

KENTUCKY KERNEL

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ROBIN BAKER | STAFF
Attorney general candidates, from left, Jon Larson, Philip Kimball, Tim Coleman, Jack Conway and Robert Bullock spoke in the W.T. Young Library last night. The candidates spoke about the future of the open meetings and open records laws, and the position of the Kentucky Attorney General.

Attorney general candidates want Board of Trustees' agendas sooner

By Juliann Vachon
jvachon@kykernel.com

All five Kentucky attorney general candidates present at an open forum last night said making UK's Board of Trustees' meeting agendas available sooner than four hours before the meeting at a yesterday night would make UK appear more open.

"It certainly does not seem to comport with the spirit of the law," said candidate Jack Conway.

Democratic candidates Robert Bullock and Conway, and Republican candidates Tim Coleman, Philip Kimball

and Jon Larson discussed their views on Kentucky's open meetings and open records laws at 7 p.m. at the University of Kentucky's W.T. Young library auditorium.

While they agreed on what UK should do, the candidates had varied opinions on how the attorney general office should handle open meetings and open records issues in the state.

Creating new legislation, especially based on concerns over the state's Sunshine laws, is not the attorney general's primary role, Larson said.

"Open government, good government, is terribly important," Larson said. "I just want to emphasize that

the role of the attorney general is the chief law enforcement officer, primarily the chief prosecutor in the state of Kentucky."

Kimball disagreed saying a part of being the chief law enforcement officer is offering suggestions for legislation that is harmful to the state.

Opening up procedures such as juvenile court proceedings is one issue Kimball said he would work toward if elected.

"I think you've been reading a lot in the paper about the problems we have because a lot of these process are secret," Kimball said. "I don't want to

See **Open Meetings** on page 5

UK grad to share stories from 'Body Farm'

By Jill Laster
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The first thing students notice when they walk into Bill Bass's office is the smell.

"Have you ever, when you're driving down the road, smelled a (dead) possum?" Bass said. "It's like that but magnified a hundred times."

Bass, a professor emeritus at the University of Tennessee, is the founder of the Forensic Anthropology Research Facility, often called the "Body Farm."

Bass, a UK graduate, will be speaking about his work as a forensic anthropologist at 7:30 tonight in Memorial Hall.

At the Body Farm, Bass uses bodies that are donated, as well as unclaimed bodies from the medical examiner's office. He allows the bodies to decay in varying elements, including weather, insects and light, and then examines the bodies to determine the cause of death.

Bass, along with students and faculty in the anthropology program at UT, analyze the different ways the bodies decompose, which can help police when they are working on a criminal case. The Body Farm will examine about 135 bodies this year.

"The police, by the way, don't ask who it is, but how long they've been there," he said.

Bass will be showing slides of some of the cases he's worked on with Tennessee State Police and the FBI, helping them determine how long victims had been dead.

"I get the bodies when their soft tissue is decayed," Bass said. "I've got to get down to the bones."

Based on what he has seen as a professor, slides showing dead bodies might make students uncomfortable, Bass said.

"You always have some who can't

See **Body Farm** on page 5

"I thought students might like to know what a forensic anthropologist does."

BILL BASS
Founder of the Forensic Anthropology Research Facility

BLUE NOTE SYMPHONY



ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

Freshman computer science major Taylor Brandenburg, right, and Jeff Barbec, a junior music education major, play their tubas during the UK concert band's performance last night in the Singletary Center for the Arts. The band has two more performances this month, one on the 15th and one on the 22nd, both of which will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Singletary Center.

Research VP candidates to offer visions for campus

By Juliann Vachon
jvachon@kykernel.com

Four candidates will visit campus over the next two weeks, vying for a top administrative position in one of the university's biggest focal points.

The Vice President of Research candidates will meet with the administration, as well as attend forums with faculty, staff and students to discuss their vision for the future of research at the university.

"A major part of what this institution is all about is research — research into problems that impact our state, country and world and research that helps expand the body of specialized knowledge about a particular area," said Provost Kumble Subbaswamy in an e-mail to the Kernel.

The new Vice President of Research will help expand UK's research capabilities by overseeing the research enterprise of the institution and working closely with economic development to take university research to the marketplace, Subbaswamy said.

The search committee for the position recommended four candidates for on-campus interviews, each visiting on a different day. The first three candidates' forums will be held on the 18th floor of the Patterson Office Tower from 4 to 5 p.m.

■ Craig L. Nessler, of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, will participate in a forum today.

■ James W. Tracy of the University of Wisconsin-Madison will visit Monday, April 9.
■ James R. Halpert of the University of Texas

Medical Branch (Galveston) will visit Thursday, April 12.

■ Theodore S. Widlanski of Indiana University-Bloomington will visit Tuesday, April 17 and meet with faculty, staff and students in Room 101 of the Mining and Mineral Resources Building from 4 to 5 p.m.

"It's always important to provide avenues for campus input about issues and positions of importance," Subbaswamy said.

UK's Top 20 Business Plan calls for significant growth in research from \$300 million annually to nearly \$800 million a year by 2020, Subbaswamy said.

"That will not only expand our presence as a

See **Research** on page 5

SG to Barnhart: 'Pay top dollar' for Billy Donovan

By Chris Miles
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The Student Government Senate gave its official endorsement of Billy Donovan last night, unanimously passing a resolution written on a Mel-low Mushroom napkin.

"Is this real?" asked one senator.
"This is real," responded Sen. Jason Robinson, who sponsored the resolution.

The napkin letter to UK Athletic Director Mitch Barnhart, asking him to hire University of Florida head coach Billy Donovan at any cost, was photocopied and given to the senators to sign as the final piece of legislation of the night.

The letter read:

"Whereas UKAA (UK Athletic Association) is willing to pay top dollar for a great coach.

"Whereas the citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky will accept no less than the best college coach in America.

"Whereas Billy Donovan is the best college coach in America.

"Be it hereby enacted that Athletics Director Mitch Barnhart offer Mr. Donovan a contract that he would have no choice but to accept."

Nine senators signed the resolution brought before the full Senate.

"We feel that he is the best coach for UK," Robinson told the Senate. "We represent the voice of the students."

Senators also unanimously approved \$2,497 in

funding to cover the cost of medication for the UK chapter of the Timmy Foundation. The foundation is sending more than 40 UK students and faculty to Ecuador to hold a free clinic.

"It's an honor to see SG support such a great venture at UK," said Melinda Morgan, a representative for the UK chapter of the Timmy Foundation. "I think it's great everyone (in SG) supported it."

Morgan said her group would see more than 1,500 patients on its visit, including children who have never been examined by a doctor. The money approved by SG to buy the needed medications will be a great help to the group, she said.

Sen. Joey Mattingly, who proposed the legislation, said many senators didn't understand what the

money was going toward at first, but after he explained it, there was no hesitation to give funding.

"This is the first time SG has been made aware of this," Mattingly said. "When I described (this legislation) to them, the look on their faces brightened. It never got any sort of negative feedback. Everything has been positive."

SG's biggest debate came as it unanimously supported a resolution against a possible university policy that would move sorority recruitment back anywhere from two weeks to a month. Sororities currently hold their recruitment process before the start of the semester.

Julia Mendor, the president-elect of the Pan-

See **SG** on page 5

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ANGELINA'S DOUBLE LIFE

Happy homemaker? Controlling workaholic?

By **Mara Reinstein**

Is Brad with her? Where are the kids? Is she attending a global conference? That's what the locals asked themselves when word spread that Angelina Jolie had arrived March 23 in Chicago. Turns out, the actress was simply reporting for work—in this case, reproduction on her action movie "Wanted." For a few hours, Jolie screen-tested at Chicago Studio City downtown and even test-drove Dodge Vipers that will be used for the film, according to on-set sources. "She seemed to be in a good mood and really nice to everyone," a source tells Us, adding that she arrived to the set without Pitt or their kids. "But it was strictly business."

at-home mom, then accepted the "Wanted" role.

