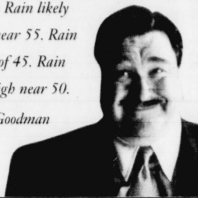




WEATHER Rain likely today, high near 55. Rain tonight, low of 45. Rain tomorrow, high near 50.

ADULT APPEAL John Goodman stars in 'The Borrowers.'
See Diversions, page 2.



Tue
February 17, 1998

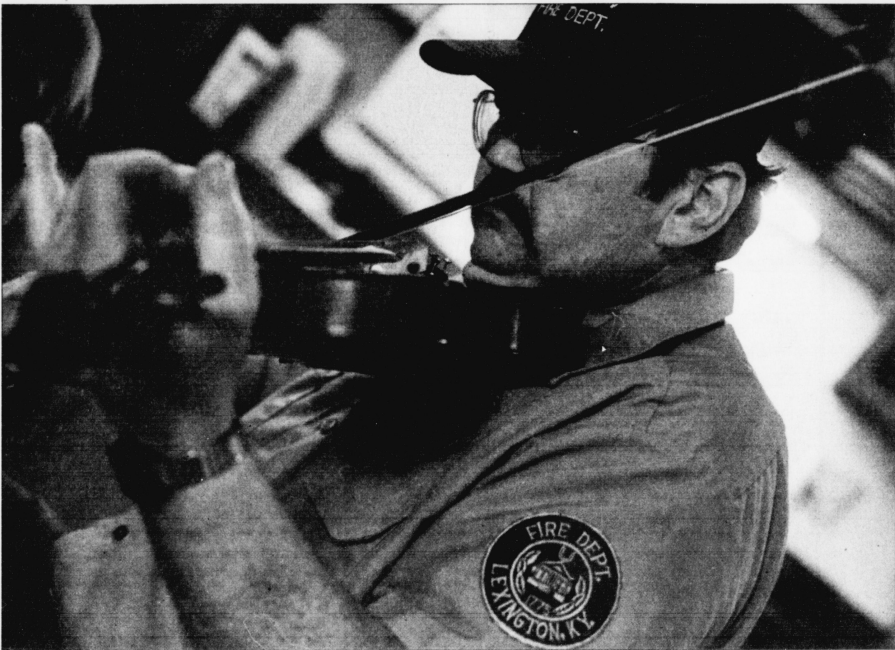
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INDEPENDENT SINCE 1971

Red, hot and Bluegrass



Fire station near campus smokes with country beat

By Hal Kirtley
Staff Writer

It looks like any other fire station in Lexington, but Station 18 sounds a whole lot better.

Inside the garage is a 6,750 pound, 47-foot fire truck. It is always ready to use, but its sirens aren't heard often at Station 18.

When you leave the garage, you enter the front room, where a wooden desk takes up so much room you'd have to call it the centerpiece. Although it is large enough to be the governor's desk, it has only a few blinking phones resting on top.

If you walk a little further down the corridor, you come to the living area of the modest fire house. Most nights, this room is desolate, except for the three firemen on duty.

Every three nights, friends and spectators venture out Old Richmond Road to Station 18, where its third fire platoon fills this room and provides the down-home feeling of fellowship that comes from people enjoying people.

It is here that the third platoon holds an informal jam-session they affectionately refer to as "pickin' and grinin'."

"By playing music, we just have so much fun you just can't help but grin," said Dave Sullivan, the platoon's captain of eight years.

If you look around the room on one of these nights, you see a group of men and women, young and old, sitting in a circle. Each plays his instru-

ment in perfect rhythm with everyone else's. They look very much at ease, but they are so focused and play so passionately that they can probably hear the next note before it has been played.

One man is strumming his guitar, another is picking his banjo. The woman to his right is playing bass guitar.

The bass player is smiling. The man strumming his guitar is smiling. The banjo player is smiling. The man next to the banjo player is smiling. Even the elderly man standing outside the circle with his hands in his pockets tapping his foot to the beat is smiling.

The song could go on forever, but the burly man with the thick dark mustache has not yet given the signal. A few moments later, he triumphantly shouts, "Take us home Dave!"

