



Faculty reviews plagiarism rules

By Elizabeth Troutman
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

UK students may face more stringent punishment for cheating and plagiarism next fall.

The University Senate reviewed a new system of punishment for cheating and plagiarism proposed by an academic offense policy committee at a meeting yesterday. Preliminary discussion of the system suggests that faculty members approve of the changes. They will vote on it in April.

Coordinator of the proposal, Bob Grossman, a chemistry professor, said the committee compared UK's system to other benchmark schools when developing the proposal. The University of Virginia implemented a no-tolerance policy that expels students on the first offense. Grossman said the current system at UK allows students who cheat the opportunity to continue the habit in other classrooms.

"Even though students may cheat in many classes, this is never marked on the student's transcript," he said. "You might think that the first E is an offense, but there is no real way knowing."

The committee suggested two alternative grades to signify the act of cheating on a student's transcript. The student may receive an XE or XF to represent the failure of a class due to an academic offense. The student may appeal the initial offense.

The new system allows the instructor to decide the severity of the punishment, with the assistance of the department chair, on the first offense. The minimum punishment for a second offense is an XE.

"XE remains with you for life," said Kavon Tagavi, a mechanical engineering professor. "Dismissal is not on the permanent transcript. I just think it is too harsh and unnecessary."

"There is not review — if there is an E and an X it is not a small punishment."

Tagavi was the only member who spoke out against the proposal.

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Minimum wage hike defeated

By Mary Curtis
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON — Republicans yesterday defeated a Democratic attempt to toughen bankruptcy laws, voting down a proposal to attach a minimum wage hike to it.

An amendment offered by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., would have raised the federal minimum wage from \$5.15 an hour to \$7.25 an hour over two years. It was defeated, 49-46.

The GOP-controlled Congress has blocked all such Democrat-backed efforts to increase the minimum wage in recent years. And Senate Republicans were especially determined to keep the Kennedy amendment off the bankruptcy bill because the House GOP leadership has promised to act quickly on the measure only if it remains largely unchanged.

Kennedy in arguing for his amendment, said the federal minimum wage has not increased in eight years.

But Republicans said hiking the minimum wage would only hurt low-income, low-skilled workers by forcing producers to raise prices and cut jobs.

Proposed budget gives UK extra \$47 million

By Troy Lyle
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky House and Senate will vote on a revised state budget today that increases proposed funding for several major projects at UK.

The budget allots an extra \$8 million for a bio-pharmaceutical complex, \$24 million in bonds for a new student health facility and a more than \$15 million increase in UK's general operating budget.

However, the revised budget also cuts the \$15 million in initial bonding for the basketball practice facility to \$7 million. The additional \$8 million will now be provided through athletic fund-raising efforts.

President Lee Todd said it's good to see that the governor and legisla-

\$8 million
for bio-pharmaceutical complex

\$15 million
increase in UK's general operating fund

\$24 million
in bonds for a new student health facility

tors have reaffirmed their commitment to higher education.

"I am very encouraged by the projected increase in general funding because it will help with faculty salary increases and the costs of operating the college," he said. "This is the first year I've seen an increase since I've been in office."

Todd said operating funds have been cut by \$72 million over the past three years. The university is considering whether the increase in funds for the general operating budget could reduce the proposed 14.5 percent tuition increase, but Todd said it is too soon to tell.

The new budget will also provide \$24 million in bonding for a new stu-

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Increase in cigarette tax will fund cancer research

By Troy Lyle
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

FRANKFORT — The Markey Cancer Center will likely receive the \$2.5 million for cancer research when the House and Senate convene today to vote on a tax modernization plan.

This funding will be made possible due to a 1-cent increase in the initially proposed cigarette tax of 26 cents. If passed, the total tax will be 30 cents per pack.

The tax is expected to generate \$5 million a year, which will be split between UK and the University of Louisville.

Both universities will be required to match the \$2.5 million through their own fund-raising efforts, which could generate more

than \$5 million for cancer research. Kevin McDonagh, deputy director of the Markey Cancer Center, said he is delighted by the support the legislators and governor are proposing.

"This money will be critical to the success of the cancer center," he said. "It will be very helpful in expanding the research program and will allow us to recruit outstanding scientists from other institutions."

McDonagh said the money will be used to support cancer research by funding prevention, diagnosis, clinical investigation and laboratory research.

"We already have much of the \$2.5 million match in place," he said. "We should be able to generate the

See Tax on page 2

Wind wreaks havoc



1. Merchandising freshman Lauren Hersh (left) and communication freshmen Rebekah Swick (middle) and Brittany Warren battle the wind near Patterson Office tower yesterday.



2. While Warren manages to gain control of her umbrella, Swick has difficulty, as the wind turns her umbrella inside-out.



