



Hump Day

Choo-Choo

Living arrangements while attending college can be more than challenging. The best living arrangements seem to come with a dog next door or a toilet that always gets clogged. Here are some other reasons that college living sucks.

You have a great two bedroom, two bath apartment with new carpet and brass fixtures. The only problem is that the dainty chandelier over the mahogany dining room table shakes every ten minutes with the passing of each train. Not only that, but you have to go out of your way so you don't get a ticket for crossing the tracks on your way to class.

In the dorms, life is great. You are surrounded by hundreds of people your own age. It is like the worlds longest summer camp with beer and classes thrown into the mix.

But with everything good comes something bad. Here are some downfalls to living in the dorms.

1. Shower shoes needed not just for using anything in the bathroom but actually for protection while just looking at it.
2. The paper thin walls allow you to hear two people doing all sorts of things even if they are trying to be quiet.
3. Any one of numerous things that the limited space here can not give justice to.

Any housing on Rose Street and Nicholasville, amongst others, takes a while to get used to. Not because of the traffic necessarily, but more for the myriad of ambulances that pass at all hours of the night. (Editor's note, I truly feel sorry for any occupants in the back of an ambulance when they launch up onto a curb on Rose Street, I wonder if traffic would not allow quicker and smoother access if they were to use an alternate route, of which I can find...)

Being roommates with a best friend. You end up rooming with your best friend only to feel like crap when you want to go out without them. This never has happened to me, but numerous friends I know regret moving in with their best friend.

-Ron Norton
Rail_editor@hotmail.com

THE 411

Tomorrow's weather



42 29
Hi Lo

It will be chilly with more clouds to look at than sun.

Kentucky Kernel

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More ABC's
Hard times for UK hoops fans | 8

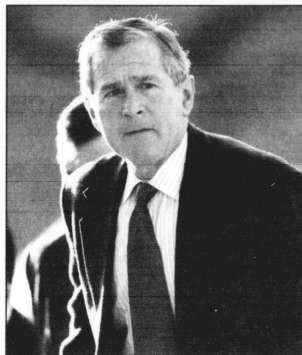


<http://www.kykernel.com>

November 29, 2000

ELECTION 2000

Bush, Gore battle in courts



ASSOCIATED PRESS



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bush pushes for stop

Republican presidential candidate Texas Gov. George W. Bush climbs the stairs of the state Capitol in Austin, Texas, Monday morning. Bush on Sunday declared himself the likely winner of the contested presidential election.

Gore wants more

Democratic presidential candidate Vice President Al Gore addresses the nation from the Vice President's residence in Washington Monday, saying he would contest the results in Florida's presidential election.

Tough issues: Bush working on transition into the White House, Gore working on more recounts

By Lamin Swann
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Beverly Reed agrees with Republicans that it is clear who won the election — George W. Bush. Bush is too. He met with aides in Austin to discuss a transition to the White House Tuesday.

"Gore should give his concession speech," the pre-pharmacy freshman said.

"(In Florida) Bush won the popular vote and the electoral vote."

Public opinion polls pointed to

an uphill climb for the vice president. A CNN-USA Today-Gallup survey, released just before Gore spoke to the nation Monday night, showed 56 percent of those polled believe the vice president should concede, and 38 percent believed he should not.

But a concession speech from Gore won't be hitting the airwaves or newspaper anytime soon.

In Tallahassee, Judge N. Saunders Saul hearing Gore's formal challenge to the Florida results, set a late afternoon hearing yesterday

on the vice president's request for a court-appointed master to manually recount an estimated 13,000 contested ballots from Palm Beach and Miami-Dade.

Ashley Kochert agrees with the Gore camp that all of the ballots need to be counted and continue to fight if needed.

"If all the ballots were not counted, Gore should fight," said Kochert, a psychology freshman.

In Miami-Dade County, Gore lawyers want a recount of some 10,000 votes they said could not be read by a voting machine and were not hand-counted. But James Baker, representing Bush in the

See VOTE on 2

The continuing election

The agonizingly close election stretched into its 20th day Monday, with Democrat Al Gore contesting the results in Florida and Republican George W. Bush planning for a transition to the White House. Here is a roundup of recent developments in the Florida presidential election recount.

Courts

Certification

Gore, seeking to overturn Florida's certification of Bush as the winner of the state's decisive 25 electoral votes, challenged the results from Palm Beach, Miami-Dade and Nassau counties in state court Monday. His court filing said the certification totals "include illegal votes and do not include legal votes that were improperly rejected. The number of such votes is more than sufficient to place in doubt, indeed to change the result of the election."

Overseas ballots

The Bush campaign filed state lawsuits late Sunday in Hillsborough, Okaloosa, Orange, Pasco and Polk counties, charging that their canvassing boards improperly rejected several overseas absentee ballots, including those that were not dated or postmarked. The lawsuits seek to force the counties to count the overseas ballots.

'Butterfly ballot'

A lawsuit over Palm Beach County's "butterfly ballot" was being sent to the state Supreme Court on Monday. Some Democrats complained the ballot was so confusing that they mistakenly cast votes for Pat Buchanan instead of Gore. They are seeking a new election in the county.

Absentee ballot applications

Both sides agreed Monday to move a Democratic lawsuit accusing Republicans of tampering with 4,700 absentee ballot applications in Seminole County, near Orlando, to circuit court in Tallahassee.

Minority voters

The Rev. Al Sharpton filed a federal lawsuit in Miami against Secretary of State Katherine Harris, Florida's board of elections and Bush, saying the state certification before Miami-Dade County could complete a manual recount of ballots disenfranchised minority voters.

Hand-counted ballots

The U.S. Supreme Court will hear a Bush appeal Friday seeking to bar hand-counted ballots from being added to the final tally.

Counting

Statewide

Harris certified the state's election results Sunday, declaring Bush the winner. She accepted new vote totals from 15 counties and rejected Palm Beach County's partial results. Bush leads Gore by 537 votes in the certified totals.

Palm Beach County

As many as 1,000 ballots did not get reviewed before a deadline arrived and county officials turned in recount results showing Gore with a gain of 180 votes. The county finished its count anyway. Gore's court brief said the entire manual count would have added 215 votes for him.

Source: Compiled from AP wire reports

SPOTLIGHT

Diplomacy director's life filled with interesting stories

Working hard: Stempel has filled many roles in professional career

By Trysh Holmes

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Backgammon anyone? John Stempel may be in for a game.

And while you play, you may get to hear some interesting stories from his 24 years of service as a United States Foreign Service Officer, such as how he learned this game. He learned how to play from a Palestinian Christian while in Iran who taught him well enough to beat many of the Iranians he played.

