refused to lose. And in a game of

See WNIT on page 3



Senior forward Sara Potts scored 29 of her game-high 31 points in the second half of UK's 67-62 comeback win last night over Xavier. UK will host West Virginia at 7 p.m. Monday at Memorial Coliseum in the semifinals of the Women's National Invitation Tournament.

Keith Shuler | STAFF

Schiavo case also a political battle

By Richard Simon and Janet Hook
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON — After Congress' high-profile entry into the Terri Schiavo case, most lawmakers responded in a low-key manner to Thursday's Supreme Court decision not to intervene in the dispute, underscoring the delicate political nature of the controversy. The measured reactions came as polls have shown public disapproval of Washington's actions in the case. The terse statements from Capitol Hill to the Supreme Court's decision contrasted with the spate of news conferences a week ago, when several lawmakers began pushing legislation to allow federal courts to review the Schiavo case.

House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas, who spearheaded that drive, issued a joint statement with House Judiciary Committee Chairman F. James Sensenbrenner Jr., R-Wis., expressing "profound sadness and disappointment" with the court decision.

But they suggested there was nothing else that Congress could do in the case. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., a physician who provoked controversy with his medical com-

munications about Schiavo's condition, issued a two-sentence statement on the court decision, calling it a "sad day" for the woman's family and "for their innocent and voiceless daughter."

His office later issued a longer statement saying that Frist's comments on the Senate floor last week, in which he questioned the conclusion that Schiavo was in a persistent vegetative state, did not represent a diagnosis.

His remarks had been widely interpreted as a diagnosis.

"I think it's tough for anybody to use as an election issue."

Thursday's statement said that Frist, a possible 2008 presidential candidate, had sought to call attention to disagreement among doctors about her condition.

One of the stronger comments on the Supreme Court decision came from House Majority Whip Roy Blunt, R-Mo., who said he was "outraged" by what he termed a "dereliction of duty" by the justices. Democratic leaders did not comment on the court decision, perhaps a reflection of how the issue had divided their rank and file.

"This has got to be one of the most emotional, gut-wrenching issues that Congress has debated for many years," said an aide to a De-

mocratic senator, who asked not to be named.

The muted response from Capitol Hill to the court decision came as a CBS News Poll released Wednesday showed 82 percent — including a majority of evangelicals — disapproved of Congress' intervention in the case.

Nearly three fourths of those surveyed expressed "widespread cynicism" about lawmakers' motives.

Given the polls, members of both parties said it would be difficult for politicians to highlight the Schiavo case in next year's House and Senate campaigns without appearing to try to exploit a family tragedy for political gain.

"I think it's tough for anybody to use as an election issue," said Carl Forti, a spokesman for the National Republican Congressional Committee. "For a lot of these members, it's personal."

But the case has emerged as an issue in at least one possible matchup in 2006.

Ron Klein, a Democratic state senator from Florida, assailed Rep. Clay Shaw, R-Fla., for missing the House vote on the Schiavo bill, which occurred just past midnight on Monday morning. Klein, who plans to run for his colleagues from the Florida delegation were able to make it back to Washington for this emergency session."

ly Blanton said. In the end, the student panel would decide if the accused student had committed the violation.

This process would only deal with the side of the violation regarding the university.

If the student were to be arrested as a result of the violation, that student would go through outside legal processes as well, Blanton said.

The proposed revision would replace the entire process with individual hearing officers who would hear both the side of the student and the side of the university to reach a decision.

Hearing officers would be impartial and properly trained to conduct hearings, Blanton said.

Blanton said that the court proceedings could take up to three months to be assembled and reach a decision, but that the proposed change could cut down the time to two weeks.

"It would be more flexible and make the process a lot faster," Blanton said.

Also, a student would still be able to appeal any decision

to the University Appeals Board.

Finally, language in the code could be changed.

Blanton said the code is currently full of legal jargon that is difficult to understand.

"We want to make it more user friendly," he said.

Hartscock agreed that some of the wording needs to be changed. "Many students would be surprised how much time can go into a single word as the different meanings between 'shall' and 'must' hold different legal meanings in court," Hartscock said.

The Student Code Committee has reviewed and approved the proposed revisions.

Blanton said the changes will soon be posted online for public comment.

Once the comments are received, the committee will make any necessary revisions before sending the final proposal to President Lee Todd and the Board of Trustees.

If passed by the Board of Trustees, the new code of conduct could be in effect as soon as fall 2005.