3. Hersh, Swick and Warren are able to laugh at their misfortunes. The National Weather Service predicts more windy weather today, with gusts reaching 13 mph to 18 mph.

PHOTOS BY
JONATHAN PALMER
STAFF

Board won't vote on tuition hike at next meeting

BOT members expect to approve next year's fees for new dorms and meal plan changes

By Adam Sicho
THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Members of the UK Board of Trustees said they expect to approve next year's housing and dining rates tomorrow — but no decision will be made about tuition just yet.

Early last month, UK's administration proposed a \$278 increase in housing fees, to \$3,363 per year. Also, UK instituted a plan that charges students in one of the four new dorms more than everyone else — \$4,250 per year for a two-bedroom suite and \$6,265 per year for a one-bedroom unit.

Trustee Russ Williams said the four new dorms, scheduled to open next semester, will be welcome additions for campus housing.

"We've got a big demand for on-campus housing," said Williams, the board's staff representative. "The new residence halls have some amenities in them that (administrators) felt like they should have a differentiated rate for."

With the board's approval, UK will switch from the current la carte meal plan to an "unlimited choice" meal plan, where students buy all-you-can-eat meals. The minimum charge of \$1,786 per year provides students with 246 total meals, or about 7.69 meals per week.

Student Government President Rachel Watts said the new meal plan should benefit most students.

"For right now, the plan looks like a great option," said Watts, who said she will vote for the measure tomorrow. "You can't find the ideal, either way someone benefits and others don't," she said.

"In theory, it looks like a good plan."

Last month, UK administrators proposed a 14.5 percent tuition increase for the 2005-2006 school year, marking the third consecutive year students will have a double-digit tuition increase. Board members felt it best to hold off on a vote until the state government finalizes its budget.

"Until they pour concrete around that budget, we really don't want to do anything," said trustee Michael Kennedy. "Frankfort is still in flux."

Trustee Alice Sparks said the board is in a "horrible position."

"It (the state budget) changes every day, it seems," said Sparks, chairwoman of the academic affairs committee. "That kind of thing is out of our hands."

The board has no way around a tuition increase, Williams said.

"I think we've cut all we can cut, saved money everywhere we can save money and it's still not enough to keep the place running," he said.

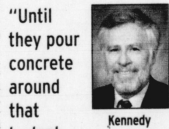
"Things are just tight all over."

Watts said she believes it's her duty to vote against a tuition increase, although she said she understands budget concerns.

"The budget is reasonable, not frivolous," Watts said. "It handles the basic fundamentals that we need to have."

"I just think it's my job to represent the student vote as if they were at the meeting, if they had reviewed the budget and

See BOT on page 2



Kennedy

Michael Kennedy
Board of Trustees faculty representative

List of SG president state candidates

State

Continued from page 1

dent health facility. The bonding had originally been cut from the Senate's budget.

"I think this is tremendous for students," said Director Dr. Greg Moore. "This new facility will vastly improve efficiency and quality of care."

The bio-pharmaceutical complex received its full allocation of funding. This complex and the animal diagnostic center are the only two projects that will be paid for with state dollars. The expansion of the animal diagnostic center at the Coldstream Research Campus will be used for treatment and research of

thoroughbred horses.

Pharmacy Dean Ken Roberts said the full \$40 million in funding is great news for Kentucky.

There are more than 400 pharmacists currently needed across the state and the school can currently train about 100 students a year now, he said.

The new building will allow them to train about 180 to 200 students, he said.

The additions were added over the weekend by a joint conference committee of key House and Senate members. The House and Senate will vote on the budget today and, if passed, will send it to the governor.

Gov. Ernie Fletcher said in a press release that he is "very pleased" a compromise

was met and commended both legislative branches on their bipartisan efforts.

Though the revised budget offered much needed revenues and bonding authority for universities, Sen. Ernesto Scorsone, D-Lexington, said the state is still severely behind in funding education.

"I wish the governor would have restored the money he took from higher education to balance last year's budget," he said. "We still need more money for teacher and staff raises, not to mention more general operating funds so our universities can stop raising their tuition."

"The bottom line is we have been arguing over crumbs, and what we need is a loaf of bread," he said.

E-mail tytle@kykernel.com

Tax

Continued from page 1

rest from mostly fund raising.

The additional funding was the result of this week-end's joint committee meeting between the House and Sen-

ate. President Lee Todd said he is very pleased with the addition.

"The beautiful thing about this funding is it will be recurring each year," he said, pointing to the fact that the tax modernization plan will implement this annually.

Money for cancer research is always needed, said Melanie Ellingsworth, com-

munications director for the American Cancer Society.

It's very important to raise money for cancer research whether at the government level or through private fund raising, she said.

