

KENTUCKY Kannel



WEATHER Mostly cloudy today, chance of flurries, high 20s. Clear tonight, low zero. Sunny tomorrow, high 10.

GYM DANDY A quartet of talented freshmen hope to make big contributions for the Gym Kats this season. Sports, Page 3



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INDEPENDENT SINCE 1971

Playing teaches students to teach

By Mal Heron
Features Editor

It's not a daycare. Nor is it an escape for students wanting to relieve their pre-school years and deny they're actually in college.

The playground behind Funkhouser Building gets quirky looks from passing students, said Retia Walker, College of Human Environmental Sciences Dean. She said it's "a teaching and research laboratory" for undergraduate and graduate students in the school's early childhood education program.

The program, which began in 1924, is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and has 60 majors at the undergraduate level.

The playground was originally going to be constructed adjacent to Erikson Hall, where the labs are located, but no space was available. Therefore, the college picked the house at 149 Washington Ave., where classes were first held, and the current home to ECE professors Mary Lou Pratt, Donna Quick and Ruth Ann Crum.

In the area is a huge wooden structure with slides and various other

spaces for kids to crawl through and hang on. The ground is a soft sand and mulch as opposed to concrete; the playground also has a tool shed, riding toys, a picnic table and a short balance beam.

"You have to get (toys in) sizes that are appropriate for different children," said Jaesook Lee, who directs the early childhood education lab. Laboratories such as this playground facility have become a necessity at many universities across the nation that offer this major.

"If you're going to offer a degree program in early childhood education," Walker said, "you've got to have a lab." You can't just watch kids tumble down slides to get a degree, though. ECE majors observe the children on the playground under the supervision of the faculty, but classroom work is essential.

Classes include curriculum, planning and early childhood education, working with parents, and a practicum course for applied child development dealing with student teaching. In the curriculum class, Crum said students come away with a knowledge of setting up classes such as art, music and math.

"In their classes, students write a plan and implement it with chil-



BUNDLE UP Children in Erikson Hall get ready to go outside and play yesterday.

STEPHANIE CORDLE Kannel staff



FILL 'ER UP Brett, a student in Early Childhood Education program, pretends to fill his car with gas while playing in the playground behind the Funkhouser building.

STEPHANIE CORDLE Kannel staff

dren in the lab," said Crum, a teacher in the program since 1980. "They'll also do a circle time, or large-group time, where they will do a music activity, read a story, talk about the content of a scene and do transition activities, which would take them from large groups to the different learning centers."

The student teaching course is just that, Crum said. "That is done (during students') last semester," she said. "They actually become a teacher in the classroom, and do all the activities that a normal teacher would do."

Robyn Evans, a graduate of the program before the ECE major was created, wishes she had another two semesters of student teaching, "a little more hands-on and less book teaching," to prepare for a real job.

"I am constantly in the classroom, showing (teachers) how to integrate play and make it a learning experience, how to use positive guidance and reinforcement and how to communicate with parents,"

she said. Both Crum and Walker said some of the students in the ECE program have children of their own. This situation is more of a help than hindrance, though, in Crum's course on working with parents. "The parents feel they've been given a gift or talent in that area," she said. "They have good relationships with young children."

The school also provides day care for students and non-students with kids, Walker said. For \$139 a week, the daycare will watch infant toddlers weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Pay is meager. The starting salary for pre-school and infant teachers is \$14,000 in Lexington, \$19-\$20,000 in Cincinnati.

However, Walker said the demand for early childhood educators will increase because of the welfare reform bill, leading to higher enrollment in UK's program.

"I hear a lot of excitement about working with young children," she said. "People love it."

Plus/minus gets mixed reviews

By Kathy Reding
News Editor

The grades are in, literally.

Students who took classes offered by the colleges of Arts and Sciences and Communications and Information Studies received their grades on the colleges' plus/minus grading scales for the first time last semester.

While the students' grades are officially on their records and transcripts, the future of plus/minus grading at UK is not yet official.

Those in administrative positions, however, have not received the reactions to last semester's application of the scale they anticipated.

Steven Hart, associate dean of arts and sciences, said he thought more students and faculty would have comments after grades had been given.

"I haven't heard much from faculty this semester," Hart said. "I expected to hear more about it."

In general, Hart said faculty in the natural sciences tend to oppose plus/minus grading while those in the social sciences tend to favor the system.

Lee Edgerton, academic ombud for the University, said several students came to him last semester with questions about plus/minus and its effects on their grades, but as of now, none have brought him concerns about plus/minus grades they received.

"We had some concern raised last semester, but it may be that it's just a back-burner issue that will come up when students get more settled in," Edgerton said. Faculty in the two colleges received first-hand experience from applying the scale in their classes.

Journalism professor Scoobie Ryan said the new grading system does not make a difference to her and she has no preference as to which scale is used. Ryan gave fewer As last semester, and more Bs and Cs, but the new grading scale didn't change how hard the students worked, she said.

The one area in which Ryan did use the scale more was determining grades of those on the borderline between grades.

"Before if someone was close I had to look at it more," she said. "I didn't have to agonize over it this time."

Tom Troland, who has taught for 20 years in the physics department, said he gave very few plus/minus grades, instead giving mostly straight letter grades.

"My own feeling is there is no obvious educational benefit in the system; the students don't like it, so why have it?" Troland said. "I don't ever plan to do that again."

Professors in the College of Arts and Sciences have the option of not using plus/minus, but they must make it clear in the class syllabus that they are not using the system, Hart said.