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Code

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When a student is accused of a violation, he or she has the opportunity to admit or deny the violation. If a student denied committing the violation, the judicial board would hear the case.

Both Terrell and Blanton said the judicial board has never been used.

"We have no record that that body has ever met — ever," Blanton said.

However, Blanton said it is only a matter of time until someone will most likely deny a violation and some form of judicial process will be needed.

As the code stands, if the judicial board was needed, a court would be assembled.

About 400 letters would be sent out randomly to students, and the first 28 that responded would be considered to serve as a type of jury to hear the case, Blanton said.

Students would have the opportunity to opt out if they could not be impartial or felt connected to the case.

The case would most likely be chaired by someone from the College of Law who would serve as a monitor to make sure things ran proper-

CORRECTION

A headline in Wednesday's Kernel was incorrect. Mary Margaret Collier, a UK spokeswoman, was injured in an accident on South Limestone Street on Tuesday. To report an error, please call The Kernel newsroom at 257-1915 or e-mail news@kykernel.com.

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Looking ahead is not on Cats' minds

By Ben Roberts
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

AUSTIN, Texas — Just minutes after Saturday's 69-60 win over Cincinnati to advance to the Sweet 16, a few UK players were already looking ahead.

A little further ahead than some of their teammates would have liked.

As they huddled around an RCA Dome television broadcasting the conclusion of the West Virginia-Wake Forest game, one UK player pointed out the Cats were on a direct path to meet Duke in the Regional Finals.

"Don't look ahead," snapped sophomore forward Bobby Perry, as if the demise of the No. 2 seed Demon Deacons wasn't enough for his teammates to concentrate on the next step. The other UK players immediately agreed, and Perry said that was the last he'd heard of the Blue Devils from anyone on the UK roster.

"We're concentrating on this one game and this one game only," Perry said. "We did it in the first two rounds, and we're looking forward to doing it here in the regionals. So hopefully everybody is staying focused on Utah, because you certainly can't look past them."

Tonight will mark the sixth meeting in the last 11 NCAA Tournaments between UK and Utah. While the Cats dominated the first five games — winning all five by an average of 18.8 points per game — senior forward Chuck Hayes said the past has nothing to do with tonight's contest.

"There's different coaches, different players," Hayes said. "History shows that Kentucky has always been able to get the best of Utah — but this is a different year."



After the UK's win over Cincinnati last Saturday night, many of the players gathered around the television in the RCA Dome locker room to watch Wake Forest lose to West Virginia. UK faces Utah at 7 tonight in the Sweet 16.

This year's Utah squad boasts arguably the best player in the country in sophomore center Andrew Bogut, and an experienced backcourt in senior Marc Jackson and junior Tim Drisdorn.

Hayes said mental preparation will be the key if UK is to defeat the Utes and have any chance of a Regional Final showdown with Duke. "It's all mental," he said. "You are what you are physically; you aren't going to jump any higher so you have to prepare mentally. I think this team is doing well, and I think we have the right mindset."

While the Utah game is clearly the dominant matter on the minds of UK players, it takes the mere mention of Mike Krzyzewski and J.J. Redick to ignite the passion that has highlighted the UK-

Duke rivalry over the past few years.

Though the two teams have met only twice in the NCAA Tournament since 1980, both games had a trip to the Final Four on the line, and both became indisputable instant classics.

In 1992, it was Duke's Christian Laettner who hit a 17-footer at the buzzer to defeat the Cats 104-103 in overtime, in what some consider the greatest college basketball game ever played.

Six years later, it was UK that rallied from a 17-point deficit with less than 10 minutes remaining to overtake the Blue Devils 86-84 and send the Cats to their third straight Final Four.

Senior guard Josh Carrier acknowledged another Regional Final matchup with Duke

would be intriguing, but he said speculation should be reserved for fans and members of the media.

"People on the outside might be looking past this game, but the people in this locker room are completely focused," Carrier said. "We've been doing that for the past few games, and I think it's really helped us focus and play well."

And if anybody questions UK's incentive for winning this game, the specter of the Blue Devils will be there to spur on the Cats.

"We just realize that if we lose this game we won't have a chance to play them," Perry said. "I think that's enough motivation right there."

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WNIT

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sports, the Cats had the last one of the game. UK went on 14-0 run in the last six minutes.

"I thought we had good looks," McGuff said. "We just ran out of gas a little bit."

Senior guard Danyelle Payne helped Potts out by adding 11 points and five rebounds. Payne came up with the biggest defensive stop of the game, slapping the ball out of Xavier star forward Tara Boothe's hand with under a minute to go.

