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THE KENTUCKY Kernel

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Winning streak
at home
comes to end
Page 5

Student to state officials: 'Just listen to us'

State treasurer, secretary of state discuss college costs with students

By Elizabeth Troutman
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Western Kentucky University student Jessica Martin wiped away tears as she asked members of the Cradle to College Commission to consider the difficulties students and their families face when managing the expenses of higher education.

"I believe the quality of people goes up if they are

well-rounded and prepared for the future," she said. "Let it no longer be 'if I go to college' but 'when I go to college.'"

Martin was one of the 30 students from universities across the state who attended a forum in the Student Center yesterday morning to address the tuition increases with the commission.

State Treasurer Jonathan Miller and Secretary of State

Trey Grayson listened to the testimonies of students from the University of Louisville, Eastern Kentucky University, Western Kentucky University, Morehead State University and UK.

Miller said the committee learned more about the financial inconveniences that students are dealing with.

"I am someone that puts a lot of value into the ideas of young people," Miller said. "I was very surprised. That was a terrific hearing. I hope the message is that students have a voice and need to use it."

Martin, a Perry County

native, pled for the peers of her hometown community. According to a county census, 2.5 percent of Perry County residents have a bachelor's or associate's degree.

Finances did not keep Martin from going to college. Martin, a public relations and sociology senior, plans on graduating in May. Martin said she has high school friends who are spending time in jail rather than pursuing a degree.

"I am here to speak for my friends that never made it this far," she said. "I care

See College on page 3



CHRIS BEVILS | STAFF

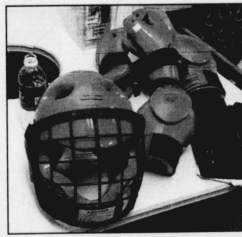
Becky Ellingsworth, communication junior and Student Government senator, spoke at the second hearing for the Cradle to College Commission on student financial aid yesterday.

UK EQUIPS STAFF TO DEFEND



PHOTOS BY JONATHAN PALMER | KERNEL STAFF

Above: (right) Anatomy and neurobiology lab assistant Verda Davis and Pat Bennett, patient services coordinator at the College of Dentistry, takes a breather after participating in the self-defense lesson in the Underground Fitness Center in the basement of Donovan Hall last night. "This course has given me a lot of confidence," Bennett said. Her daughter lives in an apartment by herself; Bennett said, "I've got to get her to come the next time."



Far Left: Bennett maneuvers away from a would-be attacker. "I couldn't believe how hard he was hitting at us, and we were able to deflect everyone of them," Bennett said. "It was amazing."

Left: Protective gear is required for this drill, but in real life the assailant will have no protection from the defense moves.

Student referendum would charge fee for energy research

By Tricia McKenny
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Green Thumb Environmental Club has proposed a referendum on the upcoming Student Government ballot to ask for funding for renewable energy sources at UK.

If approved by voters during the March 30-31 election, student fees would increase by \$6-\$8 each semester to pay for the research.

Green Thumb is currently surveying students to see what — or if — they would be willing to pay for this service. The exact amount of the increase will be decided next month, said natural resources senior Ben Abell, a member of Green Thumb.

The referendum has received about 400 of the 1,000 signatures it needs in order to be placed on the ballot, and members of Green Thumb are optimistic that the rest of the signatures will come soon. The deadline for signatures is March 2.

"Students have been really responsive, and I really feel like they want to do something to get involved in protecting our environment right here at home," Abell said.

Green Thumb, which has between 20 and 30 members at UK, modeled the referendum around programs at benchmark schools like the University of Tennessee, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and the University of Virginia.

Students at Tennessee ap-

proved an \$8 fee increase by a 60 percent majority. UNC approved a \$4 increase by 74 percent, and 87 percent of UVA students approved an increase of \$7 per semester.

These additional fees have provided enough funding for several new renewable energy programs at these universities, including bringing UNC \$200,000 a year that has been used for solar panels for a water-heating system in one of the dorms, according to the UNC Renewable Energy Special Projects Committee.

Green Thumb members decided to take action after SG passed a constitutional amendment earlier this year that ensures that any referendums approved by a majority of students will automatically take effect if the action is within SG's jurisdiction.

Otherwise, the action will be presented to the administration.

If the referendum is approved at UK, Green Thumb hopes to work with administrators and the university community to provide research into effective ways UK can implement renewable energy sources such as solar development, wind energy and energy saving measures, Abell said.

"By allowing students to vote for this small increase for renewable energy, we hope it will help the entire community," Abell said.

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If rule changes, any student can run for SG president

By Tricia McKenny
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Students will no longer be required to have previous experience in Student Government to run for SG President, if a constitutional amendment is approved in its second reading next Wednesday.

The SG constitution currently says that anyone running for a "chief leadership position in any branch of government" must have served one year prior in office in SG. The amendment, which received initial approval after its first reading on Jan. 19, eliminates this condition and says that the individual "shall be a member of Student Government."

According to the SG Constitution: "All students enrolled at the University of Kentucky—Lexington Campus, the Lexington Community College and the Medical Center Campus shall be members of the Student Government Association of the University of Kentucky" and are members of SG.

If the amendment is approved next Wednesday any student can run for the position of SG president.

Senate President Braphus

Kaalund spoke in favor of the amendment at last week's SG meeting and said it is always a good idea to open SG up to more people.

"The student body knows what they are doing and what they want," he said.

The amendment's sponsors, Senator at Large Becky Ellingsworth and College of Business and Economics Senator Ben Carter, said they know some SG members may fear the possibility of electing a president who has no experience, but they hope the amendment will open SG up and make it available to more students.

Many students have very good ideas that need to be heard, Carter said.

