

# KENTUCKY KERNEL

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## Students who died were legally drunk

Death at gorge, drowning prompt officials to beef up focus on alcohol

By Megan Boehnke  
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Two UK students who have died since the first week of school had blood-alcohol levels of more than twice the legal limit, toxicology re-

ports show.

Tevis Shaw, 20, who was registered to begin his first semester at UK this fall, fell off a cliff in the Red River Gorge area two days before the start of classes.

Lauren Fannin, a 25-year-old phar-

macy student, was under the influence when she died Sept. 23 along with close friend and recent UK nursing school graduate Lindsey Harp, also 25. The women drowned when they slipped and fell in knee-high floodwaters that swept them through an underground sewage system. Harp was also legally drunk.

This is the fifth year in the last six that a student has died in an alcohol-related incident and Shaw's death marks the third year in a row that a

student has died within two days of the start of classes in an underage drinking incident.

The circumstances surrounding the deaths of Shaw, Fannin and Harp have caused university administrators, including UK President Lee Todd, to once again focus their attention on student drinking.

"Tragedies from the past few years underscore the need we have as a university to educate our students about the potential dangers involved with al-

cohol or substance abuse," Todd said in a statement in response to this story.

"We have a lot of important efforts and initiatives in place that provide that education, but we have to continue to be vigilant in ensuring that students utilize the resources and programs in place."

Last year, 19-year-old Thomas Byers III died after being hit by a train while running from UK police at a party near campus the day before classes. See **Toxicology** on page 6

UK 38, VANDERBILT 26

## CATS PARTY LIKE IT'S 1999



**Above:** Head coach Rich Brooks gets soaked by senior offensive guard Michael Aitcheson, left, and senior center Matt McCutchan during the last seconds of the game against Vanderbilt University on Saturday. The Cats won 38-26, making themselves eligible for a bowl game with their sixth win this season.

**Below:** Junior running back Rafael Little scores with 13 minutes left in the fourth quarter to put UK up 24-20.

KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

## UK eligible for bowl bid for first time in seven years

By Jonathan Smith  
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Something wasn't right.

Heading into Saturday's game against Vanderbilt, the football team didn't have a strong week of practice, said junior wide receiver Keenan Burton.

"The players weren't focused," Burton said.

If Burton was one of the players who wasn't focused during the week of practice after UK's win over Georgia, he didn't show it against Vanderbilt.

Burton caught 11 passes for 171 yards and two touchdowns in the Cats' 38-26 bowl-clinching win over the Commodores in front of 52,235 fans at Commonwealth Stadium.

The win moved the Cats to 6-4 overall and 4-3 in the Southeastern Conference. With Tennessee and South Carolina losing Saturday, the Cats jumped into sole possession of

See **Football** on page 3



HILLY SCHIFFER | STAFF

## 'Circle of Love' reaches out to area children

By Emily Coovert  
news@kykernel.com

For many Americans, Christmas is a time when families gather to exchange presents beneath the Christmas tree.

But for many underprivileged children in Fayette and the surrounding counties, this kind of Christmas is only made possible by the generosity of others.

Circle of Love, which kicked off on Friday, is a program that provides Christmas gifts to area children. It is offering UK stu-

dents, faculty, staff and their families the opportunity to give to disadvantaged children during the holiday season.

"It's amazing how generous UK people are," said Karen Doyle, who is UK's student affairs coordinator and has volunteered with Circle of Love since 1989. "Circle of Love is not just for people with big money; it's for people with big hearts."

Each year, Circle of Love partners with the Family Resource Centers at schools in Fayette, Bourbon, Scott, Woodford, Madison, Jessamine, Nicholas and Clark counties to

identify children who qualify to be a part of their program. Children are selected by their teachers and counselors to create wish lists of three items and then send them to UK's Circle of Love to distribute to interested people on campus.

"We have 380 children this year," Doyle said. "Our goal is to have them all provided for."

Donating gifts isn't the only way to get involved.

Volunteers are needed for December 4

See **Charity** on page 6

## Prom for disabled draws UK volunteers

By Kelly Wiley and Susannah Marlowe  
news@kykernel.com

Men and women of all ages decked in dazzling formal and specially tailored tuxedos walked and wheeled down the red carpet Friday night, escorted by equally elegant volunteers.

But this event was different from a typical black-tie affair.

Instead of well-to-do doctors and philanthropists, the guests of honor at this ball were children and adults with mental and physical handicaps.

An estimated 2,000 people with mental and physical disabilities, hailing from all over Kentucky, attended the Jesus Prom this year. The prom, sponsored by Southland Christian Church and local businesses, is an annual event for the disabled community.

This year's Jesus Prom was the sixth for Hunter Sherwood, a hospitality management and tourism senior at UK. He served on the planning committee this year as the creative teams director.

"It's a party like none other on earth," Sherwood said of the Jesus Prom. "I don't even have words to describe it."

He said the best part of the event was "being able to tell somebody who doesn't hear it every day that 'You're beautiful, I love you and God loves you.'"

The prom relies on volunteers who plan and staff each year's event. An estimated 700 volunteers, including dozens of UK students, participated in this year's Jesus Prom.