Almost immediately, David Buzzard sets down the mandolin he has been playing and picks up a harmonica. He puffs away on the new instrument, all the while swaying his entire body from side to side.

His face is very squinty as he plays, almost as if he is in pain. With one final puff, he finally sits still. Everyone else stops too, and the song is over. His face wears the same smile as the others.

The group, whose musical inspirations range from Doc Watson to Peter, Paul and Mary, focuses primarily on traditional bluegrass and folk music, but Sullivan says they play all types.

See FIRE on BACK PAGE

PHOTOS BY MATT BARTON *Kernel* staff
THE BLUEGRASS BEAT Firefighter Mike Carr, from Station No. 18, plays the fiddle. He also plays banjo and guitar. Ten to 20 people gather every third shift to jam at night.

Fraternities' new program may increase grade points

By Jessica Coy
Assistant News Editor

The Interfraternity Council passed a scholarship program last semester that has fraternity grades on the rise.

The new program limits social functions for any chapter whose collective grade-point average is not above the all-male average at UK.

"I think this shows that our presidents think the fraternity system needs to promote scholarship instead of how many parties have," said Josh Knipp, IFC president.

"This is reinforced by the fact that the new program has more teeth to it. It makes it clear that below average grades aren't acceptable."

Although 12 out of 17 fraternities experienced an

improvement in GPAs between 1996 and 1997, only five fraternities had GPAs that surpassed the all-male average.

"I don't think that it is fair for fraternities to be penalized for improvements," said James Derwiler, president of Alpha Tau Omega.

Nick Moyer, president of Sigma Chi, agreed.

"I think that the scholastic goals were set a lot higher than what they should have been, at least initially," Moyer said.

"There are several fraternities who will be petitioning for changes to the scholarship program."

Marc Clegg, vice president of IFC, said that the new scholarship program was intended to be an academic challenge to fraternities.

"We know that this new program is something

How they stack up

The top five fraternities according to GPA for the 1997 academic year

Sigma Nu	2.9690
Sigma Phi Epsilon	2.9478
FarmHouse	2.8790
Kappa Alpha Order	2.8571
Phi Kappa Tau	2.8521

source: UK Intrafraternity Council

that fraternities will have to adjust to, but we are trying to make sure that academics become a top priority to fraternities at UK," Clegg said.

Sigma Nu is meeting the challenge head on, leading the way in overall GPAs with a 2.97.

"The biggest reason for our high grades is that we are now recruiting better students," said Brendan King, president of Sigma Nu.

See GRADES on BACK PAGE

Kids get help from UK coach

By Haili Wu
Senior Staff Writer

The children of Kentucky will have another hero in UK basketball coach Tubby Smith. Smith's new foundation for underprivileged children might give them another chance of making it in today's world.

A first-timer at charity foundations, Smith described his idea as another tradition he wants to continue from former UK basketball coach, Rick Pitino.

"(This is) something I want to carry over from the previous coaching staff. I know we did a lot of great things in the community," Smith said. "We want to continue doing the same thing from the stand point of helping Kentucky."

With his fame and prestige in the state, the foundation is a way for Smith to help the community.

"He has a wife and three kids... he feels he is in a visible position to do this," said Brooks Downing, associate director of media relations.

Van Florence, the secretary and executive director of the foundation committee, is currently in the process of setting up the foundation.

Smith is working with Florence, and said that everything is still in the works.

"I haven't really had a chance to sit down with the people of the committee to really discuss it... we will eventually distribute the resources to many different charities," Smith said. "I would like it to be a statewide foundation, but we will probably start at a city level first."

In order to establish a foundation, committee members have to apply for incorporated status for business in the state of Kentucky.

The next step is to file for IRS non-exempt tax status. Right now, the foundation has received the incorporated status from Kentucky, and is in the process of filing with the IRS.

Florence organized Pitino's foundation and its success should be an indication of the success of Smith's foundation.

"Rick's foundation raised about \$2.5 million while he was at UK," Florence said.

In a news release, Smith said he and his family are "especially pleased to start a foundation that we hope Wildcat fans will help support."

In addition to UK fans, Smith hopes students, faculty and campus organizations will lend a helping hand.