She's Working Again

On March 16, Jolie told the Ho Chi Minh City Law newspaper (which was then translated by the Associated Press), "I will stay at home to help Pax adjust to his new life. . . I have four children and caring for them is the most important thing for me at the moment." But just four days later, Variety reported that the Oscar winner had signed on to play an assassin in "Wanted," which is set to begin shooting in April in Prague, followed by a stint in Chicago. Jolie's schedule will grow more hectic this summer as she promotes her role as Mariane Pearl in "A Mighty Heart" (due June 22), which Pitt coproduced. She's also slated to star in "Atlas Shrugged," an adaptation of the Ayn Rand novel, and in Clint Eastwood's drama "The Changeling."

She Can't Stay Still

After traveling around the world (and then some) in the past few years, Jolie confirmed to Us in January that she and Pitt were going to buy a home in New Orleans—where Pitt was filming "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"—and raise their family in the Big Easy as it recuperates from 2005's Hurricane Katrina. However, the Jolie-Pitts left their \$3.5 million, six-bedroom French Quarter abode in early March, and since returning from Vietnam on March 21, the family has been staying in L.A.

A New Addiction?

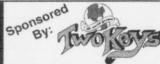
Since adopting Maddox in 2002, Jolie has proclaimed numerous times that she has kicked her youthful pastimes, which included collecting knives and taking opiates (see box, page 63). However, "addictive tendencies don't just go away," Dr. Drew Pinsky tells Us. And after adopting three kids in five years, it's possible that she's picked up a form of domestic addiction.

Will Brad and Angie last?

When Brad Pitt fell in love with his "Mr. & Mrs. Smith" costar Angelina Jolie, she was a sexy, single mom of one and he was craving a family. But now, three years later, has Jolie become a little too focused on expanding their brood? Perhaps, says psychologist Cooper Lawrence. "If she continually gets on a plane and goes somewhere and lives this flitty life that she had prior to her relationship with Brad, I think that could be the undoing of their relationship." Another potential problem: "Angelina's behavior may cause problems because it's hypocritical. Either you want to build a stable family or you want to be a woman with the career who's off flying here, flying there. . . you can't have it both ways," says Lawrence. "Angelina makes the kids' environment more unpredictable, while Brad seems to be the solid ground for these kids. That's a challenge they're going to have to work through as a couple."

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The tent is down... Let the Patio Party Begin



Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black

To get the advantage, check the days rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21 - April 19) — Today is a 7 — You've been rich and you've been poor, and rich is often more comfortable. It can also be quite temporary, if you don't plan ahead. Now's a good time to do that.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) — Today is a 7 — Get the information to your teammates, so they can advance. If you provide support, they'll do most of everything else.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) — Today is a 6 — You're working hard but it's less fun when you're not making very much money. Think of this as paying off karmic debt, and try to be cheerful.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) — Today is a 7 — You're so cute and so popular now, you can talk just about anybody into just about anything. Be good — you've got a lot of power in that smile.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) — Today is a 5 — You may be tempted to run away and leave your troubles behind. Unfortunately, that's not possible. They'll find a way to tag along.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) — Today is a 6 — Hide out and study, even if friends want you to come over and play. The preparation you do now will help you succeed in the next competition. And you do love winning.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) — Today is an 8 — Keep your nose to the grindstone, and your mouth shut. Don't talk about what you're doing. Stay busy and get rich.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) — Today is an 8 — You're intensely focused and the job is sure to get done. You will go to extraordinary means to make sure that happens. This is good

because others are depending on you.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) — Today is a 6 — It's hard to curtail your enthusiasm. Don't get into trouble by talking about something that should be kept quiet for a while longer.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) — Today is a 6 — You're the one with the information everybody's seeking. All that homework was time well spent. You'll ace the test.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) — Today is a 7 — They say time equals money but what about your thoughts? If they take up a lot of your time, can you turn them into cash? That's today's test question. The answer is yes, if you can prove it.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) — Today is an 8 — Actually, you're doing quite well. You may not be certain about which path to take, but you are making really good time. And pretty good money, too.

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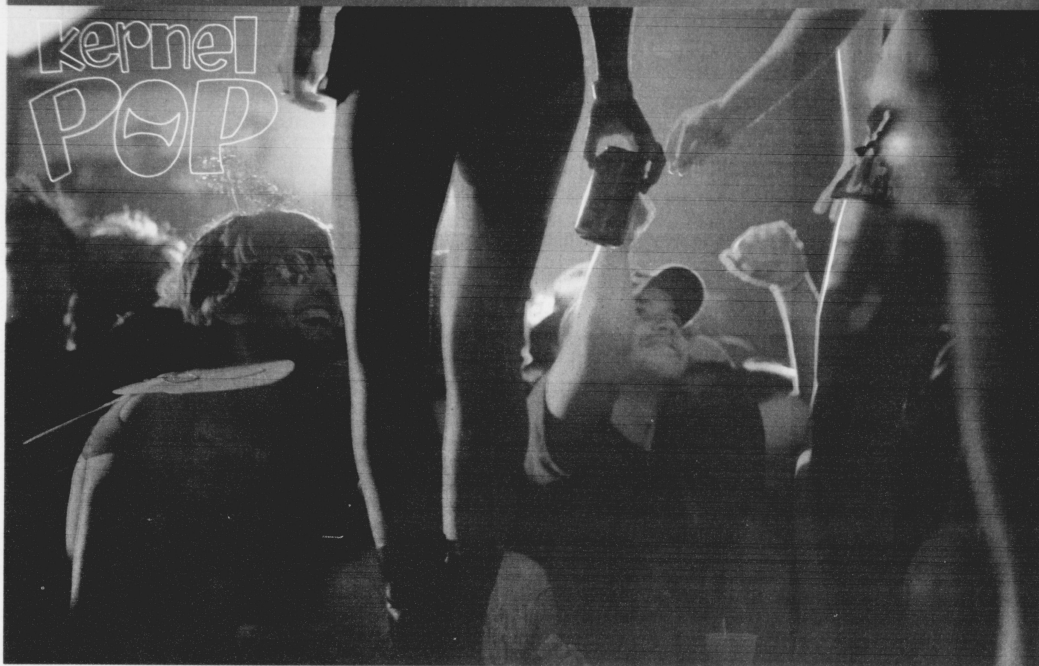
BEAUX ARTS SCHEDULE

Drag queens and costume-clad partiers (or at least those who are 18 or older) will gather Saturday at the this year's ball at the old Tarr Bourbon Distillery on Manchester Street.

7 p.m. — Doors open
8 to 9 p.m. — Parlour Boys perform
9 to 9:15 p.m. — UK Dance Ensemble
9:15 to 10:45 p.m. — Q-Burns Abstract Message

10:45 to 11 p.m. — MECCA
11 p.m. to 12 a.m. — CunninLynguists
12 to 12:30 a.m. — DRAG show
12:30 to 1 a.m. — Fashion Show
1 to 3 a.m. — The Juan Maclean

PAGE 3 THURSDAY, April 5, 2007



Two girls draw the attention of the crowd as they dance on stage at the 2006 Beaux Arts Ball at Tattersalls. This crazy costume ball is known for its scantily-clad participants and anything-goes atmosphere. This year the Beaux Arts Ball will take place at the old Tarr Bourbon Distillery. ED MATTHEWS | STAFF

BALL BRINGS MAYHEM TO LEX

Architecture professor, students create wild tradition at UK

By Meghan Cain
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It has seen The Vietnam War, and music from five decades.

Drag queens and nudity have marked it with promiscuity, and police almost always try to stop it.