Students participated in many ways. Some escorted disabled guests through the building — starting at hair and make-up stations, then to get their pictures taken and finally to a sit-down dinner — while others were a part of planning for and decorating for the event.

Shelly Lane has attended the Jesus Prom for

See **Prom** on page 6

## UK hospital responds to infection risk

By Shannon Mason  
smason@kykernel.com

The UK Chandler Hospital is undergoing a disinfection of all its Intensive Care Units in response to finding a malignant organism in one of the ICU sections, according to a UK news release.

The organism, called Acinetobacter, is not harmful to healthy people but can cause infection in the sickest of patients, such as those in ICU.

Those patients are generally on antibiotics, which this organism is resistant to.

"The very ill are generally more susceptible to infection than those who are healthy," said UK spokesman Jay Blanton.

The disinfection process is part of the hospital's standard protocol for infection control, and this type of problem is something that most hospitals face, said Dr. Richard Lofgran, the hospital's chief medical officer.

"The presence of organisms that are resistant to many antibiotics is common to many, if not most, hospitals in the region and across the country," Lofgran said in the news release. "All hospitals confront the challenge of controlling these organisms. It is simply a challenge of modern medicine, one that hospitals address on a daily and regular basis."

The organism was only found in one section of the ICU, but the whole unit is being disinfected as a precautionary measure, Blanton said.

Blanton said he did not know the exact time frame until the completion of the disinfection, but said it should only take a couple of days.

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## Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

To get the advantage, check the day's rating. 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

**Aries (March 21-April 19)** - Today is a 7 - The odds are good you'll want something desperately that you can't afford. The odds are good that if you get it, you'll soon wish you hadn't. Take care.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** - Today is a 9 - Let people know what's expected of them, in a loving manner. Be tough, and get them into shape. There's a test coming up.

**Gemini (May 21-June 21)** - Today is a 5 - You're a good teacher naturally, so use those skills now. Try not to yell at a person who's nervous;

that will only make matters worse.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22)** - Today is an 8 - Use your money to make more money, further on down the line. While you have the opportunity, take care of your future, first.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** - Today is a 5 - The more you listen, the more you'll understand what you're up against. Don't bother to offer suggestions yet. Encourage another to talk.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** - Today is a 9 - You're super-intelligent now, and have the patience to really study. Get into a subject you've always wanted to try, and master it.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** - Today is a 5 - Avoid distractions and focus on ways to streamline your procedures. When you can do your job in less time, you'll have more time to play.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** - Today is an 8 - There is a test, and it's a tough one. Don't leave anything to chance. Be prepared, careful and charming, and you'll win the big

prize.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** - Today is a 4 - Don't go yet - you're not ready, even if you think you are. Caution is advised, and you'll be better off safe than sorry.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** - Today is a 9 - You'd like to go out and celebrate with your friends but you're not there yet. Don't forget the most important thing, like putting the check in the mail.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** - Today is a 5 - It's better for you to say less, and let someone else say more. Focus on keeping the others on track, and let them fight out the details. Maintain objectivity.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** - Today is an 8 - The job is still not finished, and it seems to be taking forever. The more distractions you can avoid, the sooner you'll finish this task.

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## Love Lives Rande & Cindy's Madrid Getaway

### THE DISH

Family and friends always come first," restaurant and club owner Rande Gerber tells Us of balancing work and home life with wife Cindy Crawford and their kids: daughter Kaya, 5, and son Presley, 7. But he and the supermodel, 40, were able to mix business and pleasure at the October 25 opening of his newest ventures — a restaurant, Midnight Rose, and a bar, The Penhouse, in the ME Madrid Reina Victoria Hotel in the Spanish capital. "She added to the glamour and beauty just by being there," the developer, 44, gushes. The bonus? She can party like a rock star. "Before my opening at the hotel," he says, "we ate and drank there until the sun came up."

#### Jessica & Cash -- Making It Work

Nobody has to remind Jessica Alba and Cash Warren that communication is key to a relationship. A source close to the duo, who've been dating for two years, tells Us that when work keeps them apart, they speak on the phone literally every few hours. "While the actress, 25, is in Vancouver filming *Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer*, the source says her L.A.-based beau has been on his best behavior. "He doesn't really go out at night," says the friend of the former film assistant, who is now a partner in a production company, Verso

Entertainment, and is working with Quincy Jones. "And if he does, he calls her every 30 minutes from the bar." He has certainly earned her family's approval. Says the pal, "Cash is always calling Jessica's dad and brother just to say hello. . . . He's a really good boyfriend."

#### Rachel Weisz's New Mom Advice

The biggest surprise so far for Rachel Weisz in her five months raising her son, Henry, with fiancé screenwriter Darren Aronofsky, 37? "How wonderful it is," the actress, 35, tells Us. "Everyone said it was going to be bad. I didn't know it was going to be this fun." Not that Weisz - who stars with Hugh Jackman in the November 22 sci-fi romance *The Fountain* - is bragging. "I'm still new to it," she says. "I'm green. I'm figuring it out as it goes."

#### Will's About to Be a Dad Again

"There are many parallels between me and my son. For instance, we both wear diapers," Will Ferrell has joked of Magnus, his 2-year-old with pregnant wife Viveca Paulin, 37, an art auctioneer. "I don't really have a problem . . . I started wearing a bladder-retief diaper just for convenience."