"We started mixing up defense and kept her (Boothe) a little off balance," DeMoss said. "We tried to keep her off balance without letting another player kill us."

Boothe scored 25 points and grabbed nine rebounds for Xavier.

Payne's defensive stop was just part of the Cats' defensive effort that held Xavier scoreless in the final 5:26. UK also outrebounded the Musketeers by 10, giving Xavier no chance for second shots.

After being held to two points in the first half, Potts took the game into her own hands in the second half.

"I made a decision," Potts said, "that every time we came down the court, I wanted the ball."

Potts' demanding the ball paid off as

she scored the final 11 points for the Cats. Potts extended her career by at least one more game and has breathed life to her team in March.

"She has unbelievable will right now," DeMoss said. "She is a senior, and these are her last walks between these doors."

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KENTUCKY 67, XAVIER 62

XAV (22-10) — Walker 2 (0-2); Boothe 10 (2-4, 25); Starnes 3 (3-7, 8); Miller 3 (2-3); Granderson 3 (0-1); Miller 3 (4-0-0); Henderson 2 (4-0-0); Tolson 2 (4-5-9); O'Leary 2 (0-0-2); Elliott 1 (0-0-0); Watson 4 (0-0-0); Phillips 1 (1-0-0); Starnes 1 (4-0-2); Alaka 5 (3-2-1); Payne 4 (9-3-11); Humphrey 2 (2-0-2); Potts 15 (0-2); Boothe 27 (9-11-19); Hallman 3 (4-3-4); Three-point goals—XAV 5-18; Granderson 2-7; Henderson 2-4; Alaka 3-4; Potts 3-5; Fouled shots—XAV 2; Boothe 9; UK 40 (Potts 9); Assists—XAV 7 (Walker 3); UK 10 (Potts 3); Total fouls—XAV 13; UK 14; 4-3:51

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Q&As with SG Presidential Candidates

Kernel staffers sat down with SG presidential candidates Tommy Cunningham, Becky Ellingsworth and Will Nash to talk about their platforms and campus issues. SG elections will be held Wednesday and Thursday.

Tommy Cunningham



KEITH SMILEY / STAFF

Q: What prompted you to run for SG president?

A: I've been too busy doing my undergraduate. But I've decided I'm going to have enough time — I'm going into grad school for the first year — to just really sit down. I've been really involved in certain clubs and different issues. I see everything that's going wrong, nobody's doing anything. I'd like someone to

Q: What prompted you to run for SG president?

A: I want to improve student life on UK's campus. That involves the three "E's" that I have — Educate, Empower, Elevate. I want to educate students about what their rights are, as students and as citizens at UK and in Lexington. I want to empower them with the knowledge that if they walk into the office of an administrator or official that Student Government is walking in with them, and they are to be treated fairly and be respected. Last, I want to elevate what it truly means to be a UK student and put UK students first on this campus. I really feel like college is an investment, and that the students who go here need to be treated like stockholders of that investment.

Q: Should you be elected, what is your No. 1 priority?

A: My No. 1 priority is student life. We've got a lot of platform issues dealing with that. "Student Rights Week" will be the first thing that will happen in the fall. Also, the Student Life Handbook is something we want to be working on during the summer. And beyond that, communications, communications, communications with the student body so they know what's going on with SG. We've heard a lot of complaints about that from students over the past few months, and we're going to work on the newsletter, which will be distributed to everyone. Also, we're going to make sure the Cabinet for Campus Outreach is in full swing at the beginning of the school year, making sure that we reach out to as many students as we can.

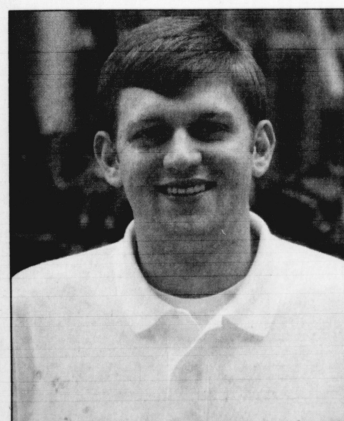
Q: What is SG currently doing well, and where could it improve?

A: I think we're doing very well as far as services go. I think some areas that we can improve upon are communication, letting students know about what we do, where we stand and involvement with SG. And so what I've been doing is talking to a great variety of students, seeing what they want to do and letting them know what we're doing, what kind of services SG has. Some of my bigger platform issues are reaching out to them, making sure that they know what's going on and making sure that they have access to everything that they do.

Q: Why should students care about the outcome of this election?