Troland said the system did not make a difference in deciding borderline grades.

See PLUS/MINUS on 8

SOUNDbytes

What impact did plus/minus grades have on your fall GPA?



"It helped me in some classes. I'm used to it because we had it in high school. Actually I like it better."

Kim Klekota
Elementary education
freshman



"I got a C- instead of a C, but I guess that's what I earned. I think it'd be OK if they had a 4.3."

Jason Gresham
Psychology
senior



"I was graded on plus/minus, and I didn't like it. Just give me an A, B, or C."

Miltz Harvey
Accounting
junior



"I hate them (plus/minus grades). It brought down my GPA."

Jason Bryant
Biology
junior



"I only got one. I got a B+ instead of a B, but I guess it could have gone the other way."

Shigoo Hashimoto
Advertising
senior

UK to Speak Out in town meetings

By Gary Wulf
Associate News Editor

Want to talk? Here's your chance: Student Activities Board is sponsoring the first of five town meetings to discuss topics of campus and national interest.

Craig Wyatt, contemporary affairs chair, came up with the idea for meetings after seeing the Learning Committee's plan.

"I was disappointed with what it had to offer," Wyatt said. "I thought it would be great if we could have a series of town meetings."

With that small idea, he went around to get support for his idea.

"I asked around to see what everyone thought about it and everybody thought it was a good idea," Wyatt said.

Before starting his crusade for town meetings, he watched television, read magazines and newspapers and noticed what topics were constantly coming up in the media.

"The first topic he chose for the forum was race. Some of the issues that could be discussed in the first town meeting are affirmative action, discrimination and reverse discrimination, interracial relationships, self-segregation, cultural differences and the inclusive learning policy."

"I think it's a good first one to start off with because we've had a lot of racial issues at UK," Wyatt said.

Gender, religion, censorship and sexuality will be discussed in the future meetings.

The town meetings will feature six to eight panels made up of students and administrators and Dean of Students David Stockham, who will serve as moderator. However, the floor will belong to the audience members.

"We want to get as many viewpoints as we can," Wyatt said.

The meetings will occur every third Tuesday of the month.

The town meetings will be in the Worsham Theater at 7 p.m.

Student Government Association President Alan Aja and University Senate Chair Jan Schach were asked to help organize the meetings.

"The whole concept is wonderful and long overdue," Schach said.

Aja and Schach are in charge of obtaining panel members for each of the five town meetings.

They will select panel members according to the subject matter, Schach said.

She added that the purpose of the meeting is not to pit people of different opinions against each other but to gain a mutual understanding.

Wyatt said he would like the town meetings to continue next year.

"The problems are not going away," he said. "We have to work through them and we can't work through them until we get a discussion."

NEWSbytes

STATE Gates atop dam recommended by study

FRANKFORT, Ky. — The cheapest way to get the region through a severe drought is to install gates atop Kentucky River dams instead of piping treated water from Louisville, according to a new study.

The gates, which would hold back more water in dry times, would cost \$16.5 million, while the pipeline would cost \$47 million, according to the study headed by UK's Water Resources Research Institute.

Kentucky-American Water Co., which supplies Lexington and some surrounding communities with water, has been pushing for a pipeline to meet expected deficits during a drought.

The Public Service Commission has scheduled a March 25 hearing to consider the UK report.

Kentucky-American Vice President Roy Mundy said Tuesday that crest gates would cost more than the UK report suggests and might pose unknown environmental or engineering problems.

The UK report recommended putting valves in dams to allow more water to flow down the Kentucky River if things get so dry that water won't flow over the dam. The Army Corps of Engineers, working with the Kentucky River Authority, already is working on installing valves.

NAMEdropping

Weight Watchers hires Ferguson

NEW YORK — A slimmer Sarah Ferguson, making light of her former media title as the "Duchess of York," stepped forward yesterday as the new spokeswoman for Weight Watchers in this country. Weight Watchers spokeswoman Mary Anne Bohrer said the Duchess of York stops short of revealing her actual weight.

Ferguson, 37, "wants to send the message that one's actual weight is one's personal business, and that it doesn't need to be disclosed to anyone. What's important is having a healthy weight," Bohrer said.

She said she had joined Weight Watchers at 19, falling off the wagon many times. Then she met Prince Andrew, and to lose 26 pounds for their wedding, "I lived on meat and oranges." During their troubled marriage, which ended in divorce, "I gained and gained and gained," sustaining herself through what she calls "comfort eating." The duchess will attend Weight Watchers meetings around the country. She reportedly will make \$1 million a year as the organization's spokeswoman.

Compiled from wire reports



Ferguson

SPORTS

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Anderson plagued by foul problems

By Brett Dawson
Senior Staff Writer

ATHENS, Ga. — They call him "D.A.," obviously, because those are his initials. But Derek Anderson's nickname could just as easily stand for "Different Altogether."

That, after all, is what the Wildcats are when Anderson is in the lineup.

Anderson, limited to 10 minutes and no points in UK's stunning 73-69 loss to Ole Miss last weekend, returned to the Cat lineup with a bang Tuesday, scoring 24 points in UK's 86-65 win over Georgia.

"It felt real good to have him back," teammate Ron Mercer said. "He looked liked the same old Derek."

So much so, in fact, that Anderson went to the bench after a touchy second foul with 11:48 remaining in the first half and had his third barely 20 seconds into the second frame.

"It seems like he does that every game," Mercer said.

It's a bad habit Rick Pitino wants to see Anderson drop.