Running for SG president, even without winning the election, can be an opportunity for students to get their message out just like how third party candidates in the U.S. government use elections, he said.

"(The president will) obviously need to be prepared for the job, but students are more than capable of selecting someone who can do the job," Ellingsworth said.

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Student leaders needed for first UK dance marathon

By Farra Franklin
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Students can apply to help organize UK's first dance marathon, which will take place next year. The marathon will raise funds to help kids with cancer in the UK Department of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Ward.

Organizers, along with the Markey Cancer Center, are looking for students interested in planning the event. Applications are due Feb. 1 and can be picked up at the Student Volunteer Center in Room 106 of the Student Center.

The dance marathon would be held in spring 2006 over the course of 48 hours, said Susannah Denomme, a fundraiser for the Markey Cancer Center. Bands will

be invited to play, and other contests will be held as part of the event, she said.

Participating student organizations will compete with one another based on the money and support they are able to generate, Denomme said.

The UK Dance Marathon Leadership Team will be composed of a dance marathon chair, committee chairs and committee members.

UK is not the first to hold such an event. A dance marathon at Penn State University raised over \$30 million for children's cancer programs, Denomme said.

"One of the major objectives we have is that it is a unifying event, and we want students to come away knowing that they have been an important part of

something much bigger than themselves," she said.

The students who attended information sessions about the dance marathon said they are excited about the event.

"It's a great opportunity for UK students to show that they care more about serving others and becoming more well-rounded individuals," said Matt Douglas, an economics junior.

One of the leaders of the event, Jennifer Mynear, became actively involved in raising funds for children's cancer research when her 13-year-old son, Jarrett, died of cancer in October 2002.

"The groups of students judging (and) committee leaders are organized and passionate with the 3,000 outpatients and the neighborhood of active 50-60

Dance Marathon

For more information, call Susannah Denomme at 224-5384. E-mail her at susannah@email.uky.edu.

chemo patients," Mynear said.

The promoters have made formal presentations to groups such as the Student Volunteer Council, Student Government and Student Activities Board, but she said they will accept as many students as possible to fill community positions.

"The project is a big undertaking, and student leadership is crucial in order to have a strong steering committee," Mynear said.

E-mail
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“One of the major objectives we have is that it is a unifying event.”

— Susannah Denomme, fundraiser for the Markey Cancer Center and an event organizer

ETCETERA | the poore philosophy

I'd like to deposit money, not visit an inmate

I've noticed a trend among banks: They do everything in their power to forbid human contact.

First it was ATMs, but that was OK. I could get cash pretty much anywhere as long as I paid a 10 percent surcharge of my life's savings and a decent chunk of my future children's college money.

Next: Online banking. Now this was truly a god-send. I didn't have to walk into banks anymore. I could just sit in my underwear and cry as I read my checking account balance. This saves me the embarrassment of crying in my underwear in a public place. Like a bank.



Derek Poore
KERNEL COLUMNIST

But it all appears to be a covert operation. Banks have now allowed so much automation — they're clearly preparing for war.

For protection purposes, banks have begun fortifying their branches. This is an obvious prelude to an attack. When we're least expecting it, bankers and possibly their ally — the accountants — will rise up and hurl calculators and balloons and complimentary lollipops at us.

These bank forts are popping up everywhere. You walk into the unsuspecting lobby and are met with computer screens and closed-circuit video monitors. Everything is walled up. Instead of a 'hello' and a smile, you're met with, "Welcome to a wall, would you like to deposit some money?"

I felt like I was waiting to enter a prison during visiting hours. You talk to the bank

tellers through the monitors. I might as well ask to see Prisoner No. 3538683.

How do we actually know these people are back there? What if they're in some central operations center? What if they're on another planet? And what are they doing exactly with the money I give them? Where do I put the quarter?

Going through the drive thru is the same experience. More cameras and teeny television monitors. That pipe that sucks up your paycheck? That's not new, but it's obviously alien technology.

It's less appealing than going to a fast food drive thru — and that art has been impossible to perfect for decades. They've tried. You still can't understand anything, and they can't understand you, so it's a mutual disaster.

In recent years, fast food places have in-

stalled computer displays to show you just how badly they screwed up your order, so you can get angry *before* you get your food.

But don't try to use that screen to correct your order: **THEY CAN'T HEAR YOU.**

Now I grew up with Atari, Nintendo and the Internet. I can't remember when technology wasn't a part of my life.

But the automated age is becoming proudly goofy.

Where's the face time? The customer service?

I'd rather have trained monkeys with see-through green poker hands handling my checking account — if not for the interaction, then for the comedy.

But I don't think I can complain about it. **THEY CAN'T HEAR ME.**

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'Blood Relations' offers audience true-crime drama

By Melissa Smith Mallory
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Many know the story of Lizzie Borden or at the very least recognize her name.

In Fall River, Mass., near the turn of the century, she was tried and acquitted for the murders of her father and stepmother. The case remains essentially open to this day, as no one has been convicted for the heinous murders.

The Studio Players present *Blood Relations*, a dra-

matic, in-depth look at the events leading up to the killings, the actual killings, and Lizzie Borden's life years after the trial. An actress has come to visit Lizzie many years after her acquittal, and eventually the question arises: Did she, or didn't she?

Debbie Sharp's portrayal of the actress eventually takes the place of Lizzie in her retelling, and she executes the switches between the two characters very well. Beth Kloiber vacillates be-

tween Lizzie and Bridget the maid with even more ease. Within the story, her accent as the Irish maid never falters, which helps to disassociate her connection to the character of Lizzie.