A: I've been telling a lot of people that those two election

Will Nash



KEITH SMILEY / STAFF

Q: What prompted you to run for SG President?

A: We decided we wanted improvement in two main areas: accessibility and diversity. If we make Student Government more diverse, students are going to feel like they can approach their leaders and share problems, concerns, opinions, whatever they might have. Diversity plays into that, because you want

just get involved, and I've got enough time now. They passed the bylaw where you don't have to have previous experience (to run for SG president). I can actually get in there and do something.

Q: Should you be elected, what is your No. 1 priority?

A: Voter registration and voter drives. It's cheap, too — doesn't cost a dime. We can make SG a volunteer organization. If a student wants to help out, get involved with your philanthropic organization. Go downtown. Sometimes people don't feel like going out in 25-degree weather to do that stuff. SG can have stuff for you to do. We'll set up a table, get people registered to vote. That should count. Call SG. There's a spot. There will always be something going on for students to get involved in.

Q: What is SG currently doing well, and where could it improve?

A: Right now SG does have a lot of good programs. The tax service — that's awesome. The lawyer service. They don't represent, you but they can lead you in the right direction. There are a lot of things in place. The problem is, nobody knows what's going on.

Sometimes I see stuff in *The Kernel* the day something is going on. Like the rally at the Capitol, I saw that the day before. I've got to know things ahead of time. I've got to be able to go on the Web site and find it out. It needs to be updated. Students need an outlet for that. They need to know what's going on.

Q: Why should students care about the outcome of this election?

A: That's the problem. Students don't care about the election. This campus is apathetic. I'm going to go in there and make it so students will want to get involved. They will actually see what SG is doing for them. And if they can put a face with a name, know what's going on, know friends who have gotten involved — not just the senators, not just the president and vice president — people come back.

Q: What is the biggest problem facing UK students?

A: The biggest issue on students' minds is tuition. When (running mate) Matt (Neff) and I went to the tuition hearing with the provost, we told him we consider it an investment for our future. We offered our insights. We're engineering students. All we do is analyze data. I kind of want to move toward a quantitative rather than a qualitative (discussion).

days determine what SG is for an entire year. As a student-funded organization, that has an impact on student life for an entire year, and so I feel it's really important that they elect who would do the best job for them.

Q: What is the biggest problem facing UK students?

A: I would have to say the amount of apathy and things they don't know. For instance, tuition. A lot of students don't know why those things happen, and I think if they're more informed about issues like that, those problems will be less prevalent. That's what we want to do with the Student Rights Handbook, make students more informed.

Q: Are there instances where SG has engaged in superfluous spending?

A: I know that we did have a budget deficit two years ago of \$10,000. As far as current years, President Watts has done her best to be financially prudent. I think last year we actually had \$25,000 extra. So I think financial accountability has become a big issue in SG, and that it's improving.

Q: What would you do to increase student involvement with SG?

A: I've got a lot of different areas where students can get involved — for instance, the student lobbyist core that I want to work on. There's going to be about 20 positions available to students who want to lobby for their tuition on a continual basis throughout the entire year next year. As far as average student involvement, I think the other issue there is communication. Obviously, only a certain number of people can be appointed and elected to positions in SG, but it's our job to make sure that students are involved as far as knowing what services we offer, what we can do for them and how we communicate with them better.

Q: In what ways can SG expand and protect student rights?

A: Obviously I feel that SG is the place where people should look for the student voice. What SG can do to protect those rights is: 1. Talk to students about what kind of issues they have; 2. Make them aware of issues of that they may not know about, such as tuition increases, things going on in the Univer-

students that are not all alike. Because when you have a diverse group of people, it makes them more approachable. Additionally, we wanted to make Student Government more diverse by reaching to groups that hadn't been reached out to in the past by SG or SG officials.

Q: Should you be elected, what is your No. 1 Priority?

A: Well, I think first it's following through with those two themes. The dead week policy — helping to improve it so that students don't feel so pressured and so stressed at the end of finals week. Creating relationships with the city government and the Frankfort government — because we hope to put a student on the Lexington City Council, we feel like that's something that will take a lot of work and that we need to get to immediately.

Q: What is SG currently doing well, and where could it improve?

A: I think that President Watts has done an excellent job being fiscally conservative, and that's something we hope to carry over into our administration, because she sets an excellent example of how to spend students' money.

As far as what SG doesn't do well, one of the things is communicating with students, and one of the ways we hope to improve that is by every month buying the back page of *The Kernel* and designing it kind of as our own newsletter.