"Derek Anderson could have some unbelievable games, but he keeps taking himself out of the game with that cheap second foul," the UK coach said. "If he wasn't so spontaneous with his hands, I'd play him and let him get his third. But he'd get his third 10 seconds later."

Mercer's misses

After a 3-for-15 performance against Ole Miss, Mercer made just 5-of-20 shots against Georgia.

A slump? Surely. Cause for concern? Not to hear Mercer tell it.

"I felt comfortable because I was getting open shots, and those are shots I normally make," Mercer said. "I'm coming out right now and trying to concentrate on my rebounding and defense and trying not to worry about offense."

Pitino was less concerned with Mercer's shooting than he was pleased with those intangibles. The UK coach lauded the sophomore's six free-throw attempts, his five rebounds and his improving defense.

"I like Ron Mercer's game," Pitino said. "He's being active. I know Ron can score. What I want to know is can he guard, can he pass, can he steal, can he rebound?"

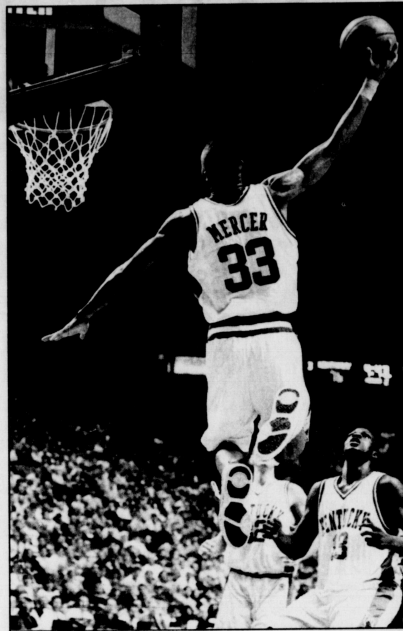
Grand theft

Coming out of high school, Wayne Turner was the second-rated prep point guard in the nation, a distinction he earned based primarily on an explosive scoring punch.

These days, though, the sophomore is thinking defense first, which, ironically enough, helped him to an eight-point night Tuesday, tying his second-highest scoring output of the season.

"When I come in the game, I'm thinking about getting into my man, taking the ball," Turner said. "That's going to lead to offense at the other end."

In a one-minute, 13-second spurt, Turner came up with three steals and four points and assisted on a long three-pointer by Anthony Epps. That expanded UK's



JAMES CRISP Kernel staff
CLANG Ron Mercer, shown elevating to slam down two points, has been mired in a shooting slump of late.

lead from nine to 13. "Wayne Turner, I thought, played very well," Pitino said. "He's the reason we made our run in that game."

Despite his newfound love of defense, Turner's still a scorer at heart. "If you show me the ball, I'm trying to take it, and that's a layup or an assist," he said. "A steal's just an easy two points."

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Win catapults Vieth out of Walz's shadow

By Rob Herbst
Weekend Sports Editor



JAMES CRISP Kernel staff
BREAKING OUT Katie Vieth scored 10 points in the Cats' shocking upset of No. 18 Western Kentucky on Tuesday.

In Northern Kentucky the spotlight always shone brightly on Jaime Walz.

The all-everything guard from Ft. Thomas Highlands High School was the 1996 Parade magazine National Player of the Year in high school, was selected Kentucky Female Athlete of the Year, and to top it off, Sports Illustrated named her its Athlete of the Month for February of last year.

Not a bad stint for the all-time scoring leader in the state of Kentucky and last year's Miss Basketball.

Another high school player in northern Kentucky named Katie Vieth played in Walz's shadow.

The pride of St. Henry's High School in Covington had a fine career, but she was not Miss Basketball, she was not Female Athlete of the Year and she certainly did not make SI.

Both players took their games to the collegiate ranks. Walz went to perennial Top 25 squad Western Kentucky while Vieth came to UK to help rebuild the Cats' basketball program.

The duo met on Tuesday in Memorial Coliseum. The Lady Toppers came in with a No. 18 ranking while the Cats entered with a 5-10 record.

But unlike during their high school days, Vieth was in the spotlight.

"Coming into this game I knew it was a little different for me," Vieth said. "Playing Jaime throughout my high school career, we never ever, ever beat Highlands and I was really excited and very confident about this game. I

just wanted to go and pick up my game to help the team."

The Cats clawed their way to a 79-73 upset victory over the Lady Toppers, and Vieth made a huge contribution.

Vieth finished the game shooting 5-of-7 from the field for 10 points. It was the ninth and 10th points that Vieth will remember.

Clinging to a three-point lead with just over a minute remaining, UK took possession out of bounds with a full slate on the shot clock.

But instead of killing some clock, Vieth launched a 16-foot shot on the inbound.

Swish. "That outside shot I took, I was just so happy that it went down," Vieth said.

The shot gave the Cats an insurmountable five-point lead and capped off the upset.

On Tuesday, Walz witnessed a different Vieth from their high school battles.

"She's much more physical than she was in high school. She's improved her shooting," Walz said.

"She hit a key shot on that out-of-bounds play and I think that really hurt us."

While Vieth shone, Walz struggled, shooting 4-of-12 from the field for 12 points. She also committed four turnovers.

Walz claimed there was no rivalry between the two but said the loss was still especially disappointing.

"I just wanted to beat Kentucky and it's disappointing to me that the team didn't do it," Walz said. "I'm just going to have to live with that for this year."

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Freshmen helping to replace Hansen

By O. Jason Stapleton
Assistant Sports Editor

The adjustment from high school to college can be one of the toughest a young adult faces.

There are four freshmen who are looking to make the jump to NCAA gymnastics for UK.