Lizzie puts the actress into the events of her day so that she can decide for herself the degree of Lizzie's guilt. Interspersed into the reenactment are short scenes of testimony from the trial, which serve to tie the happenings of both before and

years after the murders to the historical facts of the case.

Playwright Sharon Pollock has established an interesting frame in which the audience can just barely distinguish reality and truth from the duplicity of Lizzie's story. The picture within the frame is presented as truth, yet in a final twist, the audience is forced into the jury box.

Kloiber plays up the mystery surrounding her character, revealing nothing in her

visage as to the depth of Lizzie's guilt. Her slight and infrequent smiles inject just the right amount of doubt into any observer's theories.

Although Lizzie Borden was acquitted for the fatal bludgeoning of her father and stepmother, Sharon Pollock's play presents the facts and a little fiction in such a way that the unsolved case is reopened and you've been recruited as lead detective.

E-mail

features@kykernel.com

Blood Relations

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Campus works to ensure safety after second slaying

By Jason Song and JoAnna Daemirich
THE BALTIMORE SUN

Hopkins officials, students and parents, grappling with the violent death of a second student in less than a year, are renewing efforts to strengthen security on campus and in the nearby neighborhood.

Administrators are scheduling meetings with students and sending letters home to try to calm the fears.

Last weekend, Linda Trinh, 21, a biomedical engineering senior, was found dead in the bathtub of an apartment building across the street from campus. Junior Christopher Elser was fatally stabbed at his fraternity house last April.

Hopkins has taken steps to improve security over the past year. The university has identified poorly lighted areas near campus and is working to in-

crease the number of emergency telephones.

Officials have issued student ID cards that carry phone numbers for emergency services. In a letter to parents, President William R. Brody said the university might do more. "Once we have an understanding of what occurred in this case, that understanding may well suggest new steps we must take, and we will take them," he wrote.

College

Continued from page 1

about the people where I am from. I have to get up every day and prove myself because of where I am from."

UK integrated strategic communication sophomore Alise Marshall said paying for college is an investment for the future.

"I feel like this is a business," she said. "A living, breathing business, not just an institution of language."

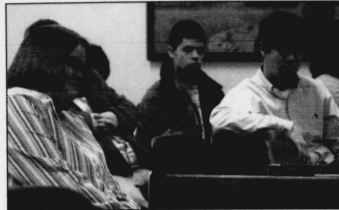
"I'd like to know where this money is going," she said. "This is just like any other investment, I would like to know how I am going to benefit."

Marshall said she was disappointed in the student turnout for the forum.

"We are the university," she said of the student body. "I don't feel like our voice is heard enough. We just need to be heard. Just listen to us. This place would not exist without us. We need to know what we are getting out of this besides going to class everyday."

University of Louisville senior Lindsay Zoeller is a fifth-year student who said students waste a lot of time and money taking hours that are not within their major. She suggested that better advising would help students graduate in four years.

"I wish someone would have asked me what I wanted to do," she said. "Nobody asked until my junior year. If someone had asked me my freshman or sophomore year,



CHRIS REYNOLDS | STAFF

Jessica Martin, sociology and public relations senior at Western Kentucky University, pleaded to the Cradle to College Commission that Perry County was the 20th poorest county in Kentucky.

I probably would have given the same answer. Then they could have steered me in the right direction."

Zoeller works two part-time jobs to pay for school along with a 10-hour internship. She is currently taking 18 hours at UofL to finish her history and political science degrees. Homework is usually completed between 11 p.m. and 2 a.m., she said.

Zoeller said many working students neglect paying for insurance and other essential finances to make it through college. Loans are also a burden for students even after graduation.

"I know students who didn't buy books this semester because they couldn't afford them," she said. "I know a lot of students without health insurance, without car insurance. There just aren't many other options out there."

UK biology sophomore Kyle Burns said he couldn't imagine paying for his own health insurance. He said he

knows students who have had to take out thousands of dollars in loans to pay for the removal of wisdom teeth.

"Loans are a big burden," Burns said. "People that do it on their own...I can't imagine. It is unfathomable."

The Cradle to College Commission was organized several months ago with the goal to make higher education easier for students. Grayson said setting up programs to help students and families is the biggest hurdle.

"It was interesting hearing the different perspectives we had," he said.

"I was very much impressed with how articulate and knowledgeable the students came across as."

"Students are looking for ways to ignore loans. Students expressed an interest such as service or lower paying jobs to pay for school. It was good to get that confirmation."

E-mail

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CATCHING UP WITH CATS

Returning was the 'right thing'

By Michael Brent
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

You've heard the story before — the top-10 recruit who comes to school with great expectations but never meets them. They enter the college basketball arena as a savior, and they leave as a disappointment. A bust. A failure.

James Blackmon came to UK in 1983 prepared to set the world on fire. He averaged over 30 points per game at Marion High School in Indiana. He earned a spot on the McDonald's All-American team and was a first team Parade All-American. A 6-foot-3 shooting guard with elite athleticism, Blackmon was a "can't miss" prospect.

But Blackmon struggled early in his UK career. He showed flashes of brilliance but remained handcuffed in the power game employed by UK coach Joe B. Hall. Midway through his sophomore season, Blackmon left the team and went home.

Blackmon acknowledges his decision was rash.

"Being young, placing too much pressure on myself, I wasn't performing at the level I thought I would," Blackmon said. "I didn't talk with the coaches about it. I just packed up and headed home."

He left with intentions to transfer to the University of Louisville. He even spoke with Cardinal head coach Denny Crum about the possibility. But after talking with his family and the UK coaching staff, Blackmon decided to at least finish the season at UK. The rest is history.

Blackmon finished his career at UK as a three-year starter. He had a solid career and played in a Final Four, but he never met the lofty expectations his high school reputation fueled.