Hopefully, the Stranger Than Fiction star, 39, will find a better way to bond with his new baby, due December 29. "It's very exciting," he tells Us of his second go at father-hood. This time, he said, "We kind of know what we're in for."

#### MVP David Eckstein's World Series Romance!

A first date at the batting cages may not sound romantic, but World Series MVP David Eckstein tells Us he was simply planning ahead when he took Ashley Drane there three years ago. "It was just to make sure she could hit," jokes the St. Louis Cardinals shortstop, 31. "So our kids would have a chance baseball-wise." Luckily, the *That's So Raven* costar, 25, made the cut, but Eckstein says there was no doubt. "When she came into my life, I pretty much knew she was the one," he gushes. And on November 26, the pair will toast their first wedding anniversary in the very spot where he proposed (also the site of their reception): Disney World in Orlando, Florida. "They're giving us the same room as on our wedding night," says Drane. Not that they need a romance renewal. "He's the most amazing husband I ever could imagine," she says. "I feel so blessed to have found him."

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# SPORTS

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## UK looking more like a 'great team'



**CHRIS DELOTT**  
Kernel  
columnist

Throughout UK's game against Vanderbilt on Saturday, cloudy skies loomed ominously overtop Commonwealth Stadium in much the same way as Vanderbilt's ability to pull the upset and delay UK's bowl eligibility seemed to hover in the air. That upset never seemed more likely than when Vanderbilt drove the field and appeared ready to reclaim the lead with about 10 minutes remaining in the game.

But just when it looked like another "same old UK" moment, we were reminded of the difference between old UK and this UK. More importantly, we were reminded of the slim difference between winning and losing. On Saturday, that difference came down to two things: ability and confidence.

And both of those made themselves clear in a span of 40 seconds in the fourth quarter. With just under 10 minutes to play and UK leading 24-20, Vanderbilt had an opportunity to reclaim the lead on a fourth-and-goal from the 3-yard line. Quarterback Chris Nickson rolled to his right, but before he was able to throw to the end zone, UK linebacker Wesley Woodyard came hard on a blitz and wrapped him up. Nickson, foolishly trying to make something out of a sure sack, flailed the ball right into the arms of UK cornerback E.J. Adams, who returned it to midfield.

Less than a minute later, Andre Woodson found DeMore Ford wide open for the game-

(and bowl-) clinching 27-yard touchdown pass. In a 40-second flurry of positive plays, UK put away Vanderbilt and climbed into second place in the Southeastern Conference East Division.

"You have to have the ability to do that, and you have to have the confidence to do it," UK head coach Rich Brooks said. "And I think this team has both of those things."

There's not much difference between UK and Vanderbilt. But winning teams — which UK, at 6-4, is — make key fourth-quarter plays to pull out games. Losing teams — like Vanderbilt, a snake-bitten 4-7 — don't. Adams' interception falls into that winning category. As does Woodson's ensuing scoring pass to Ford.

"It was big," offensive coordinator Joker Phillips said of the sequence. "That's a swing of 14 points. That's big in having a winning team."

Wide receiver Keenan Burton, who set career highs with 11 catches and 171 yards in addition to two touchdowns, said making big plays in close games can turn average teams into good ones — and make good ones even better.

"That's what the great teams do," Burton said. "That's what Florida, Georgia, Auburn and LSU are, and that's what we're trying to become. I think we're starting to do that."

Just as UK was starting to do that, after Rich Brooks was dumped with water, after a bowl trip was secured and after "Celebration" (which is sung, ironically, by The Commodores) blared over the Commonwealth loudspeakers, something else started. Those ominous clouds opened up.

And tears of joy started to rain down upon Commonwealth Stadium.

## FOOTBALL

Continued from page 1

second place in the SEC's eastern division.

"It's incredible what goes on in this league," head coach Rich Brooks said. "The fact that Kentucky is in the hunt and in the middle of the pack and battling people, I think, is significant."

For the second straight week, the Cats had to rally back out of a fourth-quarter hole.

With UK trailing 20-17, Rafael Little scored on a 3-yard touchdown run to give the Cats the lead for good.

Little, who returned from a three-game absence after he underwent arthroscopic knee surgery, rushed for 132 yards on 20 carries and caught eight passes for 114 yards.

"We're really glad Rafael Little is healthy and that all the backs are getting healthy," said quarterback Andre Woodson. "That's just that many more weapons we have to work with each week."

Little's presence on the ground helped keep the Commodores off balance and allowed Woodson more opportunities to break down Vandy's defense.

Woodson threw for two career highs in 450 yards and four touchdowns.

"We executed very well," Woodson said. "There might have been two or three series that we did a bad job with the ball, but besides that, I think we did a good job pushing the ball."

For the first time since 1999, the Cats will play in a postseason bowl game.

Representatives from the

Independence, Liberty, Outback, Chick-fil-A and Music City bowls were present at Saturday's game to watch both the Cats and Vanderbilt. The Commodores (4-7) were effectively knocked out of bowl contention with the loss.

For UK, the focus is now on next week's opponent, Louisiana-Monroe.

"(The Vanderbilt win) is a milestone, but it's not finished," Brooks said. "We have an opportunity to climb that bowl ladder. I don't want to just slide in with six wins. I want to have a winning season."