Mila Chitwood, Lori Freeman, Kristen Hoeflerlin and Angela Valentine are all looking to help the Wildcats' gymnastic team get deeper this season despite the loss of the most celebrated female athlete ever at UK, Jenny Hansen.

It was Hansen who helped lure Freeman to Lexington.

"I heard about Jenny Hansen being here and I looked (at the school)," Freeman said. "It wasn't too big, it wasn't too small. I felt like it was going to be the right school for me."

Freeman is from Etobicoke, Ontario, so she had quite a bit more of an adjustment to make than did the other freshmen.

"I got homesick and it took me a while," Freeman said. "I really had my days when I just came in and moped around because I missed my parents."

Thanks to the support of her fellow teammates, Freeman was able to make it through it all.

Valentine didn't have to worry about that problem, however, since she is from nearby Ver-

sailles, Ky. She grew up watching the Gym Kats and is excited to be a part of the team.

"I've seen Excite Night since I was 10 years old," Valentine said. "I loved watching UK meets. The girls get so excited and so hyped up that I could tell that they were having a great time out there."

Valentine said she was especially looking forward to Excite Night because it helped get the team used to performing in front of big crowds.

That is one thing that bothered Freeman in her first meet against Ohio State.

"I got really nervous in the first meet," she said. "There wasn't a lot of people there, but it was still a lot louder than what I'm used to."

Hoeflerlin felt much the same way.

"I guess the whole world's there, or at least that's what it seems like," Hoeflerlin said. "I'm kinda nervous, though, because I've never competed in front of that many people before."

The freshmen gymnasts are especially pleased with Coach Leah Little.

"She's an excellent coach," Chitwood said. "She helps us with all aspects of life. She's always there if you have problems with school or other things."



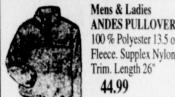
TOP NEWCOMER Mila Chitwood is one of four freshmen who are standing out for the UK gymnastics team.

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SPORTSbytes

Auburn, Georgia tickets available

Several hundred tickets are now available for sale to both the Auburn and Georgia men's basketball games at Rupp Arena. The UK-Auburn game is scheduled for Saturday at 3 p.m., while the host Wildcats will face Georgia at 1 p.m. on Feb. 1.

Tickets are priced at \$13 and can be purchased at either the UK

ticket office (9 a.m.-4 p.m.) or the Rupp Arena box office (10 a.m.-6 p.m.). Seats also can be purchased by phone with a Visa or MasterCard by calling 1-800-928-CATS, 257-1818 or (606) 233-3565.

Graduate assistant hired

Chris Hatcher, the 1994 Harlon Hill Award winner as the national player of the year in Division II, has rejoined Coach Hal Mumme as an offensive graduate assistant on the UK football staff.

"With his knowledge of our system, Chris is a natural fit for our staff," Mumme said. "He'll be a great influence on our quarterbacks and ... helpful as an offensive assistant."

Hatcher comes to UK from Central Florida, where he coached the quarterbacks last season in the Golden Knights' first season in Division I-A.

Hatcher was the starting quarterback at Valdosta State University from 1991 to 1994, including

the last three seasons under Mumme. During his career (including playoff games), Hatcher completed 1,075 of 1,529 passes for 11,363 yards and 121 touchdowns.

He won the Harlon Hill Award in 1994 and led the Blazers to the first national playoff appearance in the school's history.

He continues to hold several national records for passing and total offense.

Compiled from staff reports.

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The Student Group Health Insurance Plan for 1996-97 with Mega Life and Health Insurance Company offers a pro-rated premium for students enrolling for the Spring Semester only. The effective dates for the Spring/Summer policy are January 10, 1997 through August 26, 1997. The pro-rated premium for this period is \$271. The following information may help you if you are considering purchasing the plan for the first time.

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MAKING MUSIC Benjamin Karp, a UK professor of music, practices on his instrument of choice. Cello player combines many roles

By Alex Bingcan
Staff Writer

At 6 feet 6 inches, he's taller than half of the UK men's basketball team.

While the Wildcats practice basketball in Memorial Coliseum, he's practicing on his 1765 Tommaso Balestrieri cello one block away inside a gray house on 421 Rose St.

His name is Benjamin Karp, a UK professor of cello, and he's part of this Friday's lineup with the Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra.

Asked by LPO conductor George Zack to perform the role of solo cellist in Samuel Barber's *Cello Concerto*, Karp agreed readily.

"I'm honored to play with the orchestra... I'm also looking forward to working with (Ya-Hui Wang)."

Wang, a conductor with the Chicago Symphony's Mentoring Program, will guest conduct the entire program on Friday's MasterClassics Series.

Among professional cellists, the Barber Cello Concerto has gained a reputation as one of the most notoriously difficult cello concerti to perform.

"I don't think (the concerto) is that hard, but it's not in the standard repertoire," Karp said. "Cellists are not likely to learn it... on the possibility that they are going to play it with orchestra; it just takes too much work for a touring soloist."

"If they've got a date and they've been asked to play, they'll learn it."

As a Lexington resident, the 40-year-old cellist has had the advantage of rehearsing the Barber concerto more frequently than a touring soloist from out of town.

His office is inside the gray residence located directly beside the Singletary Center for the Arts, site of the LPO rehearsals and performances. It is in his office that he fulfills his multi-discipline roles as professor of cello.



LOOKING AHEAD

The Lexington Philharmonic with Benjamin Karp performs 8 p.m. Friday at the Singletary Center.