"I think Dick Vitale said it best," Blackmon recalled. "I was a great high school player, but for whatever reason, I was just an average college player."

That's debatable. There aren't many "average" basketball players who can say they started for the Kentucky Wildcats for three years. He also played pro basketball in the Continental Basketball Association and World Basketball League for several years. And while it's possible his star might have shone brighter in a system more tailored to his abilities (such as UofL at that time), Blackmon has no regrets.

"I'll always believe I did the right thing returning," he said. "I met my wife here."

In addition, Blackmon says he understands Hall's philosophy even though it

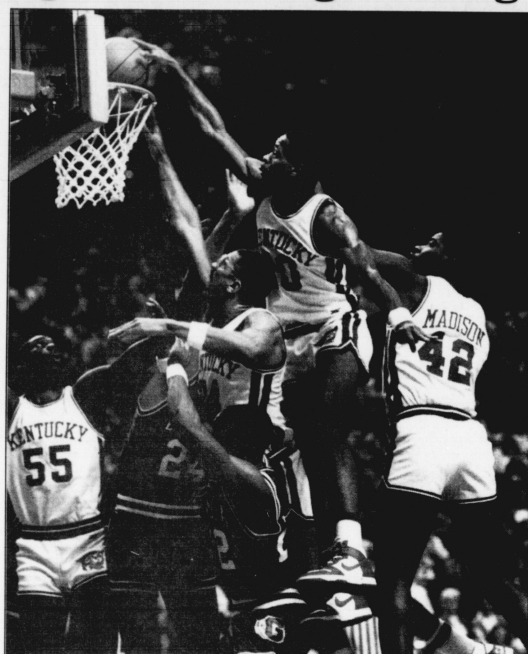


PHOTO COURTESY OF UKATHLETICS
James Blackmon (center) came to UK's campus in 1983 as a highly-touted shooting guard. But he left the team during his sophomore season because he "wasn't performing at the level" he thought he could. He would return and left UK as a three-year starter.

didn't always seem right at the time.

"I know Coach Hall was 100 percent behind his team," he said. "With Sam Bowie, Mel Turpin, Kenny Walker — we should have pounded it inside. If I was in his shoes now, I'd do the same thing."

Off the court, Blackmon cherishes the academic support he received. He tagged Bob Bradley, the academic mentoring of UK associate athletics director for student services, as one of the biggest influences on his life. "School wasn't my main priority when I got here," Blackmon admitted. "But (Bradley) stayed on me. He made me realize that I could get my degree, and he stayed on my case about it."

He returned the summer after he completed his collegiate eligibility to finish his degree in social work. Blackmon expressed doubts about whether he would have ever graduated from Louisville or anywhere else.

"We had great academic

support here, but a lot of (Louisville) guys weren't graduating at that time."

In today's world of instant gratification, it's easy to relate to a young player becoming dissatisfied and looking to move elsewhere. UK just experienced that this season with freshman guard Joe Crawford.

What isn't so easy to grasp, especially for today's young players, is the fact that Blackmon reconsidered his decision to transfer and became successful. No, he didn't fulfill NBA dreams, nor was he even a college star. To a 19-year-old former McDonald's All-American, this may not sound like a success story. But take a look at Blackmon now.

Today, he and his wife, Sailaja, have been married almost 10 years, and I have three sons — ages nine, seven, and two.

He works as an administrative assistant at Memorial Park Middle School in Fort Wayne, Ind. He is also in his

first year as a head basketball coach for the Bishop Luers Knights, a 3A high school in the same city. They have already doubled last season's win total with a 6-4 record to date, thanks in part to the defensive teaching he received playing his final two seasons for Eddie Sutton.

Does that sound like a bust? Or a failure? Only in a shallow college basketball fan's world.

"Maybe it would have been a different outcome on the court somewhere else," Blackmon said. "But Kentucky prepared me for life."

"If I had it to do over, I'd choose the same path."

So the guy with all that talent finished his college career without establishing himself as one of the greats, yet he's still successful and happy.

That isn't a story you hear very often today, but it is the story that Blackmon tells.

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VANDY 73, UK 67



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

Vanderbilt guard Abi Ramsey pressures UK senior forward Sara Potts during last night's game at Memorial Coliseum. Potts scored 10 points, but Vandy ended UK's 10-game winning streak at home this season.

Loss is latest growing pain

By Lindsey Keith
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

In their first home loss of the season, the young Cats experienced major growing pains against No. 21 Vanderbilt.

The Commodores defeated the Cats 73-67 last night in front of 6,009 fans at Memorial Coliseum — bringing UK's 12-game home winning streak to a close. UK was 10-0 at home this season before last night's loss.

"We shot the ball well enough to win," said UK head coach Mickie DeMoss. "We take care of the turnovers, and we would have won the game — but Vandy did what they had to do to win the game."

The growth spurt the Cats (13-8, 2-4 Southeastern Conference) hit at the beginning of conference play has been brought to a standstill as they have now dropped three-straight games.

The Commodores (14-5, 3-3 SEC) dominated down the stretch and would not let the Cats get the baskets they needed to pull off the upset.

"I am frustrated that we lost. We could have gotten things done, we could have executed," said freshmen center Sarah Elliott. "We need to come together tighter as a team right now — it is a crucial point in the season." Elliott led the way for the Cats scoring a team-high 29 points, but had four rebounds against the dominating duo of Carla Thomas and Ashley Earley down in the paint.

"She (Thomas) played

pretty typical. She had 22 points. She averages 19," DeMoss said. "I think Earley stepped up. She had 24." Earley finished with 12 of her team's 28 rebounds. The 5-foot-10 forward also made nine of 16 shots from the field.