"I can't tell you how proud I am with this football team, particularly the seniors that have been through so much," Brooks said. "They get to go out with success at the end of a very difficult stretch in Kentucky football history."

# The Kernel The Kernel

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The Campus Calendar is produced by the Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement. Registered Student Orgs. and UK Depts. can submit information for FREE online ONE WEEK PRIOR to the MONDAY information to appear. Call 257-8857 for more information.

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Swing Dance Lessons, 8:00 PM, Tates Creek Recreation Ctr Ballroom</li> <li>•UK Budo Karate Club, 8:00 PM, Dance Hall</li> <li>•Solar Car Team Meeting, 7:00 PM, DVT Engineering Building</li> <li>•The Electrics w/Buddies @ Mecca 9:00 PM, Mecca, 451 Chair Avenue</li> <li>•Yates Elementary School Tutoring 4:00 PM, Yates Elementary School</li> <li>Shift, 7:00 PM, Christian Student Fellowship Building</li> <li>•HOSA Meeting, 6:30 PM, Student Center Room 111</li> <li>•Internship Information Session 1:00 PM, 101 Stuckert Bldg, 408 Rose Street</li> <li>•Theology on Tap 6:30 PM, Mellow Mushroom Pizza</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•How Much Do You Know About "Others"? - Get Together Meeting, 5:00 PM, Mining and Mineral Resources Building, Room 102</li> <li>•Baptist Campus Ministry - TNT - Tuesday Nights Together, 7:30 PM, Baptist Student Center - 429 Columbia Ave.</li> <li>•UK Students for Life Meeting, 8:00 PM, 115 Student Center</li> <li>•Students Taking Action Globally (STAG) Meeting, 5:15 PM, Student Center, Room 211</li> <li>BINGO, 7:00 PM, STUDENT CENTER CATS DEN</li> <li>•Alpha Phi Omega, 6:30 PM, Student Center Room 359</li> <li>•AIO 425 Seminars, 10:00 AM</li> <li>•Cheap Seat Tuesdays Presents: Clerks 2 - ONLY \$1, 8:00 PM, Worsham Theatre (Student Center)</li> <li>•Internship Information Session, 11:00 AM, 101 Stuckert Bldg, 408 Rose Street</li> <li>•Photoshop Workshop, 6:00 PM, Mac Lab-Bsm. Fine Arts Library</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•University Christian Fellowship, 8:00 PM, 230 Student Center</li> <li>•UK Budo Karate Club, 8:00 PM, Dance Hall</li> <li>•Tutoring at Bryan Station Middle, 4:00 PM, Bryan Station Middle</li> <li>•30-Hour Famine, 10:00 AM, Campus-Wide</li> <li>•Comedy Caravan-HYPNOTIST, 8:00 PM, Student Center Cats Den</li> <li>•BBBS Big Bro Big Sis Meeting FREE FOOD, 7:30 PM, SC 211</li> <li>•LECM Food for Body and Soul, 5:05 PM, St. Augustine's Chapel on Rose Street</li> <li>•Ceres Turkey Cook, 11:00 AM, Lobby of Agricultural Science Center North</li> <li>•La Table Francaise, 3:30 PM, 231 Student Center</li> <li>•Beantik Ball Series Presents: Junior Varsity with special guests: Nine Ball, 8:00 PM, Student Center Ballroom</li> <li>•Aspen Ski Trip Registration, 8:00 PM, 357 Student Center</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•30-Hour Famine, 12:00 AM, Campus-Wide</li> <li>•Feminist Alliance Meeting, 7:30 PM, Commonwealth House of the Gaines Center on Maxwell St.</li> <li>•Synergy, 8:00 PM, Christian Student Fellowship Building</li> <li>•UK Gay-Straight Alliance Meeting, 7:00 PM, 357 Student Center</li> <li>•Education Abroad and Your Future: Marketing Your Experiences, 3:30 PM, James W. Stuckert Career Center 408 Rose Street</li> <li>•DanceBlue Chairs Meeting, 5:30 PM, 203 Student Center</li> <li>•Theoretical Thursdays Presents: Media Bias Debate with Jeff Cohen and Cliff Kincaid, 8:00 PM, Memorial Hall</li> <li>•Freshman Focus - Baptist Campus Ministry, 7:30 PM, Baptist Student Center - 429 Columbia Avenue</li> <li>•The movie "The Bicycle Thief", 8:00 AM, Young Library Auditorium</li> <li>•The Fetus and Fundamental Rights, 5:30 PM, Young Library Auditorium</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Poetry Slam: ACUI qualifier, 7:00 PM, Cats Den</li> <li>•UK Budo Karate Club, 4:30 PM, Dance Hall</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Jars of Clay with special guests Matt Wertz &amp; Leigh Nash, 7:30 PM, Singletary Center for the Arts</li> <li>•Califone w/The Judy Green and Aaron Rosenblum @ Mecca, 9:00 PM, Mecca, 451 Chair Avenue</li> <li>•Saturday Morning Clinic Project Health, 9:00 AM, Dental Clinic</li> </ul>

**GO CATS!**  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>  
•UK Ultimate Frisbee Organization, 10:00 PM, Intramural Fields

# OPINIONS

Monday  
November 13, 2006  
Page 4

## KERNEL EDITORIAL BOARD

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The Opinions page provides a forum for the exchange of ideas. Unlike news stories, the Kernel's editorial board represents the views of a majority of the editorial board. Letters to the editor, columns, cartoons and other features on the Opinions page reflect the views of their authors and not necessarily those of The Kernel.