Stempel, the director of the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce, graduated from Princeton University in 1980, went on to be a naval officer in the United States Navy for two years. After that he went to the University of California at Berkeley to earn both his master's and doctorate in political science.

After attending UC Berkeley, he began his 24-year run as a diplomat for the United States traveling to such places as Iran, India and three African countries.

His career started during the height of the Cold War. Stempel's first assignment placed him in Africa. After some time, he traveled to the Middle East and spent four years as the deputy chief of the political section of the U.S. Embassy in Iran where he got the insight to write his book, *Inside the Iranian Revolution*.

Stempel also held such positions within the United States as director of the State Department's Crisis Center during the Israeli-Lebanon conflict, he worked for the Department of Defense and has taught at numerous schools including the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis.

Does he miss these days working home and abroad for the United States?

"I don't miss the state bureaucracy and I don't miss Washington traffic," Stempel said with a chuckle.

What brought Stempel from these different countries and his exciting days as a diplomat and peacekeeper? The UK Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce.

The Patterson School is housed at UK and ranked

John Stempel worked for 24 years as a diplomat for the United States. He began working in the Patterson School of Diplomacy in 1988. He became director in 1993.

PHOTO FURNISHED



as one of the top four programs in the country for diplomacy, alongside such schools as Harvard and Georgetown, yet many students do not know about it.

Stempel took an early retirement to take a full-time tenured position at the school in 1988, and in 1993 he stepped up to take the place as director.

The school takes on 30 students a year who will complete an 18-month masters program. The students will be trained for foreign service.

"The goal is to train people to go out in the workplace and be successful," he said.

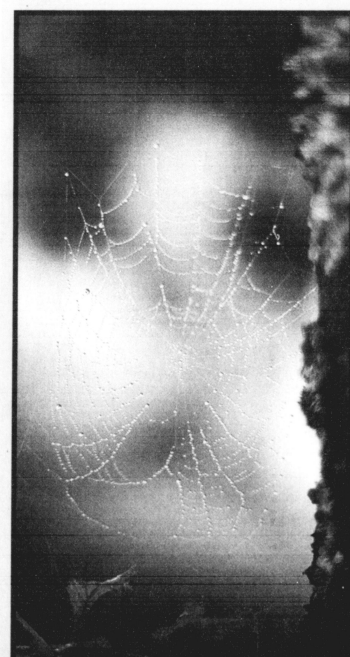
And perhaps to one day live a life as successful as Stempel's.

"It's the only life I've got."

Listen and learn

At 11 a.m. Thursday, Stempel will host a discussion on "Politics and Diplomacy on Arab-Israeli Peacemaking" at the Lexington Theological Seminary. This talk is part of the Regular Convocation Series being held at the seminary.

At 7:30 p.m. Stempel will moderate a debate-discussion of the Bluegrass Chapter of the United Nations Association. The discussion will be between a Palestinian and an Israeli with Stempel moderating in 206 Student Center.



NICK TOMESKE | PHOTO EDITOR

Along came a spider

Spider webs can be found all along the Appalachian Trail, a route that long distance hikers take to test their hiking ability. The trail runs from Georgia to Maine, a stretch of 2,100 miles. This photo was taken from the trail outside Damascus, Va.

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS

The Low-down

Gore's fight spreads across five courts

UNDATED — Al Gore, his fight for the presidency spread across five courts, sought a speedy recount of Florida's contested ballots Tuesday to ensure "no question, no cloud" hangs over the nation's 43rd president. Republicans said the votes were counted, recounted and now "it's time to wrap this up." GOP vice presidential nominee Dick Cheney said, "To stretch it out, as Vice President Gore is doing... is really unprecedented and it's going to create some problems," two days after Florida's top election official declared George W. Bush the winner.

Israel approves early elections

JERUSALEM — Israel's parliament voted Tuesday to hold new elections after Prime Minister Ehud Barak agreed to hard-liners' demands for an early vote. The government was shaken by two months of street battles with the Palestinians. Polls have shown elections would be a risky proposition for Barak. His minority government has been losing support from many Israelis who perceive him as ineffective in ending the bloodshed. A vote would probably not be held before spring, giving Barak time for a last-ditch effort to forge a peace agreement with the Palestinians. Elections could serve as a referendum on the agreement.

Supreme Court knocks drug stops

WASHINGTON — In a significant ruling on the use of police power, the Supreme Court struck down random roadblocks intended for drug searches, saying they are an unreasonable invasion of privacy under the Constitution. Law enforcement is not a good enough reason to stop innocent motorists, the majority concluded Tuesday in the first major ruling of the new term. "Because the checkpoint program's primary purpose is indistinguishable from the general interest in crime control, the checkpoints contravened the Fourth Amendment," which protects against unreasonable searches and seizures, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote.

Dutch legalize euthanasia

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — The Dutch parliament approved a bill legalizing euthanasia Tuesday. The Netherlands is the first nation to openly let doctors help suffering patients end their lives. Advocates of patients' right to die voiced praised the vote. Many Christian groups and others condemned it, led by the Vatican, which said the law "violates human dignity." Fending off concerns the Netherlands could become a haven for patients from abroad seeking to end their lives, Dutch officials stressed that foreigners would be unable to meet strict standards under the law for allowing euthanasia.



GOOD GIG: Talk show host Oprah Winfrey will interview Jean Carnahan, the widow of Gov. Mel Carnahan who is set to be appointed to the U.S. Senate, for a show set to air in December. The interview is set to take place Thursday.



DYNAMIC DUO: Billy Joel and Elton John are teaming up again. The two are planning a tour that will kick off Jan. 19 in San Diego. They will also appear together on John's TV special "Elton John: Greatest Hits Live," airing Friday on CBS.

Men use half of brain when listening

CHICAGO — Score one for exasperated women: New research suggests men really do listen with just half their brains. In a study of 10 men and 10 women, brain scans showed that men when listening mostly used the left sides of their brains, the region long associated with understanding language. Women in the study, however, used both sides. The findings were presented Tuesday at the Radiological Society of North America's annual meeting by Dr. Joseph T. Lurito, an assistant radiology professor at Indiana University School of Medicine. They don't necessarily mean women are better listeners. It could be that "it's harder for them," Lurito suggested, since they apparently need to use more of their brains than men to do the same task.

Drug banned after links to deaths

WASHINGTON — The maker of a popular new treatment for women's irritable bowel syndrome pulled the drug Lotronex off the market Tuesday after it was linked to a growing number of deaths and hospitalizations. The withdrawal comes just nine months after Lotronex began selling with great fanfare. It becomes the seventh banned drug the increasingly embattled Food and Drug Administration has had to deal with in 2 1/2 years. The problem, Lotronex can cause severe side effects, including a life-threatening intestinal inflammation called ischemic colitis, and constipation so severe that some patients needed parts of their intestines surgically removed.