The Beaux Arts Ball, known for its crazy costumes, wild atmosphere and complete debauchery, has become a tradition among UK students. This tradition continues Saturday at 7 p.m. at the old Tarr Bourbon Distillery.

The first ball, which was sponsored by students within the College of Design and the School of Architecture, took place in 1966, and was "tame" by today's standards, said architecture professor Dick Levine.

Forty one years ago, Levine provoked his architecture class to start a masquerade ball by explaining its tradition.

"The Beaux Arts Ball went back, probably, 100 years ago," Levine said. "It was based in Beaux Arts School in France, and the tradition was carried forth in this country. I thought it would be neat to introduce it here, and it worked out nicely."

Levine's students hosted the first ball in a tobacco warehouse. Around 120 students dressed up and danced to the Beatles and other rock-and-roll tunes from live bands.

The risqué costumes prevalent at recent Beaux Arts Balls were not too different from some of the costumes in the 1960s.

"There was some partial nudity, as I recall, even back then," Levine said.

No one knew what to expect at this first

event, so students, faculty and even the police were nervous, said Levine.

"It went off quite nicely, though," Levine said. "There was a kind of innocence because no one knew how to behave."

Wild, imaginative costumes and a strong sense of community marked the first Beaux Arts Ball, Levine said.

The event continued throughout many years, but in 1993 died because the police continued to shut it down, forcing it to constantly move around the downtown area. Also, it took a strong commitment and responsible people to host an event of its caliber, said Mike McKay, a UK architecture professor.

The Beaux Arts Ball remained on hold until McKay and Walter Zausch, both students at the time, revived it in 1997.

"It is a party like no other in Lexington," McKay said. "We wanted to keep this tradition alive in a city that needed it."

They decided to host it in the underground loading docks of the Radisson Hotel and to split it into two parties. The one early in the evening would be for the professors and would feature a jazz band.

"The second party begins as the younger crowd begins to trickle in," McKay said.

This next part of the ball mixed a crowd of "eclectic, bohemian" students with an atmosphere of "real momentum," McKay said.

"On the open concrete walls, we filled the space with video projections and cool lights," McKay said. "We also had scarf

See **Beaux Arts** on page 4



KEITH SMILEY STAFF

Students strut their stuff down the runway at last year's Beaux Arts Ball. Clothing from General Eccentric and other local stores were modeled at this fashion show. Saturday night's ball will also have a fashion show.

A BRIEF HISTORY

The Beaux Arts Ball dates back to the 19th century, when the Architecture community of the Ecole de Beaux Arts in France hosted the first ball. The theme wanted "creativity and imagination beyond the scope of tamed human minds," according to the Beaux Arts Web site.

A group of architecture students at the school of Ecole de Beaux Arts founded the first architecture school in the United States in 1894, according to Time magazine.



This opened the gates for other architecture schools to develop Beaux Arts programs in the U.S., and by 1926 every architectural school except for Harvard was affiliated with the Beaux Arts Institute.

"With the Beaux Arts tradition, it soon became the name of a gathering for well-renowned architects," said Tony Shiber, architecture senior and president of the Beaux Arts Ball in Lexington.

In the 1930s, costumes consisted of a suit and tie for men and formal evening wear for women. The audience brought a unique flair to the event by wearing hats. These were not ordinary hats; they were 3-dimensional and were created to replicate the building with which the architect was most proud. This allowed the audience to identify the individual with their work, Shiber said.

Since then, the tradition has become a part of architecture schools throughout the world, occurring annually as a means of both artistic and self-expression, Shiber said.

Emily Coovert, Staff writer

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BEAUX ARTS

Continued from page 3

folding and statues we built ourselves. It was very exciting."

It was at this time that a drag queen show was added to the evening's performances.

"They were something we felt we needed to create the overall atmosphere of the hall," McKay said. "That is what makes it diverse."

They also wanted this event to give back to the community, so they began giving the proceeds to local charities like Habitat for Humanity or AIDS Volunteers of Lexington. That first year, the event raised more than \$500, and last year the Beaux Arts Ball raised about \$5,000.

"This is not pennies we are talking about here, it is something significant," McKay said. "As crazy and as eclectic as this party gets, it isn't just about having a good time in Lexington. It is about giving back to the community."

Since 1997, the Beaux Arts Ball has remained popular, with 1,800 people in attendance last year.

"People try to dress the sexiest, craziest and funniest so they can get in the newspaper or on the Web site or just get up on stage and get applause," said Tony Shiber, architecture senior and president of the Beaux Arts Ball.

The costumes make the night mysterious and different than other parties, McKay said.



DJ Miles blasts techno music on stage as dance music. This year, Beaux Arts staff are playing more hip-hop and rap music. ED MATTHEWS STAFF

"Costumes are absolutely necessary because they are part of the mystique," McKay said. "Anything goes, and people can be very creative. It has to be that way, or it wouldn't be the same."

This year Shiber said they have changed the music up a bit.

"In the past years, the scope of the music was limited," Shiber said. "It focused more on techno and house music, and not a lot of people will go see a show like that."

The music this year will mix techno, hip-hop and dance to become more diverse, and a cover band will play.

"We want the music, as it goes on

throughout the night, to explode," Shiber said. "It is a dynamic part of the night."

Levine, who attended the ball last year for the first time in 40 years, thought the music was too loud.

"Last year was far larger than the one in '66," he said. "The group was much more diverse, but I just couldn't hear anything."

Levine decided to go last year because it had been forty years since the first one, and he thought he would go every forty years to the Beaux Arts Ball.

"I don't think I'll wait another forty years to go again," Levine said. "But the next one I go to, I will be sure to bring my earplugs."



WRFL 88.1 FM

Most-played songs of the week

1. Panda Bear, "Person Pitch"
2. LCD Soundsystem, "Sound of Silver"
3. Andrew Bird, "Armchair Apocrypha"
4. Low, "Drums and Guns"
5. Arcade Fire, "Neon Bible"
6. Gowms, "Red State"
7. High Llamas, "Can Cladders"
8. Night Canopy "Of Honey and Country"
9. Ill, "Myth Takes"
10. Ry Cooder, "My Name is Buddy"

MAKE YOUR WEEKEND PLANS

1. Best of the Bluegrass

The "Best of the Bluegrass" festival kicks off tomorrow and will continue until April 15. The event celebrates the Bluegrass' unique culture with food, opera, art, music, dancing and thoroughbred racing. Opening day at Keeneland is the highlight of the first day, and the sports continue in the evening when the Lexington Legends play at 7. The Downtown Arts Center is hosting a dance, and UK will offer a campus-wide gallery hop to celebrate the talents of art studio students and faculty. The hop starts at 5 p.m. with a reception at the Radslal Gallery in the Student Center. For more information call (859) 231-7335 or go to www.bestofthebluegrass.org.

2. Are you ready for some football?

Lexington's arena football team, The Horsemen, will be playing their first home game this Saturday against the Evansville BlueCats. The game will take place at Rupp Arena at 7:30 p.m. with tickets ranging from \$8 to \$25. For more information call (859) 233-3535.

3. Earth and music

Tomorrow is Arbor Day, a time to show the earth how much you care. UK's Greenthumb chapter is celebrating by hosting a concert on the lawn as part of their Earth Days in the Bluegrass series. The show will take place in the Memorial Hall amphitheater starting at 6 p.m. with The Uphost Trio. At 7 p.m., Club Dub will play, and John Whitaker will headline the show at 8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

ONTAP

For the week of
APRIL 5 - 11

TONIGHT

The Wings w/ Wax Fang
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$5.

Lamb of God
7:30 p.m., Bogarts. Tickets cost \$20.

The Static Age
7 p.m., The Mad Hatter. Tickets cost \$7 in advance and \$8 at the door.