Now in his sixth year with the School of Music, Karp manages to balance teaching with a hectic schedule of performing. He is a member of UK's Leonore String Quartet (of which his wife is also a member) and the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, and is a substitute member of the Cincinnati Symphony.

By the end of this spring, Karp will have recorded with all three ensembles. Add to that "recruiting," all the paper work with an academic job, a family with two very young and demanding kids

that don't sleep — and it gets to be really busy," Karp said with a booming laugh.

Karp is satisfied with his career at UK. Unlike orchestral musicians who must perform music assigned by a director, Karp controls his own musical destiny on the concert stage.

Finding satisfaction by working on music such as the lyrical Barber concerto, Karp also finds teaching to be a rewarding experience.

His cello students hold him and his playing in high regard.

(Professor Karp) looks intimidating, but he's not condescending," said Cynthia Racine, a junior cello performance major.

It's as if he is "a fellow musician who knows what I'm going through since he's gone through the same thing," Racine said.

Well, not exactly the same thing.

Karp was only seriously interested in a career as a cellist until after he completed his undergraduate education with a B.A. in philosophy from Yale University.

Then, after a rigorous year of practicing eight to 10 hours a day, followed by a year of freelancing,

he decided to commit himself to the cello.

Karp then pursued his graduate performance degree from the reputable Janos Starker at Indiana University.

After several years as cellist with the Florida String Quartet, principal cellist with the West Coast Symphony, and professor of cello at the University of South Florida, Karp beat 80 other applicants for the position of professor of cello here at UK.

Daniel Mason, professor of violin and concertmaster of the LPO, said Karp got the job because he met the search committee's chief criteria.

Karp is "extremely articulate, carefully analytical as a teacher, good at establishing a healthy rapport with students, and also a first-ranked performer," Mason said.

Similarities exist between athletes and musicians. Playing basketball and performing on an instrument require discipline and practice.

But, unlike athletes in basketball who begin to lose their powers at age 40, Karp believes he can only get better.

"I can keep improving my career and can keep going for 30 more years," Karp said.

"I can keep getting better if I practice and if I play smart; that's really exciting for me."

I'm a firm believer that you can get better your whole life."

'Beavis' creator Judge brings new show to Fox

By Josh Herr
Staff Critic

This is the end of a troublesome era.

All of last semester, sandwiched in between "The Simpsons" and "The X-Files," was the atrocious "Ned and Stacey." We rabid fans of the other two shows were left wondering what to do between them.

Well, the wondering is over with the arrival of Mike Judge's new show, "King of the Hill."

Judge, best known as the creator of "Beavis and Butt-Head," has produced a show worthy of standing between these two pop cultural giants and proving he is more than a one-trick pony.

The show centers on the family and friends of Hank Hill, a younger and more lovable version of B&B's Anderson.

Hank is a propane salesman, an average, old-fashioned family man trying to raise his family in the age of Clinton and Seinfeld, both of whom are discussed in hilarious sequences in the show.

Joining Hank are his entirely-too-forthcoming wife, who shares personal details seemingly at the drop of a hat, and his son, who is slightly inept at basically everything in a way only a junior high kid can be.

Some of the best sequences,

though, are the ones in which Hank hangs out with his sub-genius cronies, one of whom is a conspiracy freak, and another who is completely unintelligible.

The pilot episode concerned a social worker, basically a rehash of Van Dresan, the hippy teacher from "B&B," who becomes convinced by a series of incidents that Hank is an abusive father.

He then crusades to have Hank's boy removed from the home, not realizing that there is a reasonable, albeit strange, explanation for every event when taken in context. Needless to say, everything turns out OK, but it's a fun ride.

One of the problems people have with "Beavis and Butt-Head" is their failure to realize that just because a show is about stupid characters doesn't mean the show itself is stupid.

With this series, the creator proves what some have known all along: Judge is a very smart man. He almost seems to be answering every critique of his other show in this new creation.

Why? Because "B&B" revels in its up-to-the-minute cool, and its contempt for its valueless characters, "King of the Hill" loves Hank and his den of down-to-earth suburbanites without ever losing its satirical bite.

The warmth of a family that is so noticeably absent from the



WITH PEN IN HAND Mike Judge, coming off the incredible popularity of his MTV show "Beavis and Butt-Head," surges ahead with "King of the Hill."

house of Beavis is central to the Hill home.

The show lacks the surreal touches that make "The Simpsons" such a hard act to follow, but this adds to the feeling that these are real people you might know.

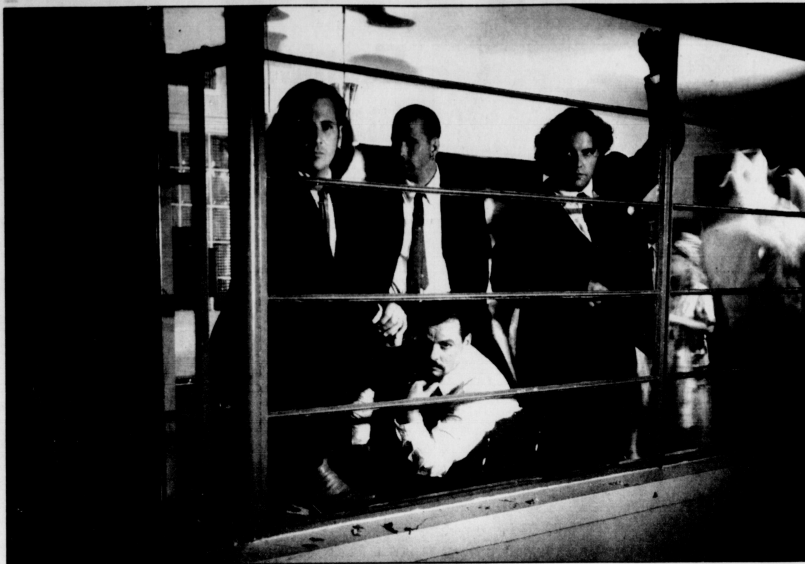
However, perhaps it's not for everybody.