State Farm rewards auto safety

CHICAGO — The nation's leading automobile insurer is revising its pricing policies and giving the biggest rate breaks to drivers of what it finds are the safest cars — primarily luxury cars, vans or SUVs. State Farm said Tuesday the new system, which will replace its across-the-board discount for all vehicles with air bags, will result in no more than a \$50-a-year difference in insurance costs. Owners of sport utility vehicles and other big cars will still pay more for their insurance than small-car owners do. The announcement provoked criticism from consumer safety experts.

Chinese herbs banned in Oregon

WASHINGTON — An Oregon company is recalling two brands of Chinese herbs because they may pose a serious health hazard: They were contaminated with a chemical that can destroy the kidneys. East Earth Herb Inc. of Eugene, Ore., said it has detected the chemical, called aristolochic acid, in certain batches of the following products: Jade Pharmacy brand Meridian Circulation tablets and liquid extract, and Jade Pharmacy brand Quell Fire tablets. Do not consume the recalled products, which may be returned to the place of purchase for a refund. East Earth said. Consumers with questions may call the company at 1-800-827-4372.

Compiled from wire reports.

VOTE

Continued from page 1

voting disputes, said: "It's incorrect to say that these votes haven't been counted."

"They've been counted just like all of the other non-votes, not only in counties in Florida but also in other counties across the United States," he said.

Congressional Democratic leaders have emphatically thrown their support behind Gore's appeal for patience while his court challenge plays out. One Southern Democrat, Rep. Bud Cramer, D-Ala., issued a

statement during the day.

"The time has come for this to come to a close."

Serving notice on Monday Bush wanted the keys to the government's transition office — a request the Clinton administration rebuffed.

Kochert and Reed said that Bush should wait until the litigation is complete and the decision is final before beginning his transition into 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

"In case if the decision comes out that Gore wins the election," Reed said.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.

EXTRACURRICULAR

Have a 'snow' ball

Kathy Wyatt
STAFF WRITER

UK students use everything from mittens and scarves to battle the frigid winter weather.

Members of the Resident Student Government of Keeneland Hall want to give students another option — dancing.

The RSG will host the fifth annual Snowball Semi-formal on Friday. Officers of RSG and Keeneland residents have worked close together to get the project under way.

Dan Stewart, a marketing sophomore, said the RSG has been planning the event for the past six weeks.

"We meet every Thursday for RSG, and for the past six weeks the Snowball has been brought up," Stewart said. "The committee this year has done more planning to make sure this year's Snowball will be a wonderful experience."

One way the RSG hopes to make the event a "wonderful" experience is through music. Freak Daddy, a D.J. from the radio station Z103.3, will provide the music for the evening. Attire for the evening can be anything from simple church clothes to elegant outfits.

"Some people wear old prom dresses, some people wear a simple dress you'd wear to church," said Maggie Slone, Keeneland's RSG executive assistant. "Most guys wear khakis, a nice shirt and a tie."

Students who attend will also have the opportunity to win door prizes. Raffle tickets will be given out at the door. Prizes were donated by various places in Lexington.

The Cats Bus will provide transportation, making stops on North, South and Central Campus.

Dance the night away

The Snowball Semi-formal will be held at 8 p.m. Friday at the Kentucky Inn. Tickets cost \$10 and can be purchased at the Commons, Blazer Cafeterias, the Student Center and Keeneland Hall.

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BOOKS

Getting the most out of textbooks

Cash: Online and traditional buy books back

By Ashley York
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR
By Korey Vallance
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Internet strikes again. But this time John Nesbitt hopes it revolutionizes the buying and selling of textbooks.

"By using UsedBookBroker.com students will buy for less and sell for more," the vice president of customer relations and director of marketing said about the one-month old new online textbook service.

Nesbitt claims the service offers students more money than other online retailers or campus bookstores.

"Typically, students only receive 10 to 30 percent of the retail price of a book when they sell them back to bookstores," he said about their 65 percent return of the retail price on all books.

Nesbitt attributes the service's inspiration to the phenomenon Napster and eBay, claiming UsedBookBroker provides a similar service. Nesbitt said it allows students to directly buy and sell textbooks from each other, while ensuring a safe, as well as reliable delivery through United Parcel Service.

Nesbitt said the way UsedBook

Broker works is entirely based on transactions among students. He said students log on to the site, attain an account membership, post the ISBN number (the number on the back of the text that identifies it) as well as the condition of the book.

Nesbitt said the textbook then goes into their database for sale. Once a prospective buyer requests the book from the seller, the seller then has a limited time to put the book in the mail. The company then tracks the location of the book once sent. Once the buyer receives the book the buyer's credit card is charged and the money is deposited into the seller's checking account.

And if the book doesn't sell, Nesbitt said it could be left on the site for as long as the seller wants.

Jeremy Kolonyak, a computer science junior, said the process seems relatively easy, and that if it offers him more money for his textbooks he might check it out.

"I just hope it's not a scam," he said.

Nesbitt assures UsedBookBroker is completely legit. "We provide a measure of protection for students," he said. "You won't lose your textbooks or money."

If a customer's expectations are not met, Nesbitt said a re-

fund is issued as long as the book returns within three days.

"If the book is in bad condition or not what you wanted, you can return the book and get a refund," he said.

Kolonyak might try the company out, but Carol Behr, the general manager at Kennedy Bookstore, isn't real worried about the competition.

"In certain instances we pay up to 67 percent (for texts) and we always have," she said about UsedBookBroker's fixed return of 65 percent.

Behr also said she thinks students will continue to use local bookstores because they don't want to wait for their money.

"Students still want to get their money quickly, easily and fairly -- and I think we offer that."

The Kernel contacted UK Bookstore and Wildcat Textbooks. They offered no comment.