"Every dollar helps move us toward a cure," Ellingsworth said.

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BOT

Continued from page 1

sat through the meetings," she said.

Faculty and staff salary pool raises are a must, and recent increases were "bare minimums," Williams said.

"We need a halfway decent raise, not really to keep up, but to make up what we've

lost the last couple of years," he said.

Kennedy, a faculty representative to the board, said the status of his coworkers will compel him to vote for the tuition increase.

"We keep watching colleagues leave and class sizes go up, meaning it's a poorer education for students," said Kennedy, a geography professor. "But UK is still a really good deal; the state's just not stepping up to the job."

Tuition has to be raised to take care of UK's faculty,

Sparks said.

"We cannot lose momentum in the quality of the faculty," Sparks said. "We've got to get some money in there for them, or else you all wouldn't be happy with your education."

"That said, it (raising tuition) is nothing any of us want to do, but sometimes you have to bite the bullet and do what's best for the students first."

E-mail

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2005 SG candidates

Presidential/Vice-Presidential Tickets

Tommy Cunningham
/Matthew Neff
Becky Ellingsworth
/Kyle Burns
Will Nash
/Michelle Bishop

Senate-At-Large

Tegan Alexander
Chioma Anosike
Andy Bates
Steve Cavezza
John Collins
Chris Cummrine
Will Fuller
Samuel Gaines
Dennis Gilligan
John Gillispie
Lauren Henson
Justin M. Holbrook
Katie Houghtlin
Tony Jackson
Mallory Jenkins
Samantha Joyce
Carson Kerr
Stephen Klene
Katie Land

Travis Lewis

Jeff Lizzo
Scott McIntosh
Carly Messmer
Christie Mitchell
Frederick Perry
Samantha Peterson
Nick Phelps
Adam Rector
Matt Ray
Jared Schultze
Robert Alan Semones
Tanner Shultz
Leslie Simpson
Michelle Stancel
Meredith Storm
Matthew Swafford
Daniel Thomas
Preston Worley

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Brent Burchett
LeFarn Meriwether

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Monica Hobson
Ryan Mabry

College of Business & Economics

Ben Garte
Sumeeta Kapur

College of Communications and Information Studies

Danielle Jarvis
Josh Kedzuch
Chris Miles

College of Design

Erik Dyer

College of Dentistry

Cameron Howard
Chad Matthews

College of Engineering

Mike Mudd
Nathan Thompson

Graduate School

Albert Kalim

College of Fine Arts

Erica Johnson

College of Health Sciences

Ashley Hull
Jaclyn Minch

College of Law

John Daniel

College of Nursing

Angie Smits

College of Pharmacy

Josh Shock

CORRECTION

Ticket information in yesterday's Kernel for the Southeastern Conference Tournament in Atlanta was incorrect. Tickets will go on sale one hour before each session of the tournament at the Georgia Dome. UK students need their Wildcard ID to purchase \$10 student tickets. To report an error, call the Kernel newsroom at 257-1915 or e-mail news@kykernel.com.

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TECHCHECK | not just for geeks

Mozilla can't replace Explorer

Q. I personally don't care for Windows, so I am always interested to hear about other options. I wish there were more viable mainstream alternatives also. I have a question about Mozilla Firefox — can you keep Internet Explorer if you download and use Mozilla? How does that work? Thanks.
Kris Gardner, Spanish/foreign language economics sophomore

A. Not only can you keep Internet Explorer, but you practically have to keep Internet Explorer on your system, even if you do use Firefox. Windows integrates Internet Explorer so closely, that even if you don't think you're using it, you might be. Simply browsing your own hard disk uses Internet Explorer.



Roger Chui
TECH COLUMNIST

Next time you're surfing the Web, try surfing over to "My Documents" or "C:\\" and see what comes up. You also need to keep Internet Explorer to keep your computer safe with Windows Update.

When you install Firefox, the first time you run it, you will have the option of making it your default browser. If you click yes, Internet Explorer will complain a bit when you load it back up, but it won't uninstall itself.

If you want to switch back to Internet Explorer, though, you can do so by going into the Control Panel's Add/Remove Programs box in Windows XP.

On the left you will see a tab for "Set Program Access and Defaults," where you can switch between Internet Explorer and Mozilla Firefox as your default browser. Not that you'd ever want to go back to Internet Explorer, though...right?

Congratulations on the switch to Firefox, and be sure to spread the word!

Sincerely,
Roger Chui

E-mail:
features@kykernel.com

A. Roger pretty much nailed it on the head. I just have a few thoughts to add. I only wish Firefox completely replaced Internet Explorer. Roger's right, the browser is so unbelievably integrated into Windows XP that to remove it would likely be operating system suicide.