## KERNEL EDITORIALS

### For state's sake, Fletcher shouldn't seek re-election

Well, it's election season again. Less than a week after the national midterm elections, speculation is already growing over who might run for governor of Kentucky next year — and whether or not Gov. Ernie Fletcher will seek re-election.

Prominent Kentucky Democrats suggested for months prior to the recent election that candidates would start to emerge in the weeks following Nov. 7.

According to a Lexington Herald-Leader article, Attorney General Greg Stumbo said he's formulating questions for a poll to test how he'd do in Democratic primaries. Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson told the Herald-Leader he's considering a run and will make a decision in the next 10 days. And state House Speaker Jody Richards who ran in the 2003 Democratic gubernatorial primary but lost, said supporters call him daily to express their wishes for another run at the Executive Mansion.

The supposed Democratic frontrunner, U.S. Rep. Ben Chandler of Versailles, who was the Democratic candidate for governor in 2003, said that if Democrats gained control of the United States House of Representatives, he would likely stay in Congress. But Chandler told the Herald-Leader two weeks ago that he planned to consider his options and make a decision by Thanksgiving.

Other Democratic options for gubernatorial candidates are State Auditor Crit Luallen; former governor Brenton Jones; Charlie Owen, who was Chandler's 2003 running mate; and Gatewood Galbraith.

On the Republican side, the most likely candidate, should he decide to run, is clearly Gov. Ernie Fletcher. But following Fletcher's first term, which saw two years of scandal involving state merit hiring, some powerful Republicans might not be keen on seeing Fletcher run again.

After running on a platform of cleaning up Frankfort's decades-old good-ol'-boy system, Fletcher's alleged decision to hire state employees based on political loyalty has brought the state much embarrassment.

In the 2007 race, Fletcher should put the state's best interests above his own and choose not to run for re-election. Realistically, Fletcher's political career will be over once he leaves office, so he would not be vying for a higher seat once his term is up. And Fletcher declining to run will make the race more competitive, as Republicans would stand a better shot of keeping the governor's seat with another candidate on the ballot.

Fletcher should give up other potential Republican candidates. These could include Secretary of State Trey Grayson; Rep. Anne Northup, who recently lost her re-election bid for the U.S. House; and Paducah businessman Billy Harper, who has already entered the race and begun advertising.

To save the state the embarrassment and negative media attention that a Fletcher re-election bid would bring, we believe Gov. Ernie Fletcher should not seek re-election.

If Fletcher seeks to restore his integrity, he can do something rarely seen in politics — step down and let someone else take the reins of state government. That would be the best way of serving the state he was elected to lead.

### iPod machines only attract theft

Talk about technology advancements. New vending machines in the Student Center aren't for food or beverages. Instead, they distribute iPods, makeup and other untraditional fare, according to a Kernel story last week.

Vending machines normally provide products that people decide to buy on impulse, when they're far from a store that would offer the same thing. But one would think the decision to purchase an iPod for hundreds of dollars isn't made in a matter of seconds.

That's why the presence of these machines, called Robots in Field machines or E-Stores, is so perplexing. Are students walking toward North Campus suddenly deciding they need some music on their walk? Have students begun losing their iPods in class and needing immediate replacements?

"It's just bizarre," said Rebecca Jaffe, an early elementary education sophomore. "It's so random. I really thought it was just a large advertisement on the side of an ATM."

These machines will certainly be more attractive targets for theft than standard junk-food machines are. Granted, they won't contain any cash, since buyers must use a credit card. But those who want to steal the product inside face a much more lucrative payoff with a \$300 iPod than a \$0.75 candy bar.

These machines do have one benefit: Now students can bring their laptops to class, go buy an iPod at the Student Center, transfer their songs to the iPod, and have something to listen to while their professors blather on about the technological breakthroughs in the 21st century.

Color us underwhelmed. UK is not paying for the machines — Zoom Systems, a production company from San Jose, Calif., is — but the university should not have allowed them on campus, as they are likely to lure aspiring thieves to the Student Center.

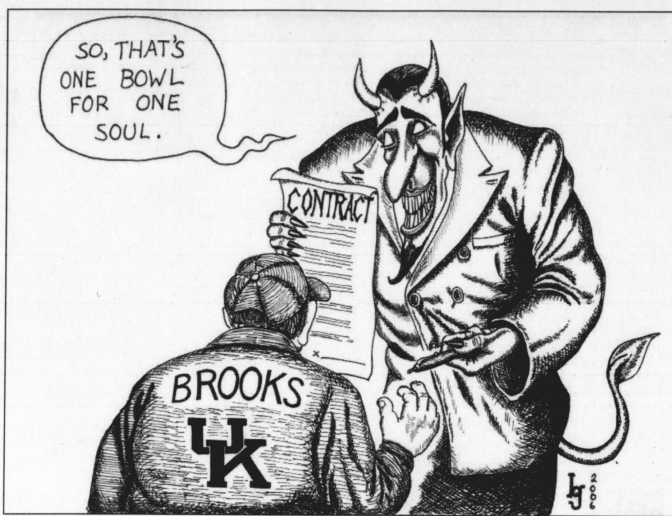
These machines are normally placed in places like airports, according to the Kernel story. There's a crucial difference between airports and the Student Center: The former have 24-hour security, whereas the latter is practically deserted (but unlocked) in the evening.