"It is very hard to play them (Earley and Thomas) because both of them are good at playing all spots on the floor," said Vanderbilt head coach Melanie Balcomb. "Both of them worked hard at playing high and low, and being interchangeable."

The Cats struggled with Commodores senior guard Abi Ramsey late in the game. Ramsey knocked down two straight 3-pointers, and the long-range bombs opened up her team's lead to seven points.

UK would fight back after the six-point surge with less than 10 minutes to go, but the Cats never fully recovered.

"We really needed them, but when you have those two (Earley and Thomas), it makes Abby very unselfish," Balcomb said. "I have been on her about being ready to shoot, and down the stretch she not only took the threes, but she hit the threes."

In a game that every possession mattered down the stretch, the Cats committed 22 turnovers, whereas the Commodores had 14.

"We had a lot of turnovers, and they didn't force them," said freshmen guard Samantha Mahoney. "It was just mental breakdowns and indecisiveness." Mahoney fell just short of

a double-double, scoring 15 points and grabbing nine boards. Elliott led the Cats with 20 points off the bench. ("Elliott) stepped up and finished well," DeMoss said. "I think Sam Mahoney knocked down some big shots. She had nine boards and 15 points."

The Commodores entered on a three-game of their own. Heading into Sunday's game against South Carolina, the young Cats face their own three-game losing streak.

"We are still a young team. We still have a lot of growing," Elliott said. "We have made some great strides so far, but we have a few more strides to go."

E-mail

lkeith@kykernel.com

Vanderbilt (73)

NAME	mi	fg-a	3-pt	ft-a	rb	tp
Stringfield	10	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0
Antone	6	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0
Davis	27	2-9	2-4	0-2	6	6
Grimsell	13	0-1	0-0	0-0	2	0
Ramsey	30	9-10	2-4	2-2	3	14
Jules	11	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	2
Earley	38	9-10	6-11	12	24	24
Williams	32	2-4	1-3	0-0	3	5
Thomas	30	9-14	0-0	4-4	2	22
Team	200	28-57	5-14	12-19	28	73

Kentucky (67)

NAME	mi	fg-a	3-pt	ft-a	rb	tp
Potts	29	4-11	2-5	0-0	2	10
Elliott	29	10-16	0-1	4	20	20
Alcius	13	1-2	0-1	0-0	4	2
Mahoney	38	6-10	0-0	9	15	15
Phillips	37	2-8	2-7	0-0	1	6
Bowman	22	3-5	0-0	0-0	4	6
Payne	3	1-1	0-0	2	0	4
Humphrey	14	0-1	0-0	0-0	6	0
Tate	14	2-2	0-0	0-0	2	4
Team	200	29-56	4-14	5-9	35	67

Vanderbilt	34	39-73
Kentucky	33	33-67

Cats' start carries a familiar tune

Everything changed in Mississippi.

On a chilly night in Oxford, UK turned up the heat to battle back from a 13-point half-time deficit and defeat Ole Miss 53-50.



Tim Wiseman

After a frozen first half that saw UK make just five field goals and score a pathetic 16 points, the Cats caught fire.

With UK head coach Tubby Smith out of his jacket and on the prowl, the Cats owned the second half on defense. They executed on offense. They owned the boards.

UK shot over 50 percent in the second half, while holding the Rebels to 35-percent shooting. With the game on the line, UK grabbed the game's final 15 rebounds, a staggering thought.

In that second half, everything fell into place. UK had become a differ-

ent team. The Cats were 3-0 in the Southeastern Conference and ready to make some noise.

Two years ago, UK found itself in a similar situation — trailing Vanderbilt 36-28 at halftime in Nashville on chilly January afternoon.

Like in Oxford, Smith screamed on the sidelines and the Cats roared on the court.

The Cats dominated the second half, outscoring the Commodores 46-16 and holding them to 38.6-percent shooting for the game.

UK had been transformed. The Cats were 3-0 in the SEC and ready to make some noise.

After that game, UK stayed hot and rolled through the regular season, finishing a perfect 16-0 in league play.

And it all started with a dramatic second-half turnaround. That night in Nashville was when everything clicked for those Cats. They came together and discovered a winning formula.

That night in Oxford last week may have been the pivotal moment for this year's Cats.

In its two games since — blowout wins over Louisiana

State (89-58) and Tennessee (84-62) — the Cats have looked like a legitimate top 10 team, a team capable of doing some incredible things.

In those games, the UK defense forced 35 turnovers and held the Tigers and Vols to an average field-goal percentage of less than 30 percent. On offense, the Cats are shooting over 50 percent and getting more than 30 points per game from their bench.

This team is beginning to look good. Very good.

With the status of senior forward Chuck Hayes still uncertain, UK may have some rocky roads ahead.

An athletic Arkansas team playing on its home court Saturday is the first of many tests remaining for UK. In a few weeks, we will truly see how good this team is and how far it can go.

Still, something about this team seemed to change in Oxford.

On that night, they willed themselves to a win with gritty defense and smooth offense. They looked poised, confident and determined. They found something, and they have not lost it yet.

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IN OUR OPINION

Agreement preserves Lexington's image

Earlier this month, the Lexington Herald-Leader agreed to donate a collection of historical photo archives to UK.

Valued at about \$4 million, the collection includes almost 1.8 million images of Lexington and its citizens since World War II.

The agreement comes after a lengthy legal dispute that kept the archives gathering dust at the Herald-Leader.

It took a while, but UK and the Herald-Leader got this decision right.

Two years ago, the Herald-Leader approached UK with the idea of donating the archives, but the newspaper's corporate owner, Knight Ridder, and UK squabbled over ownership and redistribution rights.