Ian Conley
TECH COLUMNIST

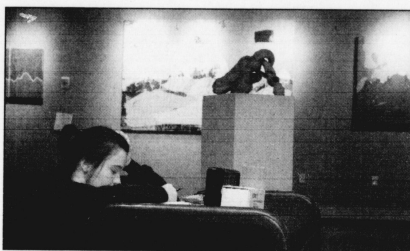
So no worries on a Firefox install — the worst it'll do is wear you away from the evils of Microsoft and make you sad that you've been using Internet Explorer so long.

Sincerely,
Ian Conley

Ask the Tech Guys

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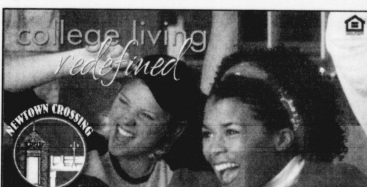
HILLY SCHIFFER | STAFF
Above: Molly Glauber, a sociology junior, studies in the Rasdall Gallery in the Student Center during mid-term week.

Right: UK Student Activities Board is sponsoring the Art Education Senior Student Show at the Rasdall Gallery. This will be the final show at UK for several of the art education seniors. The gallery is open daily from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Friday. Admission is free.



FROM GALLERY TO GRADUATION

Several art education seniors are displaying their work for the final time at UK.



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Office of Student Activities, Leadership & Involvement CAMPUS CALENDAR

VISIT THE WEB SITE FOR EVENT DETAILS OR TO POST YOUR OWN UK EVENT.

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 it is to appear. Call 257-8667 for more information.

Tuesday 8 th	Wednesday 9 th	Thursday 10 th	Friday 11 th	Saturday 12 th	Sunday 13 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Random Acts of Kindness Day, 9:00 AM, Patio in front of Whitehall Classroom Building • Baptist Student Union's English Conversation Class, 6:00 PM, 429 Columbia Ave. • UK Berean Bible Study, 8:00 PM, Student Center, Room 113 • UK Fencing Club Meeting, 8:00 PM, Buell Armory/Barker Hall • Reform United Fellowship (RUF), 7:30 PM, Student Center Room 357 • Leftist Student Union Meeting, 8:00 PM, Student Center, 228 • UK Horticulture Club meeting, 5:00 PM, Ag. North greenhouse • UK Green Thumb Meeting, 7:00 PM, Student Center, Room 106 • UK Softball vs. Louisville, 4:00 PM, UK Softball and Soccer Complex • Baptist Student Unions presents "TNT", 7:30 PM, 429 Columbia Ave. • UK Anime Club Meeting, 6:00 PM, Center Theater, Student Center • Classic Tuesdays: North By Northwest, 8:00 PM, Worsham Theater • Cat's For Christ Meeting, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM, Student Center, Room 230 • Lavender Society Meeting, 7:30 PM, Student Center, Room 228 • The Rock, 9:00 PM, Baptist Student Center on Columbia Ave. • NCS MEETING - FREE PIZZA, 5:30 PM, Room 205 Student Center • Central KY FCA Meeting, 8:00 PM, Upstairs in the Commons Market • UK Water Ski Club, 9:00 PM, Commons Room 306A • Foresight Meeting, 6:00 PM, W.T. Young Library • UK Relay for Life Committee Meeting, 8:00 PM, Keenland Room-WT Young Library • Table Francaise, French conversation group, 3:00 PM, Student Center, Room 231 • Lutheran-Episcopal Campus Ministry Worship Service, 5:05 PM • UK Judo Club practice, 5:00 PM, Alumni Gym Loft • UK Fencing Club Meeting, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 PM, Buell Armory/Barker Hall • CRU, 7:30 PM, Worsham Theater/ Student Center • Wesley Foundation's Focus Worship Meeting, 7:30 PM, Student Center, Center Theater • The Well, 7:00 PM, Student Center, Room 211 • Baptist Student Union's Freshman Focus Group Meeting, 7:30 PM, 429 Columbia Ave • Alpha Kappa Psi Bowling Night, 9:00 PM, Southland Bowling Lanes • UK Climbing Club, 7:00 PM, Johnson Center Climbing Wall • UK Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Meeting, 5:00 PM, Student Center, Room 205 • UK Lambda, 7:30 PM, Room 231, Student Center • CSF Presents "Synergy," 8:00 PM, CSF Building, corner of Woodland and Columbia • ICF Dinner and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fellowship, 7:00 PM, St. Augustine Chapel, Rose St. • UK FUSION team leader applications due! 518 Patterson Office Tower • Salsa Class, 3:00 PM, Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center, 124 Student Center • Peace and Justice Coalition Meeting, 2:00 PM, LCC MB 209A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK Softball vs Mississippi (DH), 1:00 PM, UK Softball and Soccer Complex • Great Outdoors-Red River Gorge, 8:00 AM, Red River Gorge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK Softball vs. Mississippi, 1:00 PM, UK Softball and Soccer Complex

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Opinions

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IN OUR OPINION

Provost search must have clear parameters

As Provost Mike Nietzel leaves UK to become president of Southwest Missouri State, the search to replace him must begin.