SeePeople w/ Diggins Wicker
9 p.m., The Southgate House. Tickets cost \$5.

FRIDAY, April 6

Ill Subliminal
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$5.

Long Winters w/ Say Hi to your Mom and The Broken West
9:30 p.m., The Southgate House. Tickets cost \$10.

SATURDAY, April 7

The Yellow Belts w/ Rosie Rose Band
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$5.

Mat. Kearney w/ Feeling and Rocco Deluca
8 p.m., Bogarts. Tickets cost \$17.

Against Me!
8 p.m., Headliners. Tickets cost \$13.

The Great Depression w/ Ellison, Fuzzig, Kicks of Passion, Frontier Folk Nebraska and Ryan Back
7 p.m., The Mad Hatter. Tickets cost \$5.

Close to Home w/ Rose Funeral, Black Tie Affair, NDA and Black Tie Bombers
8 p.m., Madison Theater. Tickets cost \$7.

Willy Porter w/ Rachael Davis
8:30 p.m., The Southgate House. Tickets cost \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door.

MONDAY, April 9

Stone Sour w/ Shadows Fall and Lacuna Coil
7 p.m., Bogarts. Tickets cost \$26.

Killswitch Engage w/ Still Remains, The Devil Wears Prada and Showdown
8 p.m., Expo Five. Tickets cost \$22.

88 Sins w/ Sphere, Cast from the Heavens, Serene and Anchors for Hop
7 p.m., Headliners. Tickets cost \$10.

TUESDAY, April 10

The Oxford Farm Report w/ Tiny Whales
9 p.m., The Dame. Tickets cost \$3.

Kottonmouth Kings
8 p.m., Bogarts. Tickets cost \$20.

WEDNESDAY, April 11

Pretty Ricky
8 p.m., Bogarts. Tickets cost \$24.50.

King Kong w/ LeTechnopussies
9 p.m., The Southgate House. Tickets cost \$10.

Widespread Panic
7:30 p.m., Louisville Palace. Tickets cost \$39.50.

John Cowan Band w/ Ethel
7 p.m., Lexington Opera House. Tickets cost \$22.50.

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RESEARCH

Continued from page 1

leading research institution, but it will also create thousands of jobs for our community and state," he said. "We need someone with the leadership and management abilities to help us grow this critically important enterprise."

UK is aiming to have a new Vice President of Research in place for the fall semester, Subbaswamy said.

"We are fortunate to have attracted such outstanding candidates," Subbaswamy said. "It's a recognition of the growing national prominence of the university as a research enterprise."

SG

Continued from page 1

Hellenic Council, presented evidence that pushing back the recruitment process deeper into the semester would be detrimental to student participation, schoolwork and GPAs.

"We're really grateful SG is supportive of the Pan-Hellenic system," Mendor said. "The research we have done shows that the students at UK feel the current system is the most beneficial. Support from SG will help us more."

Mendor was unable to say if UK would ultimately have the final say in the matter, or if the increased support would help her cause.

SG also approved the 2007 election results in which Nick Phelps was elected president and Brittany Langdon was elected vice president.

OPEN MEETINGS

Continued from page 1

say kids are being taken away in the night by state workers, but sometimes you wonder if maybe that's not happening."

Some candidates advocated providing more statewide education and resources to help understand the complexity of open meetings and open records laws.

"There are so many different exceptions and how those exceptions apply are a little tough sometimes to make a quick decision on, and you've only got three days to respond," Coleman said.

Coleman suggested creating a new resource so people around the state could

BODY FARM

Continued from page 1

handle it," Bass said. "But we have 100 graduate students in our program and we could have 1,000."

Bass isn't showing the slides to make students queasy, but to tell them about his job.

"I thought students might like to know what a forensic anthropologist does," Bass said.

Bass' interest in forensic anthropology began as a UK student.

As a graduate student at UK in the 1950s, Bass started working on his first case — two trucks collided and burned outside Frankfort, killing three people. After a court order to exhume one of the bodies, Bass worked with his professor to identify it.

"I thought, 'Ah, that's what I want to do,'" Bass said.

Since then, Bass has co-written three books, including two fictional ones. The Body Farm has been the subject of four books by Patricia Cornwell, who coined the facility's nickname in a book by the same name.

Episodes of shows like Law & Order: SVU and CSI have also featured Bass' Body Farm although Bass said the shows don't portray forensic anthropology realistically.

"It does not work like CSI says it does," Bass said. "It takes, like, 15 minutes (on the show) and the result shoots out. It doesn't work like that."

Bass also said the dead bodies on CSI, with hair in place and makeup on, are far from the truth.

"In 54 years looking at dead bodies, I've never seen a woman looking like that," Bass said.

Bass is currently retired, but is working on a new book and said he still goes out to the Body Farm once a week to work. Just because Bass works with dead bodies, though, doesn't mean he's at ease with death.

"I lost two wives to cancer," Bass said. "I hate death, I hate mourning, I hate funerals — I hate that whole scene."

Still, that doesn't stop Bass from doing his job.

"I don't see the bodies as dead bodies, but as challenges," Bass said.

Conway said one area that needs to be more open is the economic development department.

Candidates agreed that access to communication between legislators and their constituents should not be subject to the open records law because it discourages conversation before final actions are taken.

The event was sponsored by the Scripps Howard First Amendment Center, the Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues, the Society of Professional Journalists and UK's School of Journalism and Community Issues.

Judy Clabes, president and chief executive officer of the Scripps Howard Foundation and former editor of The Kentucky Post, moderated the forum.



Multicultural Scholar Ship preps for maiden voyage

By Sally Dadisman
McCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

When picking a study-abroad program students have a choice. They can select a trip that would compel them to fully integrate into a culture — different language, unusual customs and perhaps uncomfortable living situations — or choose an overseas excursion as culturally eye-opening as a spring break trip to Cancun.

The Scholar Ship, which will embark on its maiden voyage in September, is a program trying to offer a unique spin on the former.

While the program may draw comparisons to Semester at Sea, The Scholar Ship tries to guarantee a more global onboard community by pursuing students, faculty and staff from all over the world.

"There are students who will live with families, learn the language, eat the food and learn about local culture, but the chances of students actually going to that extreme are nominal, which is a shame," said Ron Zigelboim, chief marketing officer and a founding member of The Scholar Ship.

"Many times, students from a particular country go to a destination where they all congregate ... and as a result don't ever integrate in the other culture."

The idea behind The Scholar Ship is it becomes "a third culture," Zigelboim said. "It doesn't exist anywhere else and it's the people who actually make it. It's going to be different every single voyage."

With such a diverse atmosphere, the staff is not unrealistic about the possibility of clashing cultures.

"We're basically bringing the planet together on a ship with really high densities and lots of opportunities for interaction," said Alfred Flores, the director of onboard life. "It's naive to assume that everything will go exceedingly comfortably well as a result of that."

But, he says, "In the end we believe ... students will be able to navigate the complexities of the world through this experience and develop skills to move beyond and be able to tolerate differences."

The semester-long program starts in Pi-

more easily retrieve information on open meetings and open records requests would speed access to records and make the process better for everyone.

Conferences for local and state offices would create greater awareness about the state's Sunshine laws, Bullock said.

He also suggested increasing the \$25 a day penalty for willful violations of these acts to deter institutions from intentionally closing meetings or withholding documents.

Conway said he will follow statutory mandates that presume meetings are held in open air and records are turned over when requested if elected.

"Any exception to those rules ought to be narrowly construed," Conway said.

Actors portraying students and staffers demonstrate what a typical afternoon may be like on deck of a Royal Caribbean ship to be used for the Scholars Ship study abroad program. The program's maiden voyage will take place in September.

McCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

raeus, Greece, in September, and ends in Kobe, Japan, in December. The ship, which Royal Caribbean is providing, will make eight stops in countries such as Portugal, Australia and China.

The voyage from Australia to China is long, so with periods of up to two weeks where students have only the open ocean ahead of them, developing onboard activities has been a major focus.

Flores assures that, along with the off-shore activities and learning experiences, "there will be ship-wide events, such as celebrations where we'll come together as a community, maybe through drumming, dance or cultural awareness programs. There might also be competitions, which are more scavenger-hunt oriented."

The administration also wants to hear what the students have to say, with the development of a student council. Students will be divided into 24 residential communities, which will each pick a leader to serve on the council. That body will then elect the leadership.

"In part they'll be helping decide what are the programmatic priorities," Flores said. It will also serve as a source of feedback for faculty and staff.

The Scholar Ship began as a way to fill what some saw as a hole in the study-abroad market.

"I wanted to do something very special with a multi-national educational institution," said Joe Olander, president of The Scholar Ship and a former president of South Ocean International University in Beijing, China.

The new program has already struck partnerships with many universities across the globe. There are academic stewards, including University of California-Berkeley, which Olander describes as the "quality-ensurers." They send faculty as well as contribute curriculum.

Then there are academic partners, which can do the same, but must be approved by academic stewards.

And finally, academic affiliates are universities that are looking to send students onboard.

"We encourage students to study abroad for longer periods of time, to get not only a

multicultural experience but multi-regional one as well," said David Keitges, director of international education for Miami University of Ohio. "Everything's interrelated these days. (Students will) see the same things in different countries, and not just McDonalds; everybody's watching everyone."

Keitges said he believes at least one student from his university has applied for the ship's maiden voyage, to which he says his staff will be paying close attention.

"We're going to monitor the program closely," Keitges said. "We've had students in the past go on Semester at Sea, but this one is a little bit different, especially in regards to direct immersion. The contact from students in other countries is really positive for the students, and we're interested in how that works out."

Olander says generally the response from institutions has been great, but recognizes the program has something to prove its first time out.

"The higher-educational community can be a very, very conservative ... if not skeptical ... community and they're saying, 'Joe this is exactly what higher education needs and clearly it produces inter-cultural leaders,'" Olander said. "But they're sitting back to see if we're successful."

Zigelboim said the program has received about 25,000 application requests and more than one million hits on its Web site, which has been up for a little more than a year.

Prospective students can also register at the group's social networking Web site, www.interculture.net, where students, faculty and eventually alumni can log on and chat with each other. The site features an interactive map showing the location of everyone who is logged on.

While minor details are still being ironed out, those behind the Scholar Ship are already looking ahead.

"Some might say the most important date is in September 2007 when the ship takes off, but I think December 2007, when the ship ends its journey, is more important," Olander said. "I want the faculty, staff and students to walk off and say, 'My God what a life-changing experience this has been.' And I think that will happen."

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Friends fashioning flying car

By Terry Box
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

MURPHY, Texas — At a time when most men their age strive just to stay active, Vernon Porter and Clarence Kissell plan to fly.

Porter, 72, and Kissell, 70, are building a flying car — a concept that has been around since 1918 and has largely eluded dozens of inventors, schemers, scammers and dreamers.

Time is a challenge, for obvious reasons. They hope to have an early prototype aloft by this fall and complete work on a final "buildable" prototype in five years or less, says Porter, a cancer survivor.

Every day, Porter, a retired Texas Instruments research scientist, and Kissell, a lifelong friend and homebuilder, meet in a 1,200-square-foot shop behind Porter's home in Murphy to work on the vehicle they call the GT Flyer. Their task will become more challenging in the weeks ahead because the shop lacks air conditioning.

So far, they've spent about \$70,000 of their own money. Now they're looking for investors because they think they need \$1.2 million more to make a prototype.

"I call most of these promotions on flying cars scams, shams or spam," said Porter, whose house is off of a bumpy country lane. "The history of the flying car is almost a poison well. People remember them from the '50s and realize they never lived up to their potential. We want to show that this thing will fly and that it will work."

The fiberglass and foam body in the men's shop, which Porter and Kissell formed by hand, looks a little like a big tannish-green guppy. The pilot/driver and a passenger will sit in a rounded compartment at the front of the vehicle, and the body tapers gracefully back to a rear-mounted, shrouded propeller flanked by small wings.

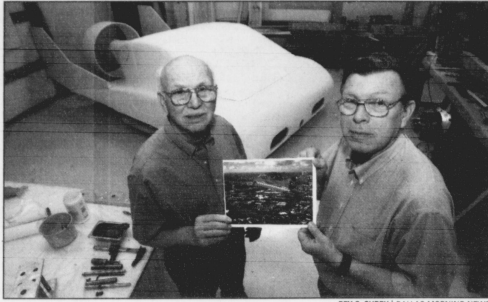
The whole thing is about as wide as a minivan and as long as a full-size sport utility vehicle — though with a target weight of 1,200 pounds, it's dramatically lighter than either.

A 232-horsepower rotary engine from a Mazda RX-8 sports coupe will power the vehicle. In car mode, it will drive the front wheels through a Volkswagen transaxle. In flight mode, a driveshaft from the rotary motor will spin the rear-mounted propeller.

The engine sits in a corner of the shop, ready for double duty. The wings, which will fold back into long slots at the base of the body when not in use, are being formed in sections on a shop table.

But forget the Jetsons and soaring high above traffic jams at the push of a button, Porter says. The GT Flyer will be a practical multipurpose vehicle for people with a pilot's license.

"The guy who lives down in Waco and needs to be in McKinney for a business meeting could drive to the airport, pop the wings and fly in, missing the congestion in Dallas all



Dr. Vernon Porter, left, and Clarence Kissell hold an artist's rendition of their flying car they are developing in Murphy, Texas on March 28, 2007.

together," he said. The three-wheeled vehicle — two in front and one in the rear — will be licensed as a motorcycle on the ground. But when the wings are out, owners will need a general-aviation license, said Kissell, a longtime pilot with glider experience.

"We think with the horsepower it has that it will cruise at about 150 mph," said Kissell. "When you figure driving time, waiting at the airport and all that, we think we can get someone 500 miles as fast as a commercial flight can."

Despite the pair's personal credibility — Porter holds numerous patents for work at Texas Instruments, none involving aircraft — they face many questions and doubts.

Several of the vehicles have indeed flown over the years, including one much-photographed craft in the 1950s that looked like a small Fiat that had been rear-ended by a Cessna. But none succeeded commercially or practically, said Jay Miller, an aviation author and historian.

Porter and Kissell, for example, estimate that their vehicle will cost about \$135,000.

"The biggest thing against these (flying cars), other than their mechanical complexity, is price," Miller said. "I love to fly. You can buy one hell of a nice airplane for \$100,000. Or you could buy a small Lexus and a small plane for that."

The biggest problem is most flying cars are so compromised that they aren't particularly good cars or planes — and typically cost more than either, Miller said.

Undaunted, Kissell has pursued his flying-car dream for 15 years. As a child, he used to skip school to go hang out at airports. He designed the craft that is slowly taking shape in

Porter's workshop. Porter has sought help from several of his former Texas Instruments colleagues, including Jerry Merryman, hired by Jack Kilby to be project manager over the development of TI's first handheld calculator.

"Well, it's kind of fantastic, but I'm kind of used to fantastic ideas," said Merryman, 74. "I don't know that we will ever have what Popular Science envisioned in the 1930s, which was flying cars in every garage. But there may be a niche for these vehicles among flight enthusiasts."

Their plans got another boost last fall when NASA announced its Personal Air Vehicle Centennial Challenge. The goal is to stimulate the creation of next-generation aircraft like flying cars that are supposed to relieve highway gridlock while saving time and fuel.