Satire this subtle sometimes flies over people's heads or offends those it pokes fun at, but I laughed as hard at this as I have at the best "Seinfeld" episodes.

As far as I'm concerned, Judge is the king of the hill.

Time to get noticed!

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The Mavericks

The Mavericks have been booked to appear on the live telecast of *The American Music Awards* on Monday, Jan. 27, the same night they were to perform at the Kentucky Theatre. There are three options: hold your ticket, return your ticket or travel to the Paramount Arts Center in Ashland to see the band in concert this Saturday at 8 p.m. For more information, please call (606) 253-5700.

Maher's 'Incorrect' switches stations

By Dan O'Neill
Arts Editor

Those of you devout cable watchers who felt screwed after the TCI removed Comedy Central from the lineup can take some relief knowing "Politically Incorrect" has moved to ABC. Known for humorously, at times poignant, discussing relevant issues while at the same time mocking other political round table shows, "PI" gained a reputation as one of the funniest programs on cable.

The station move will not change the show's familiar format, which features comedian Bill Maher and four different guests each night from the diverse world of entertainment, politics, journalism and other professions. Maher begins each program with a brief monologue before he and his guests engage in hilarious, spirited and offensive conversations about topical issues of the day.

"Politically Incorrect" provides the network with some much-needed late night humor as it immediately follows "Nightline" with boring Ted Koppel in the 12:05 a.m. time slot. Winner of four combined Cable Ace Awards — Best Entertainment Host and Best Talk Show, the show gained its fame from nightly celebrity guest appearances. Pulling the

most eccentric, opinionated figures from the public eye, "PI" feeds on outrageous arguments among its melting pot foursome.

Last week's first episode on the new mother station exemplified the show's colorful ridicule by pitting G. Gordon Liddy and Coolio across from each other and discussing the much-talked-about Ebonics.

▼ 'Politically Incorrect' with Bill Maher moves from Comedy Central to ABC TV. You can catch it after 'Nightline' with Ted Koppel at 12:05 a.m.

▼ Maher will face stiff competition from the current dueling kings of the late show, David Letterman and Jay Leno.

These sort of flamboyant pairings inspired Maher to put together a collection of the show's memorable highlights for his new book *Does Anybody Have a Problem With That? Politically Incorrect's Greatest Hits*. The former Ivy League graduate and stand-up comedian appeared on several Carsons, Lettermans and HBO specials before finding his perfect forum with "Politically Incorrect."

Although Maher's candid wit as mediator/host contributes a necessary comical order, the clashing celebrity personalities provide most of the humor.

The upcoming season's list of celebrity guests will include among others: Oliver Stone, Robert Kennedy Jr., George Clooney, Gary Shandling, Dennis Miller, Dana Carvey, Gary Marshall and Joan Rivers.

The switch represents a good move on the part of ABC Entertainment and another reminder of the bad move made by TCI.

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UK ECONOMICS

BASIC PRINCIPLE #1



Ebonics is a trend that should never get off the ground

A few weeks ago, the Oakland school board introduced a revolutionary new language: ebonics (ebony and phonics), or black English.

is found on city street corners all over America. Pimpinomics requires the use of props.

When an employer is conversing with his employees, he needs to wear flashy, colorful clothing, carry a cane and have a large fedora with a feather adorning his head.

It is also important to keep his white shoes shined so they sparkle in the bright lights of the city. He may inquire about the finances in his profit-sharing situation with one of his female employees.

He should say, "Bitch bedda have my mummy?" Such a technical statement can be made only by someone with an office in the trunk of his Caddy.



Ben Rich

Kernel Columnist

Ebonics would be used to educate black students just as Spanish-speaking students are taught English—they would learn proper English through translation.

This move angered black leaders around the country because they believed this approach would only widen the already large gap between the races.

The Oakland school board withdrew its request for federal funding and will recognize ebonics as a dialect of English.

The debate over ebonics will continue to rage over the next few months, drawing heat from both sides of the issue.

I think it is a very noble idea that can be used in other walks of life.

I suggest that we use ebonics as a starting point to regionalize language across the United States.

Specialized dialects will unite America by dividing it.

Ebonics can be taught in schools and in the home. If Johnny, living with his ebonics-speaking mother, says, "I'm not going to go out, I'm going to spend a quiet evening at home," his mother can correct him: Johnny should say "I be chillin' at da crib."

Since so much has already been said about the use of ebonics, I would like to go one step further and introduce several new phonic dialects that need to be used.

The first to be used in our own state, Rednocks (combination of redneck and phonics) — This dialect is found in the Southern United States. When spoken, it is often accompanied by a thick accent and a long drawl.

Jethro, our rednocks model, hails from the sticks of Eastern Kentucky.

Jethro is courting his true love and desires to take her out for a fun-filled yet romantic evening.

When using proper English, he might say, "Sash, would you accompany me for an evening of fine dining and the ballet?"

However, when Jethro says this, he doesn't sound right because it ain't courtin' if it ain't rednocks. Jethro should say, "Hey sis, you wanna get a mess' o' vittles and go to the truck tug?"