Money for books

- See UsedBookBroker.com or call 1-866-UBROKER
- Kennedy Bookstore
252-0331
- UK Bookstore
257-2947
- Wildcat Textbooks
225-7771

Looking For My "Mary" to Marry in Lexington

Me - Brett Favre meets Ben Stiller - SWASPM, 32 y.o., never married, 5'10", 175 lbs., tan, midnight brown hair & eyes, former UT-Austin SAE & All-American Athlete, Harvard JD/MBA, independently wealthy Silicon Valley Exec, You - more Cameron Diaz-like than Warren Beatty - 18-26 y.o., gorgeous & curvaceous, adventuresome, fun-loving, healthy sense of humor, a must, personality to spare. Plot for sequel TBD - however director's license / spontaneous flexibility a prerequisite - whether grooving to Brian Ferry at NY in NYC or moshing to Buck Cherry at Lynchburg's, pounding brewskies at "Two Keys" or sipping world-class cabernets aloft a Napa Valley



balloon. This is the real deal - I'm questing for "the one" to lead an Oscar-winning romance - it is decidedly not a Fox TV rerun. Serious inquiries only, kindly send written response and photo to:

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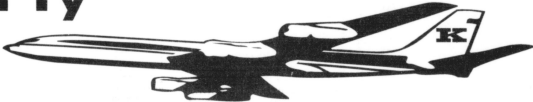
Campus Calendar

November 27 - December 3, 2000

The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Registered Student Org., and UK Dept. of Information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information is to appear at: <http://www.uky.edu/CampusCalendar> Call 257-8867 for more information

<p>Wed 29</p> <p>ACADEMIC Symposium for Interchange and Showdown, 11am-12pm, Student Bldg. 1301 11:30am, Student Bldg.</p> <p>MEETINGS Mk 108/109, 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 104/105, 5-7pm, Holmes Hall</p> <p>SPECIAL EVENTS Mk 108/109, 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 104/105, 5-7pm, Holmes Hall</p> <p>SPORTS UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum</p> <p>LECTURES Mk 108/109, 8-10pm, Commons Market & Hoggan Hall Mk 104/105, 5-7pm, Commons Market Mk 104/105, 5-7pm, Commons Market</p> <p>ARTS/MOVIES UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL/RESERVATION UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum</p>	<p>Thurs 30</p> <p>ACADEMIC Symposium for Interchange and Showdown, 11am-12pm, Student Bldg. 1301 11:30am, Student Bldg.</p> <p>MEETINGS Mk 108/109, 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 104/105, 5-7pm, Holmes Hall</p> <p>SPECIAL EVENTS Mk 108/109, 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 8-10pm, Commons Market Thurs 104/105, 5-7pm, Holmes Hall</p> <p>SPORTS UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum</p> <p>LECTURES Mk 108/109, 8-10pm, Commons Market & Hoggan Hall Mk 104/105, 5-7pm, Commons Market Mk 104/105, 5-7pm, Commons Market</p> <p>ARTS/MOVIES UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL/RESERVATION UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum</p>	<p>Sat 2</p> <p>ACADEMIC Symposium for Interchange and Showdown, 11am-12pm, Student Bldg. 1301 11:30am, Student Bldg.</p> <p>MEETINGS Mk 108/109, 8-10pm, Commons Market Sat 10am-12pm, Commons Market Sun 10am-12pm, Commons Market Sun 10am-12pm, Commons Market</p> <p>SPECIAL EVENTS Mk 108/109, 8-10pm, Commons Market Sat 10am-12pm, Commons Market Sun 10am-12pm, Commons Market Sun 10am-12pm, Commons Market</p> <p>SPORTS UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum</p> <p>LECTURES Mk 108/109, 8-10pm, Commons Market & Hoggan Hall Mk 104/105, 5-7pm, Commons Market Mk 104/105, 5-7pm, Commons Market</p> <p>ARTS/MOVIES UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL/RESERVATION UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum</p>	<p>Sun 3</p> <p>ACADEMIC Symposium for Interchange and Showdown, 11am-12pm, Student Bldg. 1301 11:30am, Student Bldg.</p> <p>MEETINGS Mk 108/109, 8-10pm, Commons Market Sun 10am-12pm, Commons Market Mon 10am-12pm, Commons Market Mon 10am-12pm, Commons Market</p> <p>SPECIAL EVENTS Mk 108/109, 8-10pm, Commons Market Sun 10am-12pm, Commons Market Mon 10am-12pm, Commons Market Mon 10am-12pm, Commons Market</p> <p>SPORTS UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum</p> <p>LECTURES Mk 108/109, 8-10pm, Commons Market & Hoggan Hall Mk 104/105, 5-7pm, Commons Market Mk 104/105, 5-7pm, Commons Market</p> <p>ARTS/MOVIES UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL/RESERVATION UK vs. Virginia Tech, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum UK vs. Wake Forest, 7pm, Memorial Coliseum</p>
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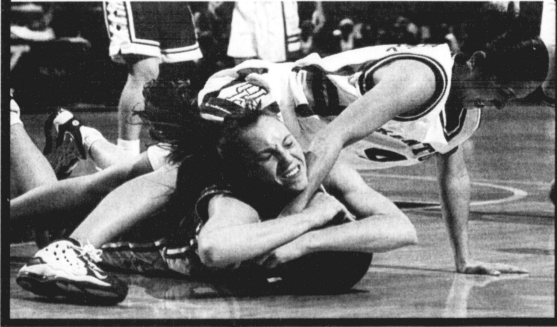


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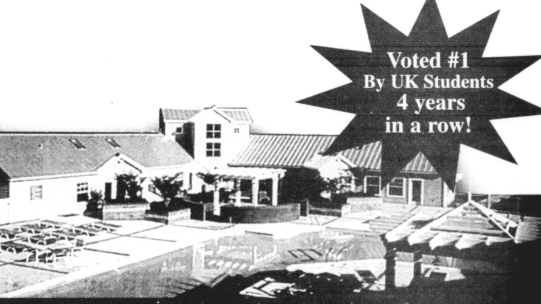


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THEATER

Shakespeare's entire stage repertoire brought to life



Giles Davies, Sylvester Little, Jr. and Nick Rose star in the Cincinnati Shakespeare Festival's production of *The Complete Works of Wilm Shkspr (Abridged)*. Performances run through Dec. 17. Tickets cost \$18 for adults and \$13 for students. Call (513) 381-BARD for ticket information.

PHOTO FURNISHED

Chaos reigns: Shakespeare returns with rapping, a football game and a cooking show

By Tim Staley
SCENE EDITOR

Have you always wanted to see all the plays of Shakespeare, but never had the time? Probably not. Regardless, all 37 of Shakespeare's plays are brought to life within the span of two hours in the *Complete Works of Wilm Shkspr (Abridged)* at the Cincinnati Shakespeare Festival.

The Bard's entire canon is brought to life by three men and a handful of props. Giles Davies, Sylvester Little Jr. and Nick Rose play themselves in this comical and fast paced production.

The production stayed true to the Elizabethan stage, making full use of wit, limited props, bawdiness and cross-dressing.

The theater was small and the production flaunted this fact to its full potential with rows of seats flanking the stage itself. This setup lent itself well to audience involvement throughout the play.

The set design was sparse, to say the least. The set consisted only of a chair and a white backdrop with the name of the play scrawled across it. This allowed the focus to be placed exactly where it belongs, upon the actors.