Even after UK secured a grant and hired a staff to oversee the archive project, the historical images lay in waste.

Thankfully, the legal questions have been resolved, and UK can start preserving the images.

"It was something everyone wanted to see happen," said Tim Kelly, Lexington Herald-Leader publisher.

Now, the images will be cared for and preserved, and they will be available to all.

These images belong to this community and they are a treasure, and finally, they will be treated like one.

UK budgeted \$400,000 to care for the images, which includes a \$160,000 grant from the National Historical Preservation and Records Commission.

This fund will allow for the renovation of a heat- and humidity-controlled area and the purchase of a computer to house a database of the images.

"This donation is incredibly important,

and the work we're going to do is significant because we're going to be providing public access for the first time," said Lisa Carter, UK's director of archives, special collections and digital programs.

This project will ensure that anyone can see a glimpse of Lexington's history, and that is a gift for the present and future.

"Portions of our history will be uncovered, and we'll learn more about Central Kentucky than we've ever known before," Carter said.

The Herald-Leader and UK came together and did the right thing. As a result, a historical treasure will be saved. These images are priceless, and thankfully everyone involved finally realized that.

The Lexington Herald-Leader's donation of 1.8 million images to UK ensure public access to Lexington's history.

Q&A with Dan Smith

History Department Chair and Filmmaker

Assistant Opinions Editor Ben Roberts sat down with history department chair Dan Smith to discuss the professor's documentary, "February One: The Story of the Greensboro Four," which will debut nationally Tuesday on PBS.

The documentary chronicles four black college students in Greensboro, N.C., who staged a sit-in that ignited nonviolent civil rights protests across the country.

The film will be aired locally at 10 p.m. Tuesday on KET2, and 11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 12 on KET1.

Q. Could you begin by giving a brief synopsis of your film?

A. "February One" is a story about courage and obviously about the beginnings of the civil rights movement.

But it's really about these four young freshmen at North Carolina A&T that were 17 or 18 years old, who, in Greensboro in 1960, took the courageous stand of going to Woolworth's and sitting down to eat.

And that simple act of sitting down at the lunch counter and demanding service began a sit-in movement that launched much of the 1960's Civil Rights movement.

Q. What drew you to the Greensboro Four?

A. I had been working with a producer out of Chapel Hill looking at projects that had North Carolina-based stories to them. We had a good, long working relationship, and we talked about what other stories out of North Carolina had national significance.

Kitty Hawk was one of them because of the Wright Brothers, and then Greensboro because everybody in the Civil Rights movement, then and now, knows the importance of Feb. 1, 1960.

That got the sit-in movement as a way of protesting civil rights and other issues on the national landscape.

Q. Do you think, as we look back today, the Greensboro Four are underappreciated figures in the Civil Rights movement?

A. Yes and no. If you read any history of the Civil Rights movement they'll mention Greensboro and February 1, 1960.

But because these four guys did not go on to become professional civil rights activists, they didn't become famous politically in the country after this.

The event wasn't overlooked,

but I think it's poorly understood about what went into their decision-making. A lot of people think this was covered by black churches or the NAACP, that some organization was pushing them to do this.

But as the film shows, it's a very personal story of four guys who got to know each other, and basically they decided in one of those classic dorm bull sessions that they just couldn't take it anymore.

happy participants but nervous about what will happen when a film project gets hold of their story. Because, at first, this started out as a dramatic film I wrote for Showtime. And they were especially nervous about actors playing them in a dramatic film.

They were leery not knowing us well, but we used a good friend of theirs who had written a prominent book about their story to introduce us to them. And that reassured them that we were not out to tell some made-up, salacious story.

We were there to tell the truth about what happened and make sure that subsequent generations of people knew what this example of courage was all about.

So we got a lot of good cooperation from them and their families.

Q. Did you meet any resistance at all from anybody in Greensboro?

A. The world has changed a lot, of course. We tried to talk to some of the Ku Klux Klan members who were among those that taunted them and tried to fight the sit-in.

One of the ringleaders said he was willing to talk, but his redneck girlfriend tried to run us over with her car. So that didn't work out.

But otherwise we had no resistance. Most people were happy to participate and saw this as a great opportunity to help make sure that subsequent generations don't forget.

Q. What do you want people to take away from this film?

A. Two things.

One is to learn that ordinary people, and that includes students at UK who are watching this movie and basically the same age as these kids, can take small acts of courage yourself, in your private life, and it can be just as meaningful.

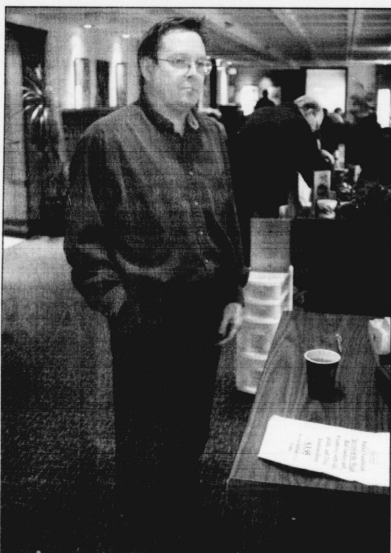
These guys had no idea they were going to become nationally prominent.

They thought maybe in Greensboro they could change the desegregation issue at Woolworth's. That's it.

They had no idea whatsoever they were about to launch a major national crusade on behalf of civil rights.

So one thing I want people to learn is you should stand up for what you believe in, even if it's just in your personal life.

And the other thing, of course, as a historian I hope that people learn what some of the personal roots of the Civil Rights movement were. Primarily, it's a film about acquiring courage, and I think everybody, young and old, can learn about that.