This time, UK needs a broad and open search — something that did not happen the first time around.

When the position of provost was created in July 2001, Nietzel — then dean of the Graduate School — was appointed acting provost by President Lee Todd. As Todd's second-in-command, the provost oversees the deans of the university's colleges and academic student affairs, such as the Graduate School and the library system.

At first, Nietzel said he would not apply for the permanent position. But he changed his mind and applied in the spring of 2002.

In October of that year, Nietzel was named provost. He had served well in his time as acting provost, and he was a good

choice for the job. But the process UK used to select him was far from perfect.

The guidelines established by the search committee were not followed.

"Campus interviews shall be structured so the committee can obtain input from faculty, students, staff and administrative staff," the minutes from the Sept. 5 meeting of the search committee said.

Other than Nietzel, no candidates were brought to campus for interviews.

Also, members of the search committee signed a letter sent to the Lexington Herald-Leader supporting Nietzel. The letter

was signed by LCC president Jim Kerley and 14 UK deans, including search committee members Kay Hoffman, Robert Shay and Allan Vestal.

In the end, UK found a logical choice for the position, but there was only one candidate — Nietzel.

When the search begins again, there must be a better process.

Todd said he will appoint an interim provost and then create a university search committee to guide a national search for a new provost.

This search must be done as quickly as possible.

The risk is that the university's

progress will be stymied for not just one year but two," said Ernie Yanarella, chairman of the faculty Senate.

This time, UK must not just speak of a national search, it must actually go out and do it. The committee should look outside the university for applicants, bring candidates to campus and make this search an open, efficient one.

As the search goes forward, an interim provost must be found who will be more than a caretaker. It must be someone who will keep the university moving forward and not just drifting along.

The committee needs to draw up clear guidelines for the search process, and this time, these guidelines should be followed.

A broad, open process will speed up the search and will free the next provost from any lingering doubts of a biased or incomplete procedure.

The search committee must actually follow through with the procedure it creates this time around.

Jackson trial impedes useful news coverage

Say goodbye to real news.

The Michael Jackson trial has begun, and the "news" media's obsession with it is revving up.

Since the end of the disgustingly over-covered Scott Peterson trial 3 and 1/2 months ago, it has been news heaven. The national media reported on Social Security reform, U.S.-Europe relations and the potential of Iran going nuclear.

Those issues didn't disappear, but they're no longer making headlines, because the Jackson trial has given the media an excuse to be lazy.

It's easier and more fun to pull the most outrageous quotes from a testimony or describe in detail what the pop star wore to court today than to crunch Social Security numbers or uncover what's really happening in Iran. Unfortunately for us, journalists have decided to take the low road.

But journalists ought to do the hard stuff, leaving the fluff — Jackson, Peterson, Martha, Blake, Kobe, etc. — to be covered by Reader's Digest and Entertainment Tonight.

The media shape the national agenda and Americans' priorities in deciding how much to cover any given story. Their laziness in this case looks at first like it has no political effect. One party's priorities aren't the feelings of those in power, the media are giving Bush and the GOP more leeway to pursue their ultra-conservative agenda.

Even the "liberal" media, such as CNN and The New York Times, perennial targets of conservative hatred, are giving Jackson far more than enough coverage. Maybe they don't intend to help Bush in doing so; either way, they have become complicit in his schemes.

Imagine if news stations devoted as much time to explaining the math of Bush's Social Security plan — which would cut Americans' benefits drastically and would entail trillions of dollars in borrowing, all for the benefit of Wall Street — as they do to celebrity trials. Average Americans would easily have the information they need to express their desires on the matter to their legislators.

Instead, "Neverland Ranch" has become a household term — and Karl Rove smiles a little wider every time he hears it on the "news."

It may seem that saturation coverage of the Jackson trial doesn't help just the Republicans — after all, by pushing politics in general to the backburner, it obscures the Democrats' agenda too.

But the situation in Washington right now isn't one of divided power. What the GOP says is what goes, unless the Democrats filibuster or the American public becomes outraged — and if we don't know what's happening outside of Hollywood, how can we get outraged?

There seems to be no end in sight to irrelevant news coverage in the national media.