The performers managed to condense this large body of work by cleverly combining

some of the Bard's genres. Thanks to the amazingly similar plot devices, all of the comedies were performed simultaneously.

"Romeo and Juliet" and "Titus Andronicus" were performed more fully, the latter being done as a cooking show.

Without missing a beat, the cast tackled "Othello." I was a little apprehensive at first when they decided to rap the plot. My fear quickly gave way to laughter as they tore through the storyline with a flow that would make any professional rapper proud.

The last of the 37 plays performed was "Hamlet." The performance was about 45 minutes long and was the highlight of the evening. The cast then decided to do "Hamlet" again, this time in about two minutes, and then again, in under a minute and yet again, backwards.

Amid the near constant madness, the genius of Shakespeare shone through. Perhaps the best example of this was during their performance of "Hamlet."

A soliloquy that begins in just as a mere footnote soon transfixed the audience with beauty of the words and the power of the actor.

Whether you are a fan of dead English playwrights or not, you will not be disappointed by the *Complete Works of Wilm Shkspr (Abridged)*.

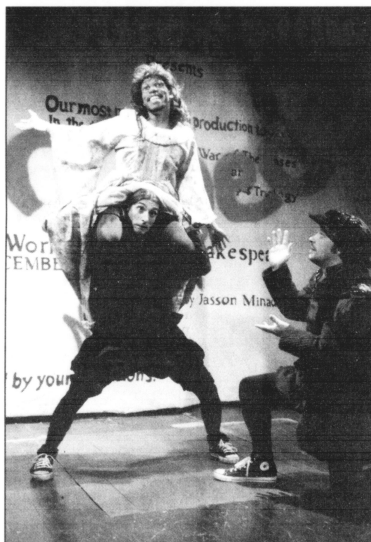


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Running through the Bard

The Complete Works of Wilm Shkspr (Abridged) provides performances of all 37 of the Bard's plays in a two-hour running time.

ART

All the watercolors of the rainbow

On display: UK graduate Neil Suliers' abandoned business for artistic brilliance

By Sonya Lichtenstein
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For only the second year, the Alumni Association is sponsoring "Let the Arts Begin!" This program originated as a Homecoming festivity to bring the public into the new King Alumni House and allow them to see the renovations made inside.

Another reason the Alumni Association began this program is to promote the arts on the UK campus.

This year's artist invitation went out to Neil Suliers, a 1960 UK business department graduate. Straying from his original

degree, Suliers took his interest in art and turned it into more than just a hobby. Besides being an accomplished businessman, inventor and photographer, Suliers' artistic ability brings to light the way a watercolor abstract style of painting can be more appealing than the realistic style to which most students are exposed.

Suliers originally began painting by studying closely with other artists, attending workshops and working on creating reproductions for other artists. He first began working with oil paints but later found that he preferred watercolor.

Over 58 paintings are dis-

played in his exhibit. The majority of his paintings portray rural or urban landscapes with a few ocean scenes mixed in. With his abstract style, Suliers avoids adding too much detail to his work, leaving much to the viewer's interpretation. He refuses to duplicate real scenes; he prefers to paint from his own imagination.

Suliers paints from the comfort of his own home and avoids the studio setting unless he is working on the finishing touches of a piece. Painting is not only important to aspiring artists, but should appeal to all students on campus.

"It changes the way you look at things," Suliers said. "There are things you see when you paint that others don't. There are shadows we live with

everyday. Artists have to be aware of those lights and darks. You have to be able to pay attention to the subtle things."

He also emphasizes that art is a visual experience and should be entertaining.

Suliers thinks students will enjoy his exhibit because it appeals to so many tastes. "Art has no beginning or end, you can just enjoy it at your own pace," he said.

If you go

Prints of all Suliers' paintings will be available for sale. Prices range from about \$60-75.

The exhibit can be viewed Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Reception Dec. 3. At 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. at King Alumni House.

"There are things you see when you paint that others don't."

- NEIL SULIERS, ARTIST

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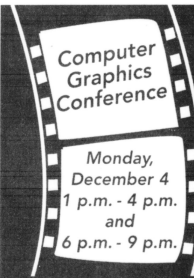
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Feeling sick

Inspiration for "Shoe" comic strip has cancer

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — The inspiration for the late cartoonist Jeff MacNelly's "Shoe" comic strip is battling cancer.

Jim Shumaker, a journalism professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, is receiving radiation at UNC Hospitals for cancer of the brain. He said his son, Karl Shumaker checked into the hospital more than a week ago after complaining of pain in his arm. "It could be worse," his son Karl Shumaker said. "He could be eaten up with this stuff and no treatment would be available."

The younger Shumaker said his father is in pain, but medication seemed to help. "He gets ornery with me, but that's a good sign," he said. "I'm his son." Shumaker, 77, was the inspiration for MacNelly's P. Martin Shoemaker, the gruff-talking, cigar-chomping, sneaker-wearing bird who edited the Tretopos Tatler-Tribune. MacNelly died of cancer in June at age 52.

Presidential pad

Franklin D. Roosevelt's mansion up for sale

HYDE PARK, N.Y. — Own a piece of history for less than \$600,000. An 18-room mansion overlooking the Hudson River that once belonged to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt is up for sale. The nearby homes known as Springwood, where FDR was born, and Val-Kill, which was Eleanor Roosevelt's retreat, are preserved as historic sites by the National Park Service. But the park service cannot afford the \$599,500 asking price, said Sarah Olson, park superintendent for the Roosevelt National Historic Site. Preservation groups have had little time to raise the money to buy the mansion, according to The New York Times, which reported on the pending sale Tuesday.

Originally painted dark red and known as the Red House, the 1833 mansion reflects the privileged life of the Roosevelt family. It was acquired by James Roosevelt, the president's father, in 1868 and given to James Roosevelt, his son from his first marriage. The son, nicknamed Rosy, died in 1927 and left the Red House to his half brother, Franklin.

Other relatives occupied the house until 1962. In 1963, the president's estate sold the mansion, along with two servants' cottages and 145 acres of land, for \$195,000. Bernard Kessler, a lawyer, bought it with his brother and recently has been using the home for his law office.