We hope university officials and Student Center managers show better judgment in the future.

## Submissions

Send a guest column or letter to the editor to Opinions Editor Wes Blewins. Please limit letters to 350 words or fewer. Be sure to include your full name, class and major.

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com



BRIAN GOODLEY, Kernel cartoonist

### Becoming an aunt, I realize why everyone thinks their baby is perfect

We are given titles for the different aspects of our lives.

I have several, actually: daughter, sister, sister-in-law, grand-daughter, cousin, friend, photographer, college student, and soon-to-be college graduate. But of all of my titles, my most recent and my favorite title of all is Aunt Hilly.

I got the call last week from my brother in Columbus, telling me he and his wife were in the delivery room. I started screaming in excitement, as we weren't expecting the baby for another three weeks. But by 3:53 a.m., I was an aunt.

I took my first official duty as an aunt and drove straight to the hospital. The whole three hours I imagined what baby Jacob would look like. I had been looking forward to meeting the little guy for several years, and the time was almost here.

I walked through the doors to find my mom being a grandma, for the first time, holding a tiny body swaddled in a blanket. Before I knew it, I had fallen in love. I didn't believe in love at first sight, but with Jacob, it was impossible not to fall in love.

Loving him was an immediate, natural reaction. Usually, it takes me a long time to truly love someone, babies included. I usually think babies look like aliens for the first couple of weeks and fear I'll hurt them by getting too close to them — but not Jacob. I didn't have to work at loving Jacob. I just

did it.

I held his tiny body in my arms and never wanted to let him go. I couldn't take my eyes off of his feet, which were shorter than my pinky finger, or his fingers, which were about a tenth of the size of my fingers. I watched his facial expressions change as he snuggled against my body while he slept. Every movement he made was a first and just as exciting as the last movement. I was afraid to look away from him for a second because I didn't want to miss the chance of seeing his eyes open.

His innocence intrigues me. It was impossible to find something about him that was hard to love. Even his crying was cute.

His face scrunches up tightly and waits for a few seconds, and then it is over. Of course, though, this was during the first two days, when he was trying to figure out how to cry. We would laugh at him when he would cry because it was a cute new expression. I'm sure my brother and sister-in-law don't think his cries are as sweet now since they have been up with him every night listening to his healthy lungs belt out at them. But I can still enjoy the crying because I'm the aunt, not the mom.

Even with little sleep and going through physical pain, my sister-in-law is overwhelmed with joy.

My brother melts with each sight of his son. His pride in his son exploded as he told each visitor a different story about Jacob. As people would hold Jacob, my brother would point to Jacob and say, "Now that is a baby."

It's hard to believe that my brother has a new title of "daddy." I've always seen him as my big brother who protects me when needed but would much rather spend time

picking on me. His demeanor has changed. He is a daddy, and I know he will do an excellent job of raising this precious baby.

I think Jacob is pretty neat; in fact, he is perfect, in my eyes.

I'm not going to be of those obsessive people who think that their baby is the cutest ever and can do no wrong. But I am starting to understand that mind frame now.

It isn't so much that they really think that their baby is perfect in everyone's eyes, but they believe the baby is perfect for them. Maybe the baby fills a gap in their life by completing their family. Maybe they need a baby's innocence as inspiration. Maybe they need to dedicate their life to raising a baby better than how they were raised. Whatever it is, that baby is truly perfect in their eyes, and that is respectable.

I don't really need to worry about people thinking that Jacob isn't cute, because I'll be honest: He is the cutest baby in the world. Oh, how I wish I could insert a "Haha" or "Lol" after that sentence to make you realize how much I'm kind of kidding. (Insert a smiley face here.)

But in all seriousness, babies are pretty amazing.

To give birth to a child and raise it is an incredible opportunity — one that should not be taken for granted. Babies need to be kissed, hugged and told they are loved at least once every half hour. Every night before they are put to bed, they need to be looked at like they will never get the chance to be looked at again.

Jacob is an absolute miracle. I hope that my family and I can bless him just as much as he has already blessed us.

Hilly Schiffer is a journalism senior. E-mail hschiffer@kykernel.com.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### War is helping Iraqis and should not be stopped

As a proud Republican, I was slightly unnerved by Brenton Kenkel's opinion piece in Thursday's Kernel. Though the public opinion may be that we are well beyond need of a war in the Middle East, it is not fair to pin the Republican members of government as the sole responsible party. I see the point that America may be in need of a change, but we must ask ourselves how the Democratic Party would have responded to the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. It may be bold of me to say it, but I am willing to bet that a Democratic president may have retaliated and called for war in the very same way as President Bush has. Sure, none of us can prove that point, but you also cannot prove that anyone would've handled the situation any better or even differently than the next person.