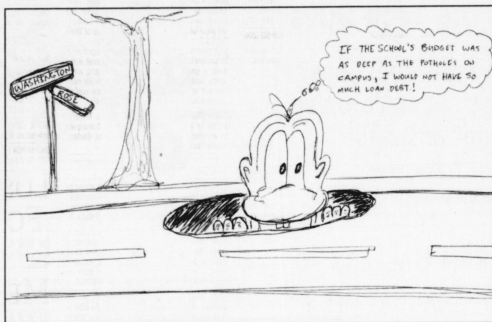
Just as an informed public can change legislators' priorities, however, so can it change those of the media. We must let our responsibilities as citizens dictate our choices as consumers. We cannot support media that panders and condescends to us, offering made-for-TV scandals while ignoring the decisions of powerbrokers in Washington.

If we don't stop letting news organizations turn non-news into a top headline, they'll keep doing it — it's far easier than producing substantive reporting. And except for GOP operatives and cable news executives, we'll all be worse off.

Brenton Kenkel is a philosophy and political science freshman. His column appears every Tuesday. E-mail: bkenkel@kykernel.com.



Brenton Kenkel
KERNEL COLUMNIST



JONATHAN PALMER, THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Ad reminds us how to be selfless

OK, OK, OK. I'm a sentimental girl. But that new Coke commercial totally makes me cry.



Keren Henderson
KERNEL COLUMNIST

Not because it reminds me of the time I ran the family van into my parents' garage and was out \$1,000, but because it is so different from everything else that's on television.

For those of you who have missed the 30-second tear-jerker, here's the quick setup: As a teen goes for the last Coke in the fridge, his dad yells from another room asking if there are any left. The son is left with a deep, moral question: to drink or not to drink the Coke. Several memories flash through the teen's mind, including the time he ran into the garage while his dad was teaching him to drive and the time he hit a golf ball through the living room window. After considering all he put his dad through in the last year, he finally responds, "Yeah, I've got one right here."

Beautiful!

The son gives up the last sparkling beverage in gratitude to his dad.

Are your cheeks getting hot? Do you feel your eyes burning? Go ahead and

cry. The moment is worth it.

For the past few years, commercial messages have been consistent. They push the "I'm gonna get mine" mentality. It's about you getting what you want, when you want it, no matter what you have to do to get it.

In the latest ads, parents rip each other apart to get a hold of the newest toy for their kids. Cheez-it commercials encourage you to "get your own," and feature kids and parents denying each other their favorite snack. One beer ad shows a roommate putting a dog collar on his buddy to protect his favorite drink.

Coke is guilty too. In one ad, when a couple has to split the last Coke, the wife loads up her husband's glass with ice so she can have more. In another ad, a roommate steals his friend's food and washes it down with a Coke.

Maybe I'm reading too much into the social relevance of television ads, but, honestly, advertisers are the ones who know us best. They ask us questions. They run focus groups and trial groups. They plug wires into our brains to figure out exactly what will make us buy their products. With millions of dollars at stake, they have tapped into the social consciousness and found us selfish.

Whether they are appealing to selfishness or laughing at our selfishness along with us, I do not know. But the

commercial man is a self-interested brute who tramples old women and brushes aside babies to grab a coveted Twinkie. And, hey, considering who I think about in the morning when I wake up, perhaps advertisers are right. Perhaps we are all a little too self-interested. How bleak.

But the latest Coke commercial gives me hope — a vision of life where people care about others more than themselves — or at least as much as themselves.

The son wants that drink. He's getting ready to pop the can and enjoy a nice, long sip of soda. (No, I will not be working for the Coca-Cola Company when I graduate this May.) But he resists what he wants. He considers his dad. He is grateful. He gladly gives up what he wants for another. And in doing so, he becomes the reverse of the commercial man ... and my new hero.

My hope is that there is some ad agency out there that has discovered that this man actually exists — that the emerging psyche is more focused on others than itself. I hope that the "me generation" is finally sick of itself and turning outward. I want to see more commercials appeal to that.

But for now, I'm thirsty. Somebody get me a Coke.

Keren Henderson is a journalism senior. E-mail: khenderson@kykernel.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Farrakhan article should have mentioned his radical record

I am writing in response to the article "Muslim Leader Calls for Unity" by Elizabeth Troutman in last Monday's Kernel. Troutman portrayed Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan as a unifier of all religions and races, while he is actually anything but that.

Farrakhan has repeatedly insulted whites, Jews and other groups throughout his life, especially after joining the Nation of Islam in 1965. Malcolm X's own daughter was arrested for conspiring to kill Farrakhan because of his hostile words and intentions.

Farrakhan was once quoted as calling Judaism "a gutter religion," citing Hitler as "a great man," and even tried to win support of rogue states such as Iraq, Iran and Libya during his 1996 "world friendship tour" despite objections from the U.S. government.