"We'll welcome any service organization here on campus to join in and volunteer. We can do a lot of things for the community," Smith said.

Smith said he would like the foundation to "give and support (underprivileged children) in many different ways, education wise and health wise."

Basic needs of the children are also something the foundation will concentrate on.

"What we are going to do is distribute resources through different organizations and charitable groups, such as the United Way," Smith said.

"We have many different civic groups that do things that we promote from the Urban League right down to other organizations that will do it also," he said. "That's what we are gonna try to do."

Linguist talks about Ebonics

By Janey Cowling
Contributing Writer

Russian. German. French. Japanese. Even if we don't know how to speak these languages, we are familiar with their existence. We acknowledge and respect them. But what about different "home languages" or dialects?

Appalachian English. Southern rural English. Outer Banks English. Black English is popularly referred to as Ebonics. Many dialects live and thrive within different cultures in American society. But what do we know about them?

On Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the Singletary Center President's Room, Walt Wolfram will talk about different dialects, how they are important and why we should care. Wolfram is a William C. Friday distinguished professor of linguistics at North Carolina State University.

As a linguist, Wolfram explores the differences found in languages and seeks to increase people's awareness. He is the author of 14 books and over 150 articles on language differences, and has conducted numerous workshops and seminars for a wide range of public and private entities.

Wolfram also worked on the award-winning documentary "American Tongues" and served as the primary linguistic consultant in the creation of "The Electric Company," produced by Children's Television Workshop.

Wolfram will use the controversy surrounding

See LANGUAGE on BACK PAGE

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TERROR UNDER THE WAVES

Samuel L. Jackson, Sharon Stone and Dustin Hoffman (left) star in 'Sphere,' the latest film from Barry Levinson. It shows at Woodhill and Man-O-War.

Photo furnished

Sphere turns out Square

By Matt Mulcahey Senior Staff Writer

No other author has had their work desecrated more by the movies than Michael Crichton. After embarrassingly bad renditions of *The Lost World*, *Disclosure* and *Congo*, the task of bringing Crichton's science-fiction/thriller *Sphere* to life falls into the capable hand of talented director Barry Levinson.

Stunning visuals have never been Levinson's strong suit, but he provides a claustrophobic environment for his true strong point: developing characters.

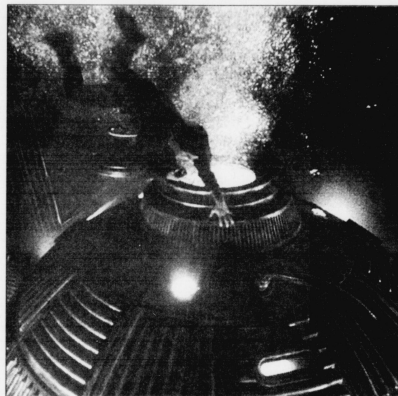
Frequent Levinson collaborator Dustin Hoffman stars as a psychologist whose job is to interview the survivors of plane crashes. When he's mysteriously flown out by the military to the middle of the Pacific Ocean, Hoffman realizes this is no ordinary plane crash.

The ship buried at the bottom of the ocean appears to be alien, but from where and when remains uncertain. Hoffman is chosen for the assignment because several years ago he authored a report for the White House detailing the

procedure to be taken in case of an extra-terrestrial encounter. This report included a recommended crew, which would consist of a psychologist (Hoffman), a biochemist (Sharon Stone), a mathematician (Samuel L. Jackson) and an astrophysicist (Liev Schreiber).

This crew, along with the typical, top-secret army toughguy played convincingly by unappreciated Peter Coyote, goes down to investigate the strange craft. Inside the ship they find a gigantic, seemingly metallic sphere. The sphere has no visible openings and reflects everything except the images of the crew members. Fascinated by the sphere, Jackson somehow gains access and comes out with the ability to manifest his dreams into reality.

As other crew members enter the sphere, terror ensues as each of their worst nightmares comes



to life with sometimes fatal results.

After capitalizing on Crichton's intriguing premise for the beginning of the film, Levinson gives in to implausibility and provides a hurried, inadequate finale that ruins what otherwise could've been a truly unique film.