Bravo, Jethro! He not only manages to win the heart of his beloved, but he sounds good doing it as well.

Pimpinomics (combination of pimp and phonics) — This dialect

of generation X and phonics) — This dialect can be found in the Washington area and in other parts of the country. Users must wear baggy clothing and have no fewer than three body piercings.

After a go in the mosh pit with several of his friends, young Timmy has the desire to smoke some marijuana but doesn't have any on his person.

He approaches another baggy-clad person at the concert and requests some cannabis: "Hey man, you got any bud?"

"Thanks, dude." ... A sophisticated conversation between two colleagues.

Isn't communication beautiful? As you can see from the above, specialized languages make people feel better about themselves and their abilities to carry on conversations with people who speak the same language.

But this introduces a problem. With so many new languages, learning more than a few will be very difficult.

When people with two different backgrounds — say lesbians (lesbians and phonics) and gimphonics (student government and phonics) — how do they communicate? The answer is simple: They don't.

By instituting the phonic languages, America will be divided in hundreds of sects, each with its own government and media.

For University purposes, I suggest that the Kernel be published in languages other than regular English. We should hop on board the language revolution before we are crushed along with the timid opposers of the phonics.

This afternoon, I am going to change my major to the study of moronics (morons and phonics). Is you?

Kernel Columnist Ben Rich is a journalism sophomore who does not necessarily represent those of the Kentucky Kernel.

Late again

It took a while, but they did a good thing. UK's Parking and Transportation Services officials said the new 1,000-space parking garage on Limestone Street should be finished in about a week to 10 days.

Granted, construction was scheduled to be done about a month ago so use could begin the first of the new semester and isn't quite complete yet, but finally the campus will have a substantial number of sorely needed new parking spaces in a good location.

Three hundred lucky student commuters will be able to move up from the stadium lot. Some who don't have a pass at all will be able to get one. Employees will not have to arrive so early on campus just to be able to park somewhere in the vicinity of their building.

At the same time, they are all finally getting what they've been paying for.

When the department hiked parking pass rates in 1994 with the implementation of its

five-year plan for parking improvement, commuters had to start spending more to park, but they weren't getting more. At least not for a while.

Granted, a lot of people who paid for spaces have come and gone at UK since then, but those of us here now thank them for their contributions to our new parking spaces. Hopefully they didn't complain about how much they had to pay for something they never were able to use.

IN OUR OPINION: Somehow the issue of parking on campus always seems to come up. Can the issue be escaped?

It would be nice not to have to worry about it. We would be glad if we didn't have to write about it every semester: the outrageous stories about tickets and towing; complaints about charges; anecdotes about the mad search for a space that doesn't exist.

No, the new garage is not a cure for all the parking woes, but it does offer some hope that negative articles on the parking office can be reduced if they keep up the good work. And try to keep the good work done on a little more timely basis.

Remember, experience is not what we require. It's what we give you. (Plus a little cash on the side. And we do mean a little.)

Kernel logo and editorial board list including Brenna Reilly, Tiffany Gilmartin, Chris Campbell, Jeff Vinson, Kathy Reding, Gary Wall, Mat Herron, and Dan O'Neill.

We want you

From hard-liners to humorists, the Kentucky Kernel viewpoint page is looking for writers of all kinds — political or non-political — who aren't afraid of the public eye.

This job isn't for the faint of heart, and some command of the English language helps, but if all you have is a burning desire to see the world from atop a soapbox, you may be just what we need.

If interested, please send your name, phone number and a sample of your work (optional) to: Tiffany Gilmartin, Editorial Editor, Kentucky Kernel, 035 Enoch J. Grehan Journalism Building, Lexington, KY, 40506-0042.

You may also apply in person or call (606) 257-1915. If you have something to say,

but don't necessarily want to apply for a staff position, letters to the editor (250 words or less) and guest opinions (500-800 words) can be e-mailed to: kernel@pop.uky.edu. — as well as mail-mailed (for the telephone) to the above address or delivered in person.

OTHER WRITERS of a less-opinionated stripe can also call the above number or write to the same address, directing applications to the appropriate editors:

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Letters should be approximately 250 words; guest opinions should be no longer than 850 words.

All material should be type-written and double-spaced. Include your name and major classification (for publication), as well as your address and telephone number for verification.

The Citadel needs to shape up or face federal charges

After recent allegations of sexual harassment, criminal assault, and what have been described as other "hazing" incidents, the announcement that two of the four female cadets currently enrolled at The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, will withdraw comes as no surprise.

It has been reported that the two former cadets who have now left The Citadel were victims of vicious assaults on both their person and dignity.

For example, the two young women report they had nail polish remover poured on their clothing and set ablaze on two occasions. They also reported that cleanser was poured into their mouths, that they were struck with rifle butts, and that another cadet rubbed himself against one of the women as she stood in formation.

Life at The Citadel is not intended to be what a typical per-

son would describe as a pleasant experience.

That is what attracts many in the corps of cadets to the institution.

Upon entering The Citadel, one is not termed a freshman or a first-year student. Rather, one becomes a "knob." At The Citadel a four-class system exists.

One's status among cadets and the treatment and privileges one receives is a function of one's class. Knobs are classified as fourth-classmen and subject to the kind of treatment one normally associates with a military boot camp.

The knob experience is an integral part of The Citadel experience, and no one who wants to be a cadet can rightfully expect to forego it. These women did not

expect to forego it.

However, what the two former cadets experienced goes well beyond the kind of treatment that one normally associates with knob life.