Farrakhan has repeatedly referred to whites as "the enemy" and promotes violence as a means of protest. Farrakhan does not employ the peaceful means of his predecessors, such as Dr. Martin Luther King, and he poses a large threat to peace and civility everywhere.

The civil rights movement and efforts for equality and peace are honorable, meaningful and need to be nurtured and acted upon. But Farrakhan has no place within these efforts.

JASON R. NEHRER
biotechnology sophomore

Firestorm over gender research blocks societal path to truth

The recent remarks by Harvard President Larry Summers suggesting an innate difference in the ability of women to excel in math and science hit a necessary chord in today's society. Cries immediately rang out regarding the sexist nature of his comment, but critics didn't challenge its validity.

The problem is not that the head of one of the most prestigious schools in the world would have suggested a gender barrier in the sciences. Instead, people's ignorance and overzealousness to scream "Bigot!" has overshadowed an opportunity to perform studies to truly evaluate this claim.

The same thing is happening all across America as researchers are silenced in the name of open-mindedness. It is politically incorrect to point out that abortion disproportionately affects blacks or that AIDS disproportionately affects homosexuals. Statistics show that both have had damaging effects on these groups. Yet, for a prominent, white American male to point this out would be career suicide once liberal rights organizations got done with him.

As a civilized people, we have a responsibility to perform accurate, unbiased research into the workings of our society. But when intelligent, well-meaning people continue to be silenced for fear of personal repercussions, our whole country bears the burden of a missed opportunity to learn the truth.

TODD BURUS
mathematics/linguistics senior

ONLINE POLL QUESTION

How far will the UK men's basketball team get in the NCAA tournament?

Early-round exit

Sweet 16

Elite Eight

Final Four

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The day after, UK still holds top seed

As the smoke clears from Showdown Sunday, one thing remains clear — no one knows what is going to happen in March.

After Ohio State toppled unbeaten Illinois, anything seems possible. And it is.

Tim Wiseman
SPORTS EDITOR

Watching Sunday as Wake Forest needed a buzzer-beater to hold off North Carolina State, UK bumbled against Florida and North Carolina battled Duke, the landscape in college basketball seems to look a lot like the Midwest.

It's one long, flat, even field, where anyone can rise above the rest.

That's why UK fans should just relax. Their Cats are right where they need to be.

Ranked No. 4 in both the coaches' and media polls, the Cats stand poised to snag the fourth No. 1 seed if they can win their 28th Southeastern Conference Tournament Championship this weekend in Atlanta.

As up and down as these Cats have been, they need just three wins to secure their third straight No. 1 seed.

Here's why: Despite its first loss, Illinois is a lock for a No. 1 seed and the friendly confines of

favorable tournament sites that come with it.

With its first Atlantic Coast Conference regular season title since 1993, North Carolina has wrapped up the other top seed.

So that leaves two — one for No. 3 Wake Forest and the other for UK.

UK has not dazzled like the Illinois or thrilled like the high-flying Tar Heels. The Cats have just kept winning, grinding out games and climbing up the rankings.

As Kansas and Boston College have limped down the stretch, they've removed themselves from contention for the top seeds.

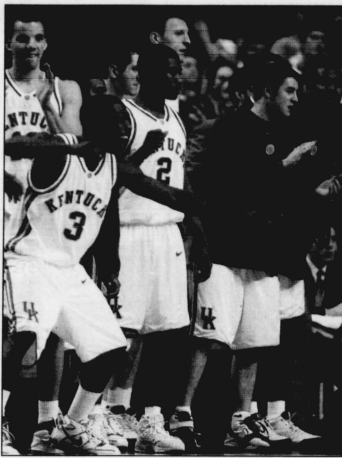
A good showing by the Jayhawks or the Golden Eagles in their conference tournaments, however, could put them back in the top seed discussion if teams above them lose.

Oklahoma State had started to look the part of a No. 1 seed, but the Cowboys' home loss to Texas over the weekend hurts their candidacy.

So it's down to UK, Illinois, North Carolina and Wake Forest.

It's UK's to lose now — which still leaves Cat fans plenty to worry about over the next week. And as Selection Sunday rolls around, there will be other concerns to inspire Big Blue hand wringing.

Like that eternal fear of selection committee conspiracies to pair the Cats with rivals such as Duke and Louisville. (This is not too far-fetched, since it's easy to



KEITH SMILEY | STAFF

The UK bench celebrates during the Cats' 73-61 win over Tennessee on Senior Night March 2. The Cats should be celebrating again on Selection Sunday, as they are poised to earn their third straight No. 1 seed.

imagine tournament officials salivating about the possibility of a Cats-Cards match-up anywhere along the way.

Or that worry that UK will get the "loaded" bracket, while someone else has an easy street to St. Louis and the Final Four.