I am a firm believer in war, and I know that there is never peace without war. As the girlfriend of a U.S. Marine, I get a very close look at just how much this war is benefiting others. While he is stationed in Iraq, my boyfriend is not fighting with the Iraqi people. No, he is helping them. The Marine Corps, as well as the other branches of the American military, are training Iraqi soldiers, helping them build efficient military equipment, and more importantly, befriending them. The majority of Iraqis want change in their country, and we have been helping them progress. If a Democratic House and Senate were pulling out of this war completely, we would be taking away a necessary help for the Middle East. Sure, I want my boyfriend to come home safely, but we are so selfish a

country to give up on this at a time when the Middle East needs us most? It is my hope that a change in government doesn't change what our country is doing for others.

Amy Bailey  
Biology freshman

### UK should have done more to involve students

To the Kernel: Though your interest was very late in the 3rd District council race, may I express my thanks? I must also acknowledge my own photojournalist daughter's encouraging my calling you to ask for your writing on this election.

The reality is that the interest in the district election, including at-large races, should have been between the beginning of school and before the deadline for voter registration. (I do compliment your printing the registration form and some explanation about the mail-in process, but it was a little late, being printed on the last day.)

Four years ago, I approached the UK administration to establish a method of registering students and staff to increase participation in elections.

Why not provide a box on registration forms asking if students would like a mail-in form from the county clerk? Why not have mail-in registration forms available for faculty, students and staff in all department offices?

Why did the administration not join in efforts for a press conference with respected members of the UK and Lexington community advocating registration before the registra-

tion deadline? They were asked to do so.

Students are usually in Lexington for four years or more, and so they are affected by multiple decisions by the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government. Let's be honest: The Town-Gown Commission is a pathetic body for communication, in particular for acknowledging support for student and staff needs and concerns.

And as an example, we must not forget the current LFFCC neglect of the deadly Nicholasville Road drainage ditch and the arrogant dismissive attitude of the UK administration and silence by Central Baptist Hospital concerning the massive runoffs from their properties. Look at the UK Hospital's asinine plans to close Rose Street and the actual structural errors of their planned hospital and parking garage.

To participate in changing this and to address other major issues, students must realize that first and foremost they make up much of the 3rd District. In this election, about 1,800 of the 3,200 voters in this district reelected the incumbent, Dick DeCamp, who will not represent integrity in decision making, especially with respect to the UK constituency.

Compare this with the number of students living on campus within the 3rd District. And check out the investors in his expensive campaign!

I will continue to support conscientious, judicious political action, and I hope this newspaper does as well.

I thank my many supporters for their belief in my sincere desire for positive change. Now let's still pursue what would be best for both the UK and local communities!

Don B. Pratt  
Former city council candidate

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## TOXICOLOGY

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started in the fall. The year before, Brian Muth, also 19, was hit by a tractor-trailer on New Circle Road after being released from the Fayette County Jail, where he was being held for intoxication. He was also killed the day before classes started.

In November 2002, Eric Vetter, a UK freshman, died after being hit by a car on South Limestone Street. Witnesses said Vetter, who was legally drunk, had stumbled into the street when the driver of the car, who was also drunk, hit him. The previous spring, a UK student and a Western Kentucky University student died after falling from a dorm window while wrestling. Both were legally drunk.

Shaw was celebrating his first semester at college while camping at the gorge, according to his mother, Katherine Shaw.

His friends originally told police that they did drink the night before, but that no one was sure how much Shaw had to drink. The toxicology report showed Shaw had a blood-alcohol level of 0.277, more than three times the legal limit of 0.08 for driving in Kentucky.

The report also showed Shaw had cocaine in his system, though it did not indicate how much. Wolfe County Coroner Frank Porter said the fact that there wasn't an amount on the report probably means there were only traces of the drug in his system. Shaw also had diphenhydramine, a common ingredient in cold medicine, in his system.

Close friends of Shaw's, told the Kerkel in a previous article that Shaw had been to the gorge countless times.

Porter said it isn't unusual for students or other campers to come to the gorge to party, and that he understands that it happens.

"I think it's a fair assumption to say they're all doing something when they're up here," Porter said. "I can't remember when alcohol was not involved when someone fell over a cliff."

Shaw's mother said she knew her son drank occasionally, but hopes people won't remember him by the circumstances of his death. Instead, she hopes they remember his enthusiasm for life and for his love of literature and music.

"He was a very original thinker and a very creative and intelligent young man," she said. Shaw had received a scholarship to attend UK this fall after spending two

years working multiple jobs to save money for school and a trip he took to South America last winter.

Katherine Shaw said she didn't think Tevis' age was a factor in his death. Instead, she said she wants to see more alcohol education.

"I think the problem is that we don't teach our people to be more responsible from a younger age," she said.

Fannin and Harp took safety into account when they decided to take a cab home from the bars that night. Fannin had a blood alcohol level of 0.171 and Harp had a level of 0.164. When their cab was stopped by a UK police officer redirecting traffic from a flooded portion of Nicholasville Road, the two decided to walk to Fannin's apartment, which was only about 100 yards away. The two tried to wade through the water when they slipped and fell into the current.

Dr. Gregory Moore, the director of University Health Services, said balance and decision-making skills are the first things to go when people start drinking — even before they reach the legal driving limit.