Q: Why should students care about the outcome of this election?

A: One, the president sits on the Board of Trustees, and every student is represented by that person on the board. And the board is the group that passes tuition increases, fee increases, they're the ones that approve or disapprove construction projects. Secondly, SG's budget is almost \$300,000 of student money, so we're spending their money, and if they don't care, that's a problem in my mind.

Q: What is the biggest problem facing UK students?

A: I think one problem would be that we don't have a lot of student buy-in to the whole "top 20" goal. Students are, again, very apathetic to that because they don't see how it will affect them. So we need students to really read into this plan, we need them to understand it, and we need them to act on it. We need for them to demand more from their professors and faculty

Right now, SG can't do anything about tuition. But like I said, we get people, we put leverage on the local government, we put leverage on UK that we are a student body, we're a mass system now. The legislators in the state capitol are going to be like, "Hey, that's the sixth-largest city in Kentucky of voting power. Maybe we want to increase that budget \$5 million for UK. We don't want to get voted out of office."

Q: Are there instances where SG has engaged in superfluous spending?

A: I guess there was some issue recently about the Web site that Rachel Watts put up, the \$10,000 or something. That's a good investment. I'm so businesslike. I'm running this campaign. I raised \$800. I'm penny-crunching. I'm looking for deals, instead of just going out and buying something in the first five minutes, I'm actually spending two days of research checking it out.

Q: What would you do to increase student involvement with SG?

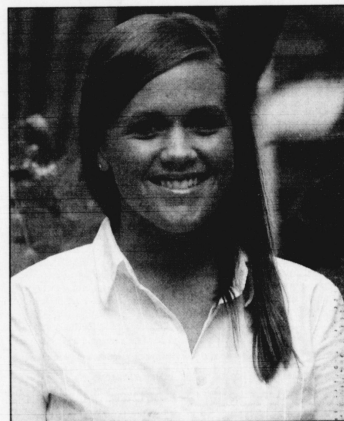
A: Our main platform is getting people registered to vote and to vote. Right now people can go to political rallies or go down to urban county council and voice their opinion. But we have no power, we have no leverage on the system itself. So you get people registered, you get people going and involved. You just register, even if they don't vote at first. If the people in charge, the mayor and urban county council members look and see "Hey, wow! That's a record turnout for registered voters," they're going to start listening.

Q: In what ways can SG expand and protect student rights?

A: I've been looking into that. I want to get all the legalities in place, but we're going to urban county council, we're registering voters, and we're going to have a UK candidate next election. You have your Republicans, your Democrats. But we're going to have a UK Party. There are three at-large positions. We can have a candidate in every single one of those spots. We can have the 3rd District, Dick DeCamp. How he got elected again, I have no clue.

But we're choosing between the less of two evils. We don't have a candidate for ourselves. But we can have a representative, whether it is a faculty member that lives close to campus or a student who is maybe a political science major and wants to get involved in local politics. We're going to pick a candidate in a year to run for UK.

Becky Ellingsworth



ROBIN BAKER / STAFF

sity Senate, academic issues, issues in the state of Kentucky and in Lexington, making sure they know what issues are out there, and when there is a problem making sure they know we're there to back them up on it.

members. We need to start acting as a student body like we are a top-20 university.

Q: Are there instances where SG has engaged in superfluous spending?

A: Well, one thing that is usually criticized is "Hoosier Daddy" or the Valentine's gala, because Student Government's role has not customarily been one of programming or putting on programming of the student body. What (running mate) Michelle (Bishop) and I have talked about doing with Hoosier Daddy or Gator Roast is reaching out to more university groups and organizations, including the alumni association and athletics, and asking them to help sponsor it. So it's not only alleviating the financial burden on SG, but also giving the appearance that it is a universitywide event and making SG more accessible, so that more students will come to those events and take part in what's going on. One could argue that that is superfluous, but I see the advantages of having events like that, bringing 10,000 students together, but if we can reduce the actual cost that SG contributes to that, we can spend it on something else.

Q: What would you do to increase student involvement with SG?

A: One is to make more positions open-application. I know that in the past the spoils system has been used more often than not in creating the executive branch or other positions, and I think that if we make those positions open-application, more students will be aware of what's going on. Another thing is that SG has a cabinet, but the problem with that is that many students are intimidated by the just the sheer presence of the word "cabinet," because most people don't know what that is. Even people within Student Government don't understand what they do, so I think we really need to restructure that.

Q: In what ways can SG protect and expand student rights?