Relax. Forget about *E-mail* twiseman@kykernel.com

SPORTS BRIEFS

UK baseball's Grace named SEC Player of the Week

Sophomore Billy Grace was named the Southeastern Conference Player of the Week, the league office announced yesterday.

Grace, a Granger, Ind., native, batted .556 with a 1.111 slugging percentage over the weekend to lead UK to a three-game sweep over Toledo. During the series, he scored seven runs and drove in five runs, including a career-high four in game two. He hit two doubles and a home run on the weekend while also stealing a base.

During UK's eight-game winning streak, Grace has hit .419 with 11 RBIs and 11 runs scored.

Grace is the first UK player to earn the honor since UK's Kalen Gibson earned SEC Pitcher of the Week honors two times last year. He is the first UK position player to be named Player of the Week since 1997.

Women's golf rises in standings

The UK women's golf team is tied for 15th after 36 holes of play at the College of Charleston Edwin Watts/Pinehurst Challenge in Pinehurst, N.C.

UK shot two strokes better as a team to finish day two with a score of 648. Freshman Beth Felts and senior Katie Dixon are tied for 38th at 16-over-par. Felts fired a 160 (80-80), while Dotson improved four strokes from day one with a 160 (82-78). Freshman Elizabeth Dotson slipped in the standings to end the day

tied for 48th after recording a 162 (80-82). Sophomore Katie Johnson and junior Ali Kicklighter shot 167 (83-84) and 168 (88-80), respectively. Play continues today.

The UK junior varsity women's golf team completed day one play in second place at the Big River Telephone Lady Racer Classic in Murray, Ky. Junior Erin Faulkner, who is playing as an individual, is tied for second with a 4-over-par 78. Rend Lake Community College's Surtia Risseuw leads with a 3-over-par 75.

Leading UK to a second-place first day finish were sophomore Alanna Silvertust and senior Stacy Springer, who are both tied for sixth. The duo shot a first-round 61, while sophomore Emily Culbertson is tied for ninth with an 82. Senior Chapin Hoskins shot an 84 and is tied for 12th. Junior Laura Clemmons is tied for 20th. Play continues today at the Miller Memorial Golf Course.

Women's tennis defeats Ole Miss

UK sophomore Sarah Foster rallied from a one-set deficit at the second singles position to clinch the Cats' seventh-consecutive victory Sunday as No. 7 UK defeated No. 62 Ole Miss, 4-3 in its first home outdoor match of 2005 at the Hillary J. Boone Tennis Stadium.

Sophomores Kim Coventry and Joelle Schwenk teamed up for an 8-5 win at the second doubles slot, and senior Aibika Kalsariva and Sarah Foster followed suit at the first position to clinch the point. Senior Emily Foster and

sophomore Lara Maurer added an 8-6 win at the third slot over Nika Koukhartchouk and Preethi Subramanian.

UK (13-3, 2-0 Southeastern Conference) extended its lead to 2-0 after a straight-set win from Coventry over Virginia Tomatis at the third singles position. After Ole Miss cut the lead to 2-1 with a victory at No. 6 singles, Kalsariva scored a 6-2, 7-5 win over Ole Miss' 34th-ranked Carlotti for a 3-1 UK lead. The Rebels' Mimi Renaudin pulled out a three-set win over UK's Maurer to slice the lead to 3-2, but only seconds later, Sarah Foster provided UK's clinching point with a 3-6, 7-6, 6-1 win over the Rebels' Ilona Somers. Ole Miss' Koukhartchouk outlasted UK's Schwenk in a three-setter for the final 4-3 margin.

Softball aims for eighth straight win

The UK softball team will look for a school-record eighth straight win in a mid-week contest against Louisville today. First pitch for the single game is scheduled for 4 p.m. at the UK Softball Complex.

After a perfect 4-0 record at the Kentucky Invitational over the weekend, the Cats have won two straight tournament titles and are now 11-14 on the year.

The Cardinals are 10-7 this season and lead the series with UK 9-4.

COMPILED FROM STAFF AND UK ATHLETICS REPORTS

Healthy Volunteers Needed for Cardiology Study

Researchers at the University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center are conducting a clinical research study with healthy volunteers to evaluate an experimental drug that may be useful in treating persons with heart conditions, including those who have experienced a stroke or heart attack.

You may be able to participate if you are a healthy adult between 18 and 55 years old.

Qualified participants will receive at no cost, study-related lab tests, medication and compensation for your time. Participation in this study will require:

- two, two-hour clinic appointments and one 24-hour hospital stay; or
- two, two-hour clinic appointments and two 24-hour hospital stays.

For more information, please contact the University of Kentucky Clinical Research Organization at (859) 323-4714.

See our Web site at: <http://www.m.u.ky.edu/research/clinicaltrials.htm>

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