"Even at .05, you notice things start changing, like tripping and falling or making decisions you may not have otherwise made," he said. "As it starts increasing, you become more unsteady, your reflexes aren't as good to the point that you eventually pass out."

Fannin, who was from Tomahawk, was a third-year pharmacy student. Calls to the Fannin home were not returned yesterday.

Harp, who was from Frankfort, graduated from UK's College of Nursing in May and earned her bachelor's degree at Georgetown College, where she and Fannin were roommates. Harp had just taken a job as a nurse in Kansas City in June. Ricky Harp, Lindsey's father, declined to comment for this story.

Andrew Smith, who has been the director of alcohol education at UK for about a month, grew up with Harp in Frankfort and her death affected him greatly.

His own experiences in dealing with Harp's death lead him to think that others who knew her — and even those who didn't — would be affected by it. He said he hopes it makes students think twice about partying too hard.

"It may not be a deterrent in student drinking but it could be the difference in students drinking to excess," he said. "I remember when I was going to college and I felt that college is when you get to let loose and have fun, do whatever you want. Those are your four years of freedom."

"That mentality is very harmful and

very dangerous."

Smith said he sees it as his job to educate students about avoiding poor decisions. Programs like The CAUSE (College Alcohol Use Student Educators), a group of students who help inform other students about the effects of alcohol, and the Party Smart campaign are part of that education.

"If it comes from me, students will be like 'OK, whatever.' It'll just be 'the administration is telling me what to do again,'" he said. "If it comes from peers people know and people see every day, if they find out the real effects of alcohol through other students, hopefully we can make a change in the culture."

Smith said he's getting a lot of support from the administration and noticed its interest in the issue even when he was interviewing for his position.

"I think it's probably one of the top concerns of the administration," he said. "This falls under the safety of students and they want to take care of students, not only that they graduate, but that they graduate healthy, both mentally and physically."

UK police have also stepped up efforts along with the state Alcohol and Beverage Control agency to crack down on underage drinking and excessive partying. Interim Police Chief Maj. Joe Monroe said the effort started two years ago, the night before Byers was killed.

The effort, which lasts the first six weeks of school including the days before classes start, partners extra officers with ABC officials to break up campus-area parties and cite stores that sell alcohol to underage students.

Monroe said his officers cited fewer people this year than the year before.

"Less people were out partying in the streets," he said. "You didn't have large groups of 20 to 50 people floating from one party to the next, so that helped a lot."

The department also works with the Office of Student Affairs to educate students at the beginning of the semester and before spring break with programs such as Reality Check, which uses goggles to simulate the effects of drinking.

"This is something we take very seriously, trying to educate as well as the strict enforcement approach," Monroe said.

Smith said he knows students aren't going to stop drinking, but he hopes they can do it more responsibly and know when to stop.

"It would really help if you had someone around you who can tell you when to stop," he said. "You may think you can have three more beers, but your mind is telling you that, your body isn't."

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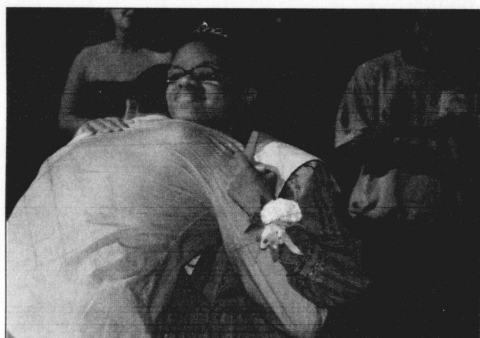
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SUSANNAH MARLOWE | STAFF  
Communications junior Dex Reese, hugs Jesus Prom guest Michelle Hunter after dancing with her. Reese was one of the many UK students to volunteer at the prom.

## PROM

Continued from page 1

the past six years. When asked what she liked the most about the event, she answered, "Dancing and dancing fast."

Another Jesus Prom attendee, Jonathan Smith, has come all seven years that the Jesus Prom has been held.

"I love just being with everybody," Smith said. His favorite part was also the dancing.

About 20 UK students from the National

Student Speech, Language and Hearing Association volunteered at the prom.

"I love to volunteer in the community especially for causes that are close to my heart," said Michelle Hogg, a communication disorders junior and NSLSHA member. "It was a good cause and a great outreach; I had an amazing time."

The Jesus Prom committee is already planning for next year. Throughout the year, UK students can take part in planning the prom and participate in a monthly event called the Jesus Party, which is a smaller gathering for the disabled community of Lexington.

## CHARITY

Continued from page 1

and 5, when the organization receives the gifts. Doyle said.

People can also donate gifts like toys without being assigned a child. These presents will be put into gift baskets, which will then be given to children who are not assigned to anyone.

Both the main campus and the UK Chandler Medical Center offer a Circle of Love program.

"The holiday season is when students can get as much out of giving as out of getting," Doyle said. "This has been one of the most successful things I've ever been included in, and I've done it for 18 years."

Names and wish lists will be available for the main campus program today and tomorrow in room 503 of the Patterson Office Tower from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Anderson Hall lobby from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the Student Center bridge lounge from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wish lists will be available at the UK Chandler Medical Center next week.

Gifts must be wrapped and returned along with the wish list card on December 4 and 5 in the hospital lobby or room 206 of the Student Center.

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