The five-year contest will reward winners each year between now and 2011. They will range from \$250,000 this year to \$550,000 in 2011. Porter and Kissell intend to enter next year.

With a little luck and a lot more money, Kissell may find himself taxing down a runway this fall, preparing to take off in a rough prototype of the GT Flyer. But even if the investors don't materialize, the two say they'll continue to chase their dream.

"I don't give a damn whether the banks and investors want to do it," Kissell said. "I want to do it. Money has nothing to do with it. We think it will work."

Porter, whose legs were damaged by his chemotherapy, is just as determined. "We're out here working in the shop every day. Those other (flying-car) people are working on updating their Web sites."

Shopping by cell phone has a few kinks

By Andrew D. Smith
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DALLAS — The trumpeters sound great when they blare out those old Communist marches, but \$16.99 plus tax seems a bit steep for a greatest hits CD from the Soviet Army Chorus and Band.

I discreetly grab my cell phone, dial a toll-free number and wait for the robotic voice to ask my ZIP code.

I then use my number pad to key in the CD's bar code. Three seconds later, the voice tells me that Amazon offers the same CD for \$12 — shipping included. I raise my finger to press one extra button and place the order. Price comparison tools have long enabled consumers to bargain-hunt from home computers, but new mobile services make it easier for in-store shoppers to save via cell phone.

Sadly, all tested services still suffer major shortcomings.

Keyword-based services such as Google's Froogle often return irrelevant listings. The top results for "Price Dell Latitude Laptop" are AC adapters, not computers.

Barcode-based services such as Fruicall Inc. always return the right product — except when they don't return anything, which is often. Enter the barcode from a wine bottle or a cocktail dress, and they'll probably fail.

Such caveats aside, these services can save shoppers a bundle under the right conditions.

A local Barnes & Noble sells a recorded version of the David Sedaris book "Me Talk Pretty One Day" for \$29.98 plus tax. Search services found it for \$8.44 at Alibris.

Of the five tested services, I found Fruicall's three-step system easiest to use.

First, dial 1-888-363-7822.

Second, enter your ZIP code so the system can estimate shipping.

Third, enter the barcode. The system returns prices almost instantly.

Fruicall doesn't require Internet-enabled phones or user accounts, but users who create accounts can place orders over the phone.

A text-based service called Mobsaver is nearly as easy to use.

Shoppers can text a product barcode to save@mobsaver.com and get comparison prices from Amazon and eBay.

Like Fruicall, Mobsaver does not require accounts but will save search results for account holders.

The company offers no purchase options, though, and with only two Web sites for comparisons, it can miss good deals.

ScanBuy Shopper, on the other hand, casts a massive net. It scours Amazon Marketplace, PriceGrabber, Shopping.com and Yahoo Shopping for prices, and it finds some real steals.

Unfortunately, ScanBuy won't work on many cell phones, won't estimate shipping charges and won't support instant purchases.

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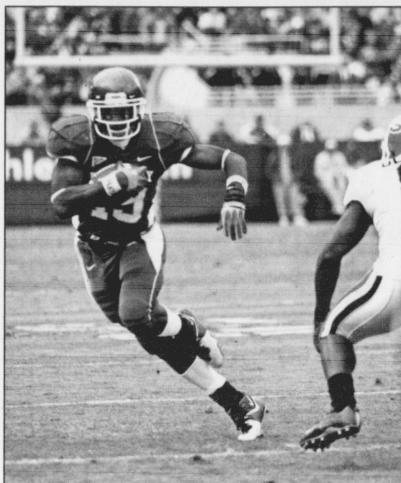
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Wide receiver Keenan Burton tries to elude a Georgia tackler in the Cats' 24-20 win over the Bulldogs last season. Burton is among a stand-out junior class, one that will be counted on heavily in the fall as seniors.

ALLIE GARZA | STAFF

UK expects even more from its senior class next season

By Travis Waldron
twaldron@kykernel.com

A record setting quarterback, a hard-hitting linebacker and a sure-handed receiver took UK to its first bowl game since 1999.

Now, the experience gained by the returning senior-to-be starters is invaluable to the team's success in 2007, said head coach Rich Brooks.

"Part of the turnaround last year was the leadership those players demonstrated as juniors," Brooks said. "Now that they're seniors, they know what it takes and what happened to get us there last year. If we're going to be better this year, they're going to have to step up even more."

The offense returns four senior starters, all former All-Southeastern Conference selections: quarterback Andre Woodson, running back Rafael Little, tight end Jacob Tammie and wide receiver Keenan Burton.

The defense returns two senior starters in safety Roger Williams and linebacker Wesley Woodyard, who has also been an All-SEC selection.

Those six seniors anchored UK last season, when the Cats went 8-5 and earned the program's first bowl victory since 1984.

In 2006, Woodson threw for 3,515 yards and 31 touchdowns, finishing first in the SEC in touchdown passes and second in passing yards per game.

Burton caught 77 passes for 1,036 and 12 touchdowns, leading the SEC in receiving touchdowns and second in the conference (and ninth in the country) in all-purpose yards per game.

He also became one of the third players in school history to have

more than 1,000 receiving yards in a season.

Tammie led all SEC tight ends with 32 catches, while Woodyard was second in the SEC with 9.4 tackles per game.

Williams, the most experienced member of UK's secondary, had seven tackles and a sack in the Music City Bowl win.

But even with its success, the group is hungry to accomplish even more in its final season.

"Obviously the goal is to win the national championship," Woodyard said. "Our goal is to win the SEC and go to a big bowl in postseason play. We have to stay focused and continue to build off our success last year."

Those goals may have seemed outrageous when the current seniors first came to UK.

The program had been rocked by probation and a coaching change, and the players' first two years were both losing seasons.

In fact, they may have been outrageous as recently as a year ago, when Woodson was battling for his starting position, and Burton and Tammie had yet to play a full season healthy.

"There were a couple years of disappointments," Burton said. "But everybody is focused and poised and understands what winning means."

With their experience comes a new responsibility: the group of seniors has turned its attention to helping the younger players follow in their footsteps.

"(Former UK player) Vincent Burns told me, 'If there's something you want, you have to fight for it, because nobody's going to give anything to you,'" Woodyard said. "That's what I tell the young linebackers. If

they're challenging for a position, they've got to take it."

Burton, one of the most vocal leaders on the team, has already tried to pass his leadership on to the younger wide receivers.

"First and foremost, you do any and everything to help the team," Burton said. "I know Dicky (Lyons, Jr.) and DeMoreo (Ford) understand what they have to do to become leaders and what they have to do for the team to be successful."

With only one season remaining in his collegiate career, Burton wants to make sure he's not a part of the "one team that had one good year."

"We want to be the team that started the progress," Burton said. "We want to be able to build on something, and help those in the future look back and see what we've done and try to follow the example we've set."

Thurmond tears ACL

Linebacker Brandon Thurmond will miss the rest of spring practice and probably all of the 2007 season after he tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his knee.

Thurmond, a redshirt freshman, was expected to compete for a backup position at weak-side linebacker.

Brooks said Thurmond had "really been looking good" before the injury.

Brooks also said senior center Eric Scott could return to practice next week. Scott hyper-extended his elbow during Monday's practice.

Offensive linemen Jess Beets and Josh Winchell also missed practice yesterday while recovering from knee injuries.

Rutgers' dream run ends in finals

By Kristie Ackert
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

CLEVELAND — Rutgers coach C. Vivian Stringer said that her young team was so naive she was not sure the players even realized the enormity of what they had accomplished in turning around their season and making it to the national championship game.

Tuesday night, the Scarlet Knights woke up from their dream run through the tournament 40 minutes too early as Tennessee outlasted Rutgers for a 59-46 victory for the Lady Vols' first title in nine years.