Instead, what happened to those women was barbarism, committed by thugs who happened to be wearing Citadel uniforms.

Sadly, the fact that a few — fewer than a dozen — cadets thought the behavior was acceptable is not the worst aspect of this story. Rather, what is most disturbing is that, although these incidents and others like them were reported according to Citadel protocol, nothing was done until the incidents finally made their way into press reports.

In other words, the cadets reported the incidents to their superiors in the chain of com-

mand. After the abuse intensified, they feared reporting it to Citadel

instructors or administrators and suffered in silence for a time. Finally, one of them reported, one of them reported, one of them reported it to her brother, who is also a cadet, and he reported it to a member of The Citadel's Board of Regents.

This summer, The Citadel will have a new president. It would appear that he has quite a task ahead of him. At The Citadel there is a culture which values an all-male environment. Single-sex education can be a valuable experience for many young people, including some who are of college age.

Equally important here, though, is the fact that The Citadel is a state-supported institution. Moreover, a disproportionate number of South Carolina's business, civic, and political leaders are Citadel graduates.

To deny applicants admission to The Citadel based upon their sex is to deny them one of the primary avenues to the upper echelons of success in South Carolina.

South Carolina's girls have every right to expect that they will be afforded equal access to The Citadel as well as to all forms of participation in South Carolina and this nation's civic life when they reach adulthood.

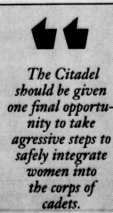
The aversion to integration so

brutally expressed by some of the cadets is reminiscent of the hostility that white parents from both the South and the North displayed when the Supreme Court first ordered an end to racial segregation in public schools.

Back then, school boards and local authorities proved unable or unwilling to bring about integration. This forced President Dwight Eisenhower to take the dramatic step of deploying federal troops to enforce the Court's order. The Citadel should be given one final opportunity to take aggressive steps to safely integrate women into the corps of cadets. If it does not, then President Clinton should send in federal marshals to do so.

For an institution that models itself after the military, The Citadel seems to be having an inordinate amount of trouble obeying orders.

Kernel Columnist Todd Baggary is a political science graduate student; his views do not necessarily represent those of the Kentucky Kernel.



Todd Baggary

Kernel Columnist

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CAMPUS

Retention plan in the works

By Gary Wulf
Associate News Editor

After answering the "whys" and "hows" of poor retention rates, students and administrators are putting forth suggestions that answer, "what next?"

The suggestions are only one part of an 18-page draft that addresses many of UK's shortcomings.

Among the draft's proposals is initiating a retention program for students who are undeclared transfers, undeclared freshmen and at-risk engineering students and Allied Health students.

Central advising more involved with those students by scheduling adviser appointments, discussing alternative majors instead of dropping out, referring them to tutors and e-mailing them regard-

ing deadlines. The ideas contained in the draft came from discussions in University-sponsored forums.

Louis Swift, dean of undergraduate studies, would not discuss the draft. However, he said a lot of ideas still are being put forth by other discussion forums relating to retention.

No timetable has been set for any ideas to be set in motion, Swift said.

The first forum came in the summer when students, student leaders and faculty members had a retreat to discuss critical issues.

"This was a retreat to listen to students," said Rhonda Strouse, assistant director of student activities and a coordinator of the retreat.

From the first retreat came

three main issues: creating an inclusive climate on campus and a sense of community spirit; creating a greater appreciation for diversity on the campus; and enhancing student communication and rapport with faculty, staff and administration, including incorporation of student feedback and involvement in decision-making efforts. The need to connect students more closely with the faculty is one of the concerns listed in the draft.

"Professional advisers note that the lack of student/faculty contact is most frequently heard from students who are in the larger colleges and from students who are working toward selective admissions programs," according to the draft.

One suggestion for improving the relationship is to develop more teacher-student relationships. The fall retreat and its follow-ups have been springboards for lots of ideas, Strouse said. She added that the retreat also broadened the scope of people with whom faculty and administrators would normally relate.

In a study conducted last year by the Lexington Campus Planning and Assessment, UK was last among its benchmark schools in retaining students.

UK retention rates

According to the Office of Planning and Assessment, in the fall of 1992 ...

▼76.8 percent of freshmen returned to UK for their sophomore year.

▼65.6 percent of sophomores returned to UK for their junior year.

▼58.6 percent of juniors returned to UK for their senior year.

▼48 percent of students who began at UK in the fall of 1989 had graduated by the fall of 1995.

Plus/Minus

Grading still top issue in U Senate

From PAGE 1

"We're getting paid to make those decisions so we can do that," said Troland.

When the University Senate goes back to work this semester, the grading issue will come up again. On the agenda for the Feb. 10 meeting is a proposal for adopting a plus/minus system for graduate classes.

Jan Schach, Senate chair, said no other action can be taken by the Senate, which has the authority to pass and reject grade sys-

tems, until proposals reach the Senate floor.

"We're kind of at a standstill," Schach said.

Both proponents and opponents of the grade system changes sit on the council, Schach said, but not enough to favor one side overwhelmingly.

Troland, who became a member of the Senate last semester, said he thinks the original proposals passed because the Senate did not have sufficient student opinion.

The proposals to apply the scale in College of Social Work and Human Environmental Sciences classes failed because of strong opposition from student senators and the faculty members' realizing most students did not like the new system, he said.

Edgerton predicted that either all the colleges will adopt the scale or all will drop it, but he didn't know when a decision would be reached.

"That's an issue that's not totally resolved yet," he said.

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