SCOTT LOUHRER | STAFF

They were tired of the color line being drawn the way it was. They were tired of the humiliation of not being able to sit down and eat with white people.

They could buy clothes and do everything else at Woolworth's, but they couldn't sit down and break bread together. And that just tore them up.

And they were afraid, as they all should have been, of what the repercussions would be if they did it. Their parents' jobs were at stake. They could have been jailed, beaten, killed.

It seems like a simple fact today, to be able to sit down at a lunch counter. How could that be dangerous? But it was. And they knew it.

Q. Were you able to talk to all three of the surviving members of the Greensboro Four?

A. I interviewed all three of those guys and some family members of the fourth. I did all the interviewing, but you don't see me on camera. I'm the person the guy's talking to.

It was really an ennobling experience to get to know these guys. It really felt like I was kind of witnessing history.

Q. What was their reaction to the project?

A. They're willing and

Take me back to the days of the Zack Morris wave

For some reason I've been watching too much TBS lately.

Most people would probably say that any TBS is too much, but I find Ted Turner's mid-morning lineup of teen angst to be mildly addictive.

Two hours of "Dawson's Creek" followed by the zany antics of the "Saved by the Bell" gang is far more appealing at noon than my copy editing class.

During one of my teen television fixes I asked my roommate why there was no modern equivalent to Saved by the Bell.

What is there to provide kids with overused stereotypes including but not limited to — the dumb jock, the scheming pretty boy, the lovable geek, the cheerleader/prom queen, the over industrious feminist and sassy but egalitarian rich girl?

Both my roommate and I immediately thought of "The O.C.," but come on. An all white, all rich cast, where characters go mattress dancing within days of meeting isn't exactly on the same plane as a show where the riskiest thing the characters do is order pizza in the middle of class using huge cell phones, or compete in a bake-off for sports funding.

In fact, following "Saved by the Bell" I believe you'd be hard pressed to find any teen programming which didn't immediately involve sex, drugs and really bad music. In "Saved by the Bell's" contemporary match, "Beverly Hills 90210," Dillon had a drinking problem before entering the 11th grade. The first episode of "Dawson's Creek" has Joey inquiring as to Dawson's masturbation habits.

Why should this be? Private utilities like Kentucky Utilities, KAWC and Columbia Gas keep their rates at certain levels and must obtain government permission to raise them. City- or county-owned utilities, on the other hand, become the go-to piggy bank for council members' pet projects, and rates rise every year instead of remaining mostly constant over time (the reason for the 16.8 percent cited in the Wednesday letter).

When the city owns the utilities, utility rates become tax revenue to be massaged at the whim of those in authority.

Please, let's not confuse the "community" owning something with the city government owning it.

These kinds of ownership are not identical.

DAVID W. BYRD
hispanic studies graduate student



Hillary Canada
KERNEL COLUMNIST

Don't get me wrong — I'm not for a return to "moral values." I'm the first to admit that bedroom hopping and drugs make for great entertainment. Although I've only seen one episode of "The O.C.," I remember it being pretty hot. And I remember enjoying it voraciously.

I just wish that youngins (yes, youngins) had the opportunity to see crazy teens wholesomely undermining the stodgy but kindly principal — only with updated clothes and hairstyles. (Although the Zack Morris wave still makes me swoon.)

Really people, it's "think of the children." They should be able to get comic satisfaction from people about whom they will not read derivative stories (a la current teen sensations Lindsay Lohan and Hilary Duff). I mean Teen Beat probably never asked Tiffany Amber Thiessen anything more controversial than if she had "French kissed," but speculation about whether or not Lohan's breasts are synthetic is splashed all around the media.

I guess there is still the great entertainment of the Olsen Twins. But even their movies, while cookie cutter and predictable, lack the je ne sais quoi of SBTB. Without the endearing, unrequited love of Scream for Lisa, the psychobabble of Jessie Spano and that inexplicable mullet of A.C. Slater — the Olsen movies just don't quite fill the void.

I have a great hope for the television industry and that is that they will recognize the disservice they are doing the youth of America by not providing a "Saved by the Bell" esque program. I look forward to the commencement of such quality shows.

Until then, I'll just tune into TBS.
Hillary Canada is a journalism senior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Private ownership best for Lexington

One of Wednesday's letters chided those of us who opposed the takeover of the water company for being pleased that the new, anti-takeover city council has ceased to consider the condemnation of Kentucky-American Water Co.

The supporters of the condemnation viewed the process as simply answering the question "Is it better for a community to own its own water company?"

This is an important question to answer, I suppose, but it ignores a couple of larger concerns: that KAWC is legitimately owned property that was not and is not for sale, and that condemnation of a perfectly safe facility would be called fraud if anyone but the government did it.

I lived several years in Tallahassee, Fla., where all utilities are owned by the city.

Utility service in Tallahassee was both less dependable and more expensive than the private utilities we have in Lexington.

Private utilities like Kentucky Utilities, KAWC and Columbia Gas keep their rates at certain levels and must obtain government permission to raise them.

City- or county-owned utilities, on the other hand, become the go-to piggy bank for council members' pet projects, and rates rise every year instead of remaining mostly constant over time (the reason for the 16.8 percent cited in the Wednesday letter).

When the city owns the utilities, utility rates become tax revenue to be massaged at the whim of those in authority.

Please, let's not confuse the "community" owning something with the city government owning it.