—Source: AP Wire
—Compiled by:
John Wampler

DIALOGUE

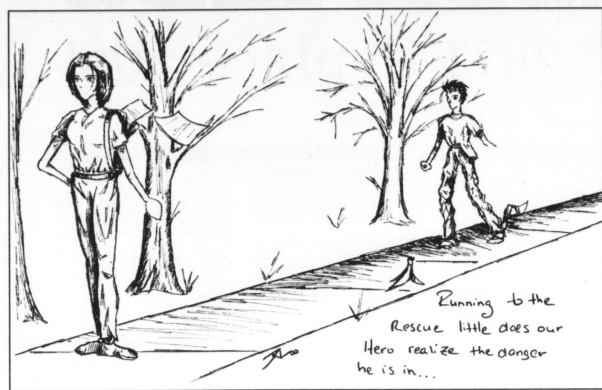
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IN OUR OPINION

Seek peace, not international aid

Attempts by Middle Eastern leaders to make foreign alliances compromises peace process

For the last few months, the situation in the Middle East has deteriorated from peace to war, and now both sides are attempting to up the stakes.

Ehud Barak, the Israeli prime minister, has solicited help from the extremist factions in Israel, while Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat has been solidifying the Arab nations in their opposition to Israel.

In the past week, however, a disturbing turn of events has emerged, threatening to escalate the crisis to international proportions. Barak has been allying himself even more firmly with President Clinton, hoping to win American support in the conflict.

Over the holiday weekend, Arafat has responded in kind, making friendly overtures to Vladimir Putin of Russia in hopes of a similar alliance.

The conflict is a travesty in its own right, and bringing such strong forces into play could only serve to escalate the bloodshed and further expand the rift between the two sides.

We saw a similar turn of events in Korea and Vietnam, and the result was terrible for everyone involved.

If Barak continues to solicit American aid, it eliminates the United States as a viable mediator. As one of the world's superpowers, America has time and again saved the region from war by overseeing countless peace agreements. Russia, with little political clout yet a strong shell of an army from the Cold War, can only serve to better arm the Palestinians and deepen the divides in the region.

Barak and Arafat must seek out one another, not the world's most powerful nations, to end the violence.

Anything less puts the entire region in grave danger, and brings the holy land (for both sides) one step closer to an all out war.

John LaFleur

GUEST COLUMNIST

Popular vote should replace electoral college

Amid all the speculation about who will eventually be declared the next president of the United States, I am wondering about a related topic. I am speculating on how many Americans believe they actually voted for a candidate for the presidency and one for the vice presidency. Technically, no one voted for Texas Gov. George W. Bush, Al Gore, Ralph Nader or any other candidate, at least not yet. Everyone who voted on Nov. 7 only voted for groups of electors.

The Electoral College, not American voters at large, determines who will become president and the various political parties choose these electors. Each party has its own group of electors. Voters actually chose which group of electors they wanted. The assumption is that the electors will remain loyal to the wishes of their respective parties and cast their ballots in favor of their party's nominated candidates for the presidency and vice presidency.

Some, though not all, states have passed laws mandating that electors vote for the candidates who received the most popular votes within the state. Therefore, some electors could vote for can-

didates other than the ones that were more widely supported by the voters. Those maverick electors may only risk the scorn of their fellow party members and thwart the will of the residents of their state.

I strongly advocate the abolition of the Electoral College. I do not base my opinion on who I won this or any previous election. I have held these same beliefs since I first really studied the Constitution. My opposition stems from the potential of someone being elected despite not having garnered a plurality of the votes of the American people.

The writers of the Constitution created this system to prevent the lower classes from selecting a candidate whom the writers, the economic and political elite of the country, deemed unacceptable to lead the nation. Now the people of the United States should correct that archaic and undemocratic decision.

The current system of electing the president and vice president unfairly favors a minority of the states in the Union.

Candidates heavily campaign and appeal to voters in the select few states holding the largest number of electoral

votes. They spend most of their time in California, Texas, New York and other heavily populated states. They shape their agendas to win supporters in those states. In contrast, the candidates virtually or completely ignore Alaska, Wyoming, Arkansas and other lightly populated states.

The issues important to people in smaller states receive little to no consideration unless they just happen to be the same as those in the larger states. Are there not people living in the sparsely populated states of the South, Great Plains and Rocky Mountains Americans, as well?

Do their concerns not matter? The "winner-take-all" system of the Electoral College permits candidates to focus on winning at least narrow margins of victory in less than a dozen states while ignoring the rest of the country. Should the direction of presidential decisions and policies be shaped disproportionately by what Californians, Floridians and residents of the Northeast want?

The elimination of the Electoral College in favor of gaining the presidency through a simple popular vote will help make all

Joshu Goebeler

KERNEL COLUMNIST

Turn rails into trails

Lexington needs more greenspace. The populace of this town does not have a good place to go for a quiet walk or bike ride. We have a very weak attempt at bicycle lanes but these begin with nothing and lead nowhere.

I have to drive for nearly an hour just to go for a short hike in the woods. This is sick. A little bit of quiet time is good for sanity. We need a quick and easy way to escape the one-way streets, pollution and development. We need to work to promote Rails to Trails here in Lexington.

Rails to Trails is one of the largest trail organizations in the country and is devoted to transforming abandoned railroad lines into trails. If you're into hiking, walking your dog, riding your horse, running, bicycling or just getting outside, then this is a program you could benefit from.

At present the nearest trails are nearly a one hour drive from Lexington. As our fair city continues to devour farms in order to build prefabricated houses in cul-de-sacs that pour out on country roads, why not once an escape route from the "inner-city," it continues to take longer to escape, we are boxed in. No Exit!

I like to walk and I like to ride my bicycle. Lexington has plenty of sidewalks for walking but only through town. I would like to be able to walk where people are not driving by honking, yelling things out their window and throwing water balloons.

As for bicycling it is not much better. We Lexington drivers are a dangerous breed. The traffic problems make us angry and we feel like we need to be in a hurry. We have no time to slow down for bicycles or pedestrians.

It would be a real God-send for city planning to try to work with Rails to Trails and give us a little bit of much needed recreation. I believe UK could benefit from this as well. I know a number of students who did not stay at UK because of the lack of outdoor activities in the area. I myself plan to escape to a more "outdoors friendly" town as soon as I get my undergraduate degrees out of the way.

It doesn't have to be like this. Kentucky has an enormous amount of abandoned railway. We have been one of the largest coal producers. The

coal companies have torn down our mountains and ruined a lot of the water. We can try to reclaim some of the land. Turning rusting railway into beautiful trails.

The New England states have already exploded with Rails to Trails production. Why does Kentucky always have to be the last state to do anything positive? It is not like it costs a lot of money. It is really a pretty simple procedure. The trail is already there. It just requires a little manual labor that would create some jobs in our area. Rails to Trails has plans to link all these trails together.

Eventually we would have trails crossing the country and zigzagging from north to south and east to west. It would open up the United States to adventure. Imagine a bicycle lane of the country. It could be easily accomplished if Rails to Trails continues to expand.