It was the seventh national title for Tennessee coach Pat Summitt. She is second all-time behind legendary UCLA men's coach John Wooden, who won 10.

It was the first appearance in the NCAA final for Rutgers (27-9). The Scarlet Knights do not have any seniors, and their nerves showed.

"We were stunned," Stringer said. "Maybe we realized we were in the national championship game or something. We look like a deer in headlights. By the time we settled down, it was too late."

Rutgers, a No. 4 seed in the tournament, rebounded from a 2-4 start to the season with defense and hustle, but was outworked by the Lady Vols (34-3). Tennessee manhandled Rutgers on the boards behind a 16-rebound effort by Nicky Anosike of Staten Island. The Lady Vols outre-

bounded the Knights 24-14 on the offensive glass, turning that advantage into 22 second-chance points, compared to 10 by the Scarlet Knights.

Anosike, who was named to the all-Final Four team, also scored four points. The Lady Vols were led by Player of the Year Candace Parker with 17 points and Harlem product Shannon Bobbitt, who had 13.

"We did a horrible job on the boards," Rutgers forward Essence Carson said. "By the time we even thought about rebounding it was too late."

Anosike's offensive rebounds led to a 15-6 run to close out the first half that seemingly put the game out of reach for Rutgers at 29-18.

"They killed us on the boards," Stringer said. "That was just a matter of blocking out, hustle and effort that everybody can do. We just didn't do that and tried to jump with them and it didn't work."

The Scarlet Knights also had a hard time defending the Lady Vols' inside-out offense. When Rutgers came out in the second half and clamped down on Parker, it left Bobbitt wide open. Bobbitt, who won two city and state titles at Bergtraum High, delivered three 3-pointers that proved to be knockout blows.

With center Kia Vaughn the Scarlet Knights' lone scoring presence, there was no way they could keep up with Tennessee on offense. The Bronx product led Rutgers with 20 points and 10 rebounds, but no other Knight scored in double figures.

The Kernel

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Showcase of Undergraduate Scholars **UK** UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

OPINIONS

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

Freedom of speech prevails — even in cases of bad timing

You won't usually find us clamoring in favor of censorship on any level. The First Amendment contains some of our most cherished rights as free people. And key among these is our right to free speech, which also encompasses expression.

That's why this issue is a difficult one for us. Freedom of speech and expression should never be limited; but at the same time, there are certain lines of taste that certain times, probably shouldn't be crossed.

At issue here are two recent happenings on campus. Last week, Playboy directors solicited more than 40 UK women in preparation for the magazine's upcoming "Girls of the SEC" edition. Also featured on campus were several posters advertising the showing of the 2006 movie, "Turistas." The posters were designed with an attractive woman with intentionally noticeable cleavage. The first thing many viewers likely noticed was her breasts. In all likelihood, the fact that she was also dead and covered in blood is not noticed.

In light of recent assaults of women on and around campus, as well as numerous efforts by several campus groups to curb this growing problem facing UK, perhaps organizers of the movie could have chosen a different poster to advertise the film.

A Google search turned up another poster for the movie which shows only the face of an obviously frightened young woman. In this

KERNEL EDITORIAL

case, the suspenseful nature of the movie is demonstrated without overt sexualization of women.

In the case of Playboy, this isn't the first time talent representatives from the magazine have been on campus. In fact, last week's trip was their fourth to UK.

The Playboy auditions, while certainly not meant to promote violence against women, still present women as merely objects of sex who can be lured to the pages of the iconic magazine by the fortune and fame it could bring.

No direct harm was done by the presence of Playboy or the "Turistas" posters. And we can reasonably assume that organizers of both events harbor no ill will toward women.

Two things are certain: Playboy is and should be allowed to be here; and the posters, however grotesque, are protected by the First Amendment.

What's happened is simply a case of bad timing. With the organized effort to educate people about violence against women that has been going on all year, it's unfortunate to see anything on campus that would detract from that message.

While we wouldn't argue to banish Playboy or "Turistas" from campus, we would caution organizers of similar future events to be careful with the messages they portray in their advertising.

'Take Back the Night' step in right direction for UK

Last Wednesday, about 500 students gathered on campus to participate in Take Back the Night, a march to raise awareness about violence against women at UK.

Marchers carried signs, shared stories of survival and held candles as participants made their way from Memorial Coliseum to Memorial Hall.

This was only the second time the event has been held entirely on campus, but there are already indications of just how much of an effect it is already having.

More than 15 men and women spoke to the group, including Student Government President Jonah Brown.

That is the type of progress the campus needs — getting more men involved in an event that condemns inappropriate male behavior against women.

According to the UK Women's Place Web site, one in three female students will be victim of sexual or physical assault or stalking during her time at UK.

That has to change, and Take Back the Night is a good way to start.

Getting more students involved, and making Women's Place more visible on campus are great ways to promote change.

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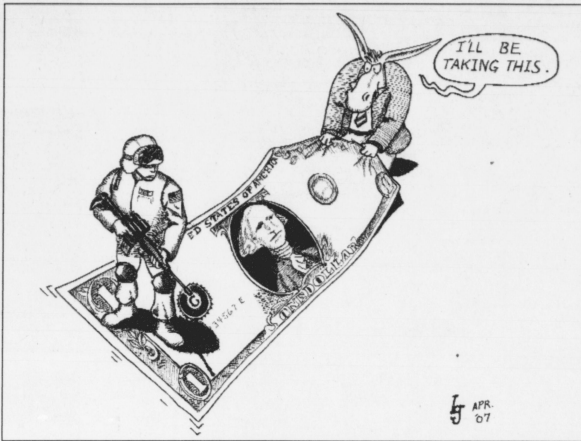
Changes are already happening. On top of creating Women's Place, the sponsor of Take Back the Night, UK has also increased education about women's safety, created the Campus Area telephone for Safety phone service and has increased the police training for crimes involving violence against women.

It's good that the university and the participants of Take Back the Night are actively out trying to do something about violence against women. But this event should be a launching point so further actions on and around campus are taken.

When March ended, so did Sexual Assault Awareness Month. But that doesn't mean the university and Women's Place should stop trying to make a difference. At the top of the list should be dorm safety.

But, so far, UK and Women's Place seem headed in the right direction in eliminating violence against women.

And this means holding more events — like Take Back the Night — to stop all female students from being assaulted during their time at UK.



BRIAN GODLEY, Kernel cartoonist

Miss USA's party lifestyle is not endemic to her fellow Kentuckians

This is old news, but it's what happens when you wait until 4 a.m. to write a column.

I feel ashamed as a Kentuckian that more people haven't stood up for our stately sister, current Miss USA Tara Conner.

In a case you don't know, or in case you're smart and wise enough to only pay attention to news that matters, Conner went to rehab for alcoholism after being crowned Miss USA this year.

It's the ring of the bell to Pavlov's tabloid. You couldn't write a better trashy scandal. Here was this pretty young thing, wearing the single crown to represent not only Kentucky, but the entire country.

Tara Conner's got the sparking tiara to prove that she rules the place for a year, with all the authority vested in beauty contests started by Donald Trump ... and she was a drunk.

Some people called for her to turn in her crown. After all, what kind of role model to children could she be? A young woman in the prime of her life having fun. The nerve.

Conner was not an alcoholic. Her situation was blown out of propor-

tion, fueled by low brow media starry eyed with the weight of that dainty crown atop her solid hair-sprayed head.

She went to rehab and came out a new, shining person, and was spared the revoking of her title by the ultimate benevolent judge of morality: Mr. Trump, himself.

As bad as it may seem, I took an interest in Miss USA for the first time. Here, I thought, is one of us. Just a regular girl from Kentucky, who likes to have fun. She's not perfect, and therefore less plastic than her competitors. Here's a beauty queen I can get behind.