A: Michelle and I hope to create that position on the city council that is a student. There are tens of thousands of students that attend UK, LCC and Transylvania in this area, and many of our voices are not heard because our elected leaders are in different counties, because that's where we are registered to vote. But I feel like we have to improve students' rights by getting that official on the Lexington council so that they can represent student needs.

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ETCETERA | the poore philosophy

Even my margarine mocks media fracas

With Jacko's back against the wall in court, I decided to change the channel on the TV to escape the media circus surrounding the Michael Jackson trial and found myself watching the Michael Jackson trial.



Derek Poore
KERNEL COLUMNIST

Despite media promises to not make this a sensationalized mess, the Trial of the Century XVIII went off without a hitch, appearing on every single channel, radio station, Web site and table lamp in the nation. I'm waiting for Ray-Per-View to get involved.

When I had breakfast this morning, my toaster gave me the latest prosecution witnesses.

California, which gained statehood by promising Congress to house every insane individual in America — and

give them vehicles — recently broke off from the continental U.S. because of the weight of television cameras that flocked to Santa Maria, (Arizona gave the state an extra shove).

And that's fortunate. Maybe Barry Bonds will sink with it.

But anyway, I've gone off track here.

Jacko ... he's definitely in it-keep-deep out in Cali, and I think he knows it. The entire Neverland Ranch has relocated to South America.

Yesterday Jackson's nose filed suit against him — for divorce and a long and sundry list of charges.

I learned about this when I opened my refrigerator and my tub of butter told me about it.

As many of my close associates know, I do not, in fact, have cable. I don't really watch too much TV, and it's because of times like this — which come around every 16 hours or so when the only thing on TV is either "The Real World" or "Jacko-Martha-Steroids" or something similar.

But I'm sure CourtTV has turned itself into a kind of Michael Jackson Headquarters, only rivaling CNN, Fox News and the Cartoon Network for coverage of this scintillating court case.

There was a brief flurry two weeks ago when Jackson was an hour late for his court appearance. If he didn't appear within the hour he was going to be arrested.

Jacko showed up wearing pajamas.

Fox News splashed "JACKO

FAILS TO ARRIVE AT COURT," and I nearly spit out my cereal.

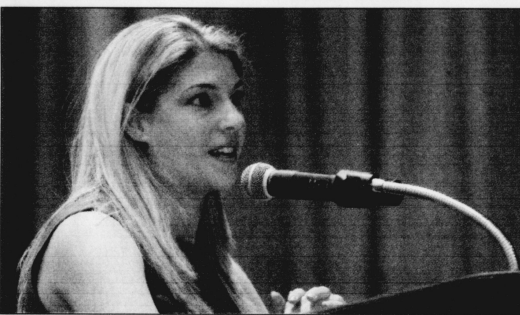
Since then, he's frequently arrived to court late and usually ends up crying. Jackson has complained of everything from pain and exhaustion to being Michael Jackson.

Jay Leno, who's somehow involved with the case, had a gag order preventing him from doing any jokes at Jacko's expense on "The Tonight Show" on NBC. Leno improvised one night by arriving to his monologue late, in PJs and bunny slippers — but he avoided any problems by not saying a word about Jacko or the trial.

But back to the saturation of this three-ring media circus. Perhaps nothing will rival O.J., but they're trying awfully hard to make me seriously consider personal space travel.

I'm going to turn off my television now — else my TV may file a lawsuit against me for having it on.

E-mail dpore@kykernel.com



'PLEGDED'

Alexandra Robbins, author of the controversial book *Pledged: The Secret Life of Sororities*, spoke in the Student Center yesterday. Her lecture, part of the Kentucky Women Writers Conference, generated a lot of interest with students and Lexingtonians alike, according to Evie Russell, project facilitator for the conference.

Today's lecture from *Sex and the City* author Candace Bushnell has created a lot of buzz as well, Russell said.

ILLY SCHIFFER | STAFF

Classifieds continued from page 5.

NOW HIRING McConnell Springs Nature Park is looking for self-motivated individuals who enjoy working outdoors and w/ the public. FT & PT positions available. Call Lauri Taylor Thomas, 859-225-4073.

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NOT PROVIDED GUARANTEED FROM THE UK. A NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS ARE DONATED TO THE DELTA ZETA FOUNDATION. SUPPORTS SUCH AS PROBATIONARYS, THE FRATERNITY, AND OTHERS ARE BEING OFFERED TO THE UK. FOR FURTHER INFO AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DELTA ZETA FOUNDATIONS.