I want to believe that UK, as well as our elected officials and our population, cares enough about this town to make it a better place to live. Almost every type of health professional has recommended outdoor activity. It's good for your physical, mental and emotional well-being.

A trail program such as this one appeals to people in all walks of life and it encompasses all types of activities. I am just amazed at what a good idea it would be to turn our abandoned railways into trails. It is such a good idea that it might just not happen.

It definitely will not happen unless there is some community effort. There is a group here in town, the Bluegrass Rails to Trails Foundation, that has been working to seduce local government to work in politics. If you want to get involved then you can visit the BRTF web site at (www.kytrail.org/btrf.html).

It would also be advisable to call and write our local city planning offices as well as the mayor the governor and anyone else who may have the illusion of power.

Kernel Columnist Joshu Goebeler is a sociology and English senior. His views do not necessarily represent those of the Kernel.

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FOUND: Black cat on Aylerford Place. Call 225-6552.

FOUND: Black female cat on S. Limestone. Very friendly. Call 257-2889 and ask for Hilary.

FOUND: Little puppy chow, site with this collar near library. Call 608-8068.

FOUND: Lost dog, female black lab 1 and 1/2 years old. Well taken care of, trained, by Blazer Hall. Call 257-4932.

FOUND: Sublease on Trinity Park. Call 277-9643 and ask for Brad.

MEETINGS

SHAC MEETING: All students are welcome to attend the next meeting of SHAC (Student Health Advisory Council) on Wed. Nov. 29 at 5:00 p.m. Inside University Health Services. We will be discussing the Christmas volunteer project. For more information, call 323-9623 ext. 281

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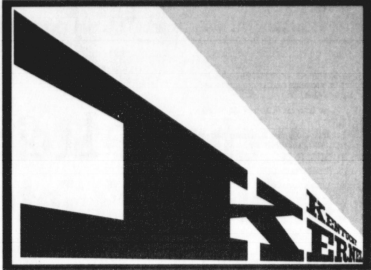
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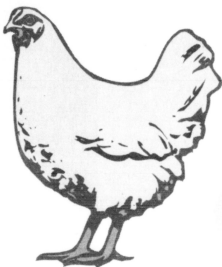
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Thanks mom....



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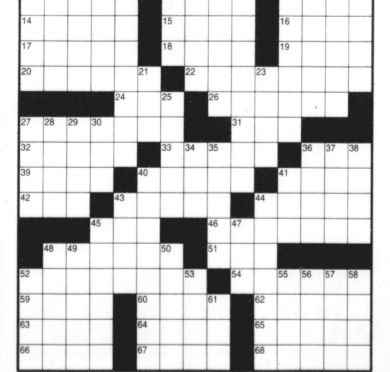
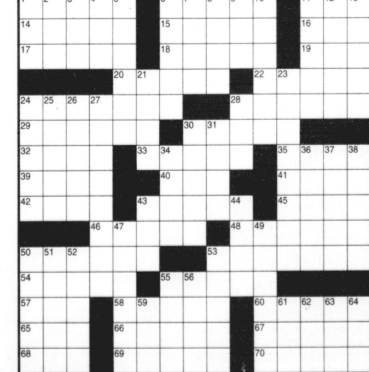
crossword puzzles

- ACROSS 1 Buffet chow 6 Parsley unit 11 Layer 14 Einstein on the Beach, e.g. 15 SkyDome, e.g. 16 Female sandpiper 17 Like the sea 18 Gondolier's waterway 19 Eggs 20 The Ginza's locale 22 Doggatch name 24 Knights' foes 28 Part of the atmosphere 29 Mouse or rat 30 Sea anemone, e.g. 33 Chicago airport 35 "How sad!" 38 Catechesis 40 And, in Berlin 41 Parched 42 Fair 43 Provide funds 45 Made a remark 46 Russian export 48 Forsyth's "The _____ File" 50 Sam Malone's son 53 Spruce up 54 "The Eyes of _____ Mars" 55 Gawker 57 Celestial body 58 Off-limits 60 Clumsy 65 Tire-pressure means 66 Reckon 67 Olive-green bird 68 The woman 69 Fragrant flowers 70 1950s hookie of the Year Baylor local

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED CEDAR DIARES DEN OZONE ULTRA AXE BROTH CLEARANCE BADA BATS BIDDICED LOADS SNIDELLY ALBERTS WHINE VILIBES BEIGE XIV MUSICALPHIBYTE COG CURLS FILED POSSES FEDORA CROONED SLEEP HAVOC MAUL HID TICHOCKEY ERODE MEN COILS RUNES ERN TONTO STEAK 12-40-00 © 2000 United Feature Syndicate

- ACROSS 1 It's separated from the wheat 6 Catechism 10 Designer Cassini 14 Proportion 15 Lotion ingredient 16 Butterfly stage 17 Wedding-vow site 18 Timy Tim's pudding 19 Oklahoma town 20 Like a lamb? 22 Reference books 24 Over and over 25 Eating spots 27 Philadelphia bell 31 Drowse 32 Bank of films 33 Rule 36 "How gross!" 39 Close by 40 Gate fasteners 41 Neighborhood 42 Volcano's dust 43 Toy-appliance material 44 Church instrument 45 Broadcast 46 Dawdles 48 More hackneyed 51 Deborah's 1956 film 52 Medieval weapon 54 Jeweled headresses 59 Marsh bird 60 "C-car" 62 Build 63 Between gigs 64 Theater 65 Slante 66 Harry's love 67 Fattella locale 68 Hurler

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED FINN AGILE WADS AGEE LATTIN ISAK CORN SPENT TERTI TROOP RUCHEMERCHANT VAGABOND DROPS ILLSINATBERIE ALCE LUNGS WILDO LARRY NUNAWOOD SHYER VOSEMIITE RIDE OHIO KATYIDS SCROVIPS IBIDIADORE RIPIE TUNA NINES ELIE STAY AESOP DECK 12-40-00 © 2000 United Feature Syndicate



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Jeremy Bratcher
SPORTSDAILY WRESTLING COLUMNIST

New champ Steiner pumps the fun back into WCW

Who's your Poppa? "Big, Bad Booty Daddy" could be his promotion's savior

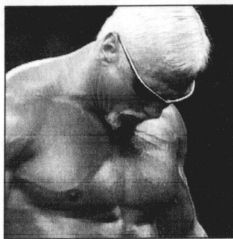
WCW entered a new era Sunday night. "Big Poppa Pump" Scott Steiner reached the pinnacle of his wrestling career, as he was crowned WCW Heavyweight Champion on the "Mayhem" pay-per-view. He defeated Booker T for the title in a special "Caged Heat" match, which included a straight jacket that was available for use by either wrestler.