But then things got truly interesting. This woman is smart. And this is where Conner should be chastised, by anyone from this state at least.

After her rehab stint, the press wanted to know what had started everything. "Why, Ms. Conner — excuse me — Miss USA, did you start your reckless behavior?"

And what did she do but bat her eyelashes and play the small town girl any idiot would expect her to play.

She was a simple girl, she explained. The big city was too much for her. She simply got caught up in the grit and the glamour of the whirlwind that is New York City and professional pageantry. Her innocent little mind just didn't stand a chance.

Thanks, Tara. While I admire your wit in playing up the dumb, rural cliché with masterful control for a defense (I'm sure those city

slickers never questioned it), I don't appreciate you perpetuating such stereotypes for your home and ours. I never knew the place I was born was filled with people too weak to own up to their actions or even defend them. But your gleaming smile has opened my eyes.

Let's be honest. Many of us grew up in small towns. We know what's going on there. The less that's around in entertainment, the more kids will look to make their own; the more those distractions come from alcohol and drugs. Hell, Eastern Kentucky's been called the Oxycotin capital of the world. Tara's lucky she stayed clear of that.

I'm not saying rural Kentucky is full of drunks and druggies. But I'm not saying they're filled with naive, china doll-fragile youth either. Both sets of people scatter the globe, from Manhattan to Russell Springs. And neither can say they're ignorant of the other.

So congratulations, Miss USA. At least now you can be a strong role model to children everywhere teaching important lessons.

It's OK to drink and allow yourself to be victimized for it if you're from Kentucky. After all they're just simple people who get lost in the outside world.

If you said you knocked a few back to bear "the Donald's" comments, we would have all been behind you, Tara.

Sean Rose is a journalism junior. E-mail opinions@kykernel.com



SEAN ROSE
Kernel columnist

Submissions

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

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

Weekly Poll Question

Did the use of laptops instead of traditional polling machines improve the voting process in last week's Student Government elections?

Vote online at www.kykernel.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Voters should and do cast ballots based on beliefs

This is in response to Linsen Li's column in Monday's Kernel. "Atheism, like any other belief, deserves Americans' respect." Despite being a Christian, I do agree with several of the arguments Li challenged American voters to consider. However, there were several instances when I was forced to ask myself one question: What else are we supposed to do?

As an American voter, I seek to vote for candidates whose values and beliefs are quite similar to mine. I also look for strong leaders who hold themselves accountable for their actions and who are widely respected. The things that I have just said are most likely no different than the criteria Linsen Li uses to determine the allocation of his vote — yet he is criticizing my way of voting. What other criteria, besides the values that I have developed during my lifetime, am I supposed to consider? If I believe that peace should preside over war, no matter the circumstances, then that is how I shall vote. If I believe that abortion is wrong, then that is how I shall vote.

If the fact that someone is an atheist should be considered arbitrary by the American voter, then the fact that my values come from my

faith should also be arbitrary. In addition, both Bush and Kerry declared religious affiliations, so the fact that Bush won over Kerry obviously had nothing to do with religious values but had everything to do with what the majority of American voters desired at that time. How else is democracy supposed to work? I consider myself an Independent, and I have both Democratic and Republican Christian friends. The diversity of Christianity is as beautiful as the diversity of the human race. While the voice of the minority should never be disregarded, the government of the United States has no other option but to follow what the majority votes for. This is not a principle of inequality, this is a principle of democracy.

Katie Bush
Education freshman

With SG elections over, students should turn attention to state races

Recently, the Kernel and its columnists have become increasingly interested in Student Government elections and campus politics. As a member of the elections board, I know it consumed my life during the week of elections.

But now that time has passed, and the larger issue of Kentucky state politics has come back into focus. As a student, volunteer and employee of political campaigns, I find it interesting how little UK students know about the candidates in the upcoming primary.

Before Matt Ballard (a friend and Ernie Fletcher supporter) sends a letter in I will go ahead and admit my bias — I am a proud supporter of the Billy Harper for Governor campaign and I believe that he is the best for Republicans and the best for the Commonwealth.

But my purpose is not to plug Mr. Harper or the Republicans for that matter, my purpose is to tell students that state wide campaigns need volunteers and our time is extremely valuable. Whether you choose to work for Mr. Harper, Gov. Fletcher, Rep. Stan Lee or Lonnie Napier, you need to get out and work.

As both College Republicans and College Democrats can tell you, candidates appoint campus outreach and youth services directors to come and talk to students. I can tell you for a fact that both Harper and Fletcher have representatives that attend every College Republicans meeting.

So get out and volunteer. Yeah, I know it's a cheesy line, but it's also important.

David Butcher
Political science and psychology freshman

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UK women's tennis team thriving off coach's approach

By Chris Miles
cmiles@kykernel.com

At the end of practice late last month, head coach Carlos Drada called all of his players back to the court and scolded them for littering the court with water cups.

"Every attention to detail is important," said Drada, who is in his second year coaching the women's tennis team. "We're trying for constant improvement on little stuff — even with things like (picking up trash)."

Drada, though still new to the team, is well on his way to improving the big stuff, too.

Last season, the team went 19-10, lost in the final match of the Southeastern Conference Tournament to then No. 4 Florida and advanced to the third round of the NCAA Tournament.

This season, the Cats (15-3, 6-2 SEC) have won nine of 11 matches and are ranked No. 26 in the nation heading into tomorrow's match against South Carolina.

UK has been led by the No. 11 doubles team in the nation in seniors Kim Coventry and Joelle Schwenk, a duo that, in January, was ranked as high as No. 2 in the nation.

Both Schwenk and Coventry said the team's success over the last two seasons has been a result of Drada's method of coaching.

"He has a pretty relaxed coaching style," Coventry said. "He doesn't get down on us when we lose. He builds our confidence."

Drada replaced long-time coach Mark Guilbeau, who left UK for Virginia. Guilbeau's coaching style was more focused on the weaknesses of players, Schwenk said.

"He's (Drada) a lot more positive and a lot more enjoyable," Schwenk said. "He makes us enjoy tennis more than I used to (as a player under Guilbeau). My first two years I was scared to even hit the ball. Now, with Carlos, I'm more relaxed."

"I feel like I've improved a lot under his coaching style."

Coventry said the other players on the team also prefer a more easygoing coaching style that gives them room to make mistakes. That style is one that doesn't emphasize winning or losing, but rather the players' work ethic.

"Something I have learned is to just give your best," Drada said. "The main thing is to take care of the things you can."

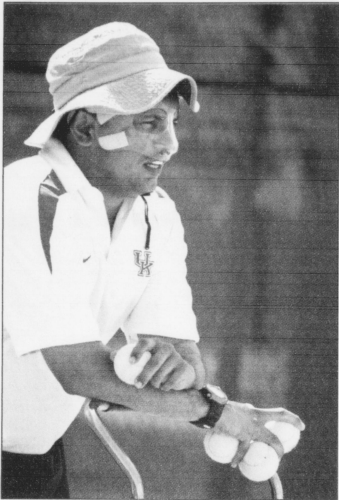
One of the main things Drada is always looking to do is to build the player's confidence, he said.

"I just want to improve these players," Drada said. "It's about working with specific patterns — helping them play better under pressure. When building confidence, all you do is try to maximize (player) potential."

The team now looks to Drada's leadership and techniques to help them as the SEC Tournament nears.

Even if that means paying attention to the smallest details.

"I hope he keeps on doing what he's doing," Schwenk said. "We've really benefited."



CASEY SNOOK | STAFF

UK women's tennis coach Carlos Drada is a big reason why the Cats are 15-2 this season. His laid-back approach gives his players more confidence. "With Carlos, I'm more relaxed," senior Joelle Schwenk said.

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