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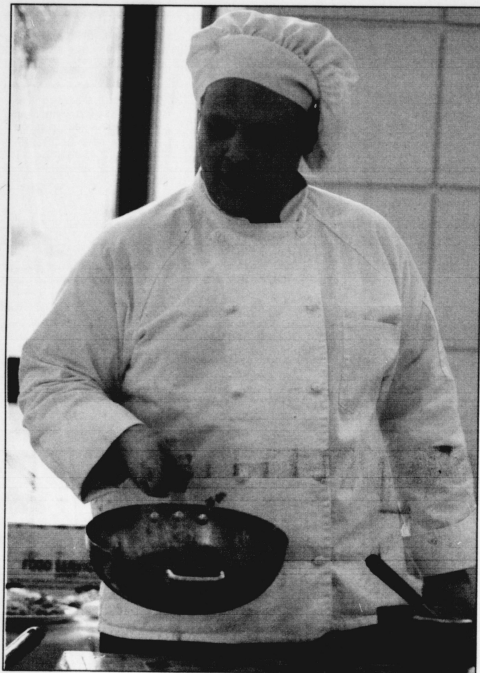
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CHEFS OF IRON WILL



Mmmmm...

Above: Jeff DeMoss (right), the executive director of UK Dining Services, watches J. Rogers Thomas (left) as he prepares his meal for judging at the Iron Chef contest at the Commons Market on South Campus yesterday afternoon.

Left: Reed, from UK's catering department, flips his ingredients. The main dish was lamb.

Below: Thomas, from UK's food court, cuts up red peppers with deftly precision.

PHOTOS BY MILLY SCHIFFER | KERNEL STAFF

NEWS BRIEFS

Kernels dominates contest

The Kentucky Kernel, the only independent daily student newspaper in Kentucky, took home a large number of the awards at the Kentucky Press Association's Excellence in Kentucky Newspapers Contest on Jan. 21. The awards were announced during the association's convention in Louisville.

The association, whose member newspapers are placed into divisions based in part on circulation size and publication rate, awarded the Kernel first place for General Excellence in the College and University Newspapers Division. The Kernel received 45 of the 79 awards presented. Among those honors were 28 out of the 44 writing awards, nine of the 15 photo awards, and eight of

the 20 design awards.

The Kernel, which has been an independent student publication since 1971, has a daily circulation of 17,000 during the academic year.

Sullivan nominations sought

Nominations are being sought for the 2005 Algernon Sullivan Medallion, which honors graduating seniors and non-students for their commitment to community service.

Candidates must graduate in May 2005 or have received their bachelor's degrees in August 2004 or December 2004. The medallion recognizes a male and a female student, who possess characteristics of heart, mind and spirit, and demonstrate a spirit of love for and helpfulness to other people. The award also is presented

to a non-student who is either a UK employee, alumnus or friend.

Nomination forms are available online at www.uky.edu/SullivanAward. Nominations and supporting letters should be sent to: Dr. Philipp Kraemer, chair, Sullivan Awards Committee; Undergraduate Education; 100H Funkhouser Building; University of Kentucky; Lexington, KY 40506-0054.

Deadline for submitting nominations is 4:30 p.m. March 22.

Professor joins journal staff

Dr. Jayakrishna Ambati, an assistant ophthalmology professor, has been appointed to the Editorial Board of the Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science, the premier journal of ophthalmologic research.

His nomination was approved by a unanimous vote of the trustees of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology Editorial Board members review, evaluate and make editorial decisions regarding scientific articles submitted to the journal. Ambati's term on the Editorial Board began Jan. 1, 2005.

Recently, Ambati also received grants totaling \$550,000 to support his work in macular degeneration. The first award comes from the Macula Vision Research Foundation for \$240,000 over three years. Another award, from the International Retinal Research Foundation, totals \$100,000. The final award, granted by the E. Matilda Ziegler Foundation for the Blind, will total \$210,000 over three years.

Camp survivors, leaders gather at Auschwitz

By Craig Whitlock and Jim Vandekerckhove
THE WASHINGTON POST

OSWIECIM, Poland — Except for the cremation ovens, now reduced to rubble, the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau has been meticulously preserved. The frozen ground is still ringed by barbed wire. The brick barracks, once overflowing with prisoners, look sturdy.

For the world leaders and hundreds of concentration-camp survivors who assembled here yesterday to mark the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the freshness of the horrible crimes committed here was palpable. In an echo from that time, a loud train whistle sounded across the snowdrifts, a reminder of the boxcars that carried as many as 1.5 million doomed people into the Auschwitz complex between 1940 and 1945.

"We must speak, remember, cry out: This was hell on Earth," said Aleksander Kwasniewski, president of Poland.

More than two dozen presidents, prime ministers, members of royalty and other leaders sat in the bitterly cold to remember the 6 million victims of the Holocaust. Among those attending were Vice President Dick Cheney and Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko, whose father was held at the camp as a Soviet prisoner of war.

While the ceremony was

designed to keep memories of the Holocaust alive, it took place against a backdrop of recent events in Europe that underscore the ways how the continent is still coming to grips with lessons of the era.

In Germany where denying the genocide against Jews is a crime, a political party that sympathizes with neo-Nazis walked out of a Holocaust memorial service last week to protest what its leaders called lack of recognition of the numbers of German civilians killed by Allied bombers. In Russia, two dozen members of the parliament recently signed a letter blaming Jews for "provoking" anti-Semitism.

In France, nationalist politician Jean-Marie Le Pen — who won 18 percent of the vote in the presidential election three years ago — said in a magazine interview that the severity of the Nazi occupation of his country had been exaggerated, "not especially inhumane."

Around the same time, Britain's Prince Harry showed up at a party dressed as a Nazi.

"Is it possible that the deterrent power of the Shoah has weakened?" Israeli President Moshe Katsav asked, using the Hebrew word for Holocaust.

"The answer is in the hands of Europe's leaders, it is in the hands of the educators and historians. It is in our hands."



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