Miraculously, Steiner broke free from the straight jacket in Houdini-like fashion, won the title, and sent Booker T to the hospital with a cracked sternum. He now has the mammoth task of carrying the WCW on his back as they attempt to regain their spot atop the wrestling world.

Scott Steiner (real name: Scott Rechsteiner) has accomplished just about everything in the wrestling world, and his recent Heavyweight Title victory tops it off. For just over ten years, he and his brother Rick were untouchable in the tag team ranks. They held a total of 12 tag team titles in the WWF, WCW and the former NWA. This included a brief stint in Japan where the duo held the IWGP Tag Titles on two different occasions.

Of course, the utopia had to come to an end and the team split. Scott joined the then-newly-formed NWO and began a feud with Rick that would permanently change his image. The new "heel" in the WCW would then go on a tear throughout the federation where he would capture both the U.S. and TV titles and establish himself as a true superstar in the singles ranks.

This brings us to Monday night, when the self-proclaimed "Big, Bad Booty Daddy" made his first appear-



Scott Steiner won the WCW Heavyweight title at Sunday's "Mayhem" pay-per-view.

PHOTO FURNISHED

ance on "Nitro" as the WCW Heavyweight Champion. Steiner cut a promo unlike anyone in WCW has done in recent memory: he "shot" on The Rock, "Stone Cold" Steve Austin, and Booker T while declaring himself the "cash cow" of WCW. The crowd erupted!

In the span of 24 hours, Steiner brought life into a company that was quickly becoming the laughing stock of the wrestling world. Then, WCW CEO Ric Flair turned the campfire into a bonfire as he brought out his surprise who will face Steiner for the title at December's "Stardome" PPV. That man was none other than Sid! Out of the WCW doghouse and straight into the main event picture, Sid has returned as one of the few men crazy enough to give Steiner the fight of a lifetime.

It looks as if the suits in Atlanta have decided to listen to the fans and give us what we want — entertainment.

the Dodgers, Rockies, White Sox, Orioles and even the Mets and Mariners. He said it was unlikely, however, that a deal would be completed before or during baseball's winter meetings that begin next week in Dallas.

Lindros a Leaf?

TORONTO — Eric Lindros wants to play with the Toronto Maple Leafs now that he has been cleared by his doctor to resume his NHL career after his latest concussion.

"There is a lot of risk involved from a medical point of view but I've been cleared and I feel good," Lindros said after he worked out at a York University rink with former Maple Leaf Nick Kypreos and one other unidentified skater.

"I'd really like to play in Toronto," he added. "It's a great organization, a great city and being from here, it just seems to be a good fit. I mean I see it that way and hopefully we'll see what happens."

Adam Spaw
SENIOR SPORTSDAILY COLUMNIST

The ABC's of hoops pain and suffering



What's going on? Tubby Smith and legions of Cat fans are wondering.

FILE PHOTO

Tubby's at the plate and I'm throwin' breaking balls, curves and a Sesame Street spitball.

Attention rock bottom! Do you read? We're coming to see you.

Baffled: Tubby Smith, pilot of Rock Bottom charter.

Chapel Hill. Home of North Carolina, this Saturday's opponent, who is 16-6 versus UK-all time, the Cats' worse record against any school. The Tarheels are ranked sixth, UK is unranked. Carolina is 3-0, the Cats 1-3. Don't you love showmanship?

Common (C reprise): Saul Smith. Don't blame this on bricks. See F.

Erik Daniels. Despite a 17-point homecoming from the freshman in the Queen City last week, Marquis Estill, fresh off a suspension for who-knows-what, was first off Tubby Smith's bench against Penn State.

Fundamentals. Now artifacts is a screen, two-of-two from the line, passing, spacing, an offensive play and an uncontested shot. Strike one, Tubby.

Grandma got run over by a reminder. Heissenbuttel: Can I buy a vowel?

I see a bad moon arising. UNC, Michigan State, Georgia Tech, Indiana, Louisville, and No. 11 still in the lineup.

Jason Parker. Fifteen points and 15 boards against Penn State, but mysteriously benched the last five minutes of the game.

Kentucky, you know, that fried chicken state.

Lost cause: Those five funny words: "We're gonna run this year." McDonald's High School All-

Americans. Count 'em, there's four on this year's team (Bogans, Prince, Stone and Parker). That's as many as a certain 1996 team that won a national title. Strike two, Tubby.

Nepotism. Need I dare say more? Optimism. Gone.

Primo. Rick. Remember that time when Anthony Epps tried to rev up the crowd by flapping his arms and Rick said "you're not a cheerleader, you're a point guard." Kind of like last Saturday when Saul did the same thing after draining a three, his only three, over Penn State's Joe Crispin, who made seven of 'em.

Queen: "We are the champions." Riding shotgun, Travis Hubbard, assistant sports editor for the Kernel: "We won't be hearing any of that after this season."

Spaw, yours truly, driving Hubbard around. "Sure you will. It'll just be irrelevant."

Tubby Smith and player development, like mixing milk with concrete. Underachievers. Do!

Yeciferous adj — a vehement, deafening shouting or calling out. Tubby's been canned at the water cooler.

Why can't the Cats consistently run or guard an inbound? Why was shaky-shooter Cliff Hawkins playing two guard down the stretch against Penn State? Why, after a timeout, was a thirty foot fade-away from Bogans the best UK could muster? Strike three, Tubby.

X-mas day and the Cats are still sub-500?

Yep. Zoinks!

IN BRIEF

Sportsbytes

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARLINGTON, Texas — Tom Hicks, who has won a Stanley Cup as owner of the Dallas Stars, has a plan to find success with his other team — the Texas Rangers.

A crucial part of that plan is the pursuit of free agent Alex Rodriguez, the 25-year-old All-Star shortstop who is looking for a long-term home. "Obviously, Alex is one of the best players, and I think when his career is over, he will be truly one of the best players ever to have played the game," Hicks said. "We know that. That's why we are interested in having him."

While Rodriguez insists there are no front-runners, and that he's only in the early stages of what could be a lengthy process, he

seemed impressed Monday after two days of meetings with Hicks and other Texas officials.

"I'm looking for an ownership. That's my first criteria," Rodriguez said. "I want an owner to have the type of commitment and willingness to win year in and year out. That's what Mr. Hicks brings into the equation. He's a committed winner; he's done it in another sport. I believe he can do it in another sport."

Rodriguez said he isn't concerned with a timetable, even if the process isn't completed until January or February. He has also talked to Atlanta, but his agent, Scott Boras, said there were also six other teams in the mix.

Boras didn't identify the other possibilities, but they appear to be

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