The fault for this letdown lies in the inability to transfer Crichton's amazingly complex novel into film. With all the intricate details and explanations, Levinson couldn't even adequately fit them into the 2 1/2 hour running time.

If Levinson would've cut down the book into simply a horror story, the movie would've been better. If Levinson would've expanded the film even more to include the missing details of the novel, the movie would've been better.

The ineffective script leaves gaping plot holes impossible to fill, even with the good performances from the ample cast. When the crew first enters the alien ship there are a set of footprints. Whose footprints are they? Who knows, it's never explained. In the end, the crew members who've entered the sphere escape by realizing that the frightening images are just figments of their imagination. If these images are just figments, how do they brutally kill four crew members? So many questions are left unanswered, leaving Crichton's original vision a faint memory.

Crichton's novel was about the power of the human imagination. Unfortunately, Levinson's movie lacks any. Considering the talent in front of and behind the camera, this one's a colossal disappointment.

Childish movie has adult appeal

By Jonathan D. Gent Staff Critic

OK, everyone out there remember "The Littles"? A children's show about little people living in a big people's world? Well, *The Borrowers* is the film based on the book that "The Littles" was stolen from years ago.

The story goes like this: When the owner of the house our tiny heroes dwell in dies, a new owner takes over the house, causing problems for our aforementioned tiny heroes. The new owner of the house is Ocius Potter, an evil realtor played by John Goodman.

Goodman has made a habit recently out of appearing in every film this side of the porn industry?

With roles in *Blues Brothers 2000*, *Fallen*, *The Borrowers*, plus the upcoming *The Big Lebowski*, Goodman's making himself out to be a regular Lance Henriksen.

Back to the film, Potter wishes to level the little people's home and build apartment complexes for the wealthy. What this sets up is a touching film about the aspects of Communism versus Capitalism.

Why is it that every film involving the little guy fighting

the bullying big guy involves multiple groin shots? Kid's movie or not, does Hollywood need to cater to the lowest common denominator when it comes to humor? If I want childish moronic comedy, the Three Stooges still beat any stale fart joke or talking out his ass cheeks. Is it so hard to have a children's film that can be enjoyed by both kids and adults, as well as all of us in between?

The Borrowers accomplishes this, nearly as well as the perfect example of *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. It combines the crude "fart and burp" humor with intelligence and wit. It also wraps it all up into an incredible visual package, due mainly to the production designer, Gemma Jackson.

A little research shows Jackson also designed the dark, gothic world of that Snow White film that went to straight to video last year (Sigourney Weaver as the evil queen, check it out). *The Borrowers* as a half-futuristic, half-retro look, turns out very well.

The acting is fair, Goodman is typical Goodman—somewhere between *Barton Fink* and *King Ralph*. The confused direction can

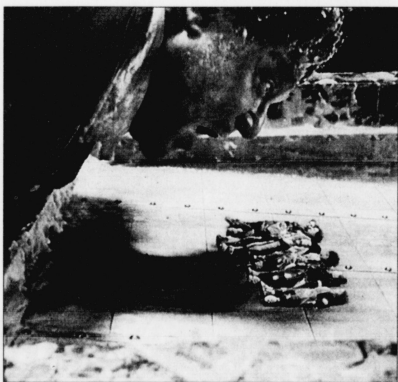


Photo furnished

A 'BORROWED' PLOT John Goodman stars in yet another current film. 'The Borrowers' is a children's movie that is entertaining enough for adults.

be explained by the director's previous work, as Peter Hewitt also directed *Tom and Huck* and the "Twin Peaks" rip-off "Wild Palms."

The Borrowers can be described as a hybrid between those two films: the former quite obviously gets tied up in its attempt to talk

down to children, while the latter is visually quite impressive. The film struggles on occasion with crude humor and stereotyped characters quite obviously used to amuse the little children, and the rest of the time is a delight. So, it falls a little short. Approximately one Oompa-Loompa short.

'Mr. Wildcat' a loyal friend to UK family

By Eric Mosoigo
Senior Staff Writer

Within the Kentucky basketball kingdom, everything is an exaggeration. Victories are cause for festival — losses bring the faithful to tears. Coaches are lionized — players idolized.

From such excess, the rarest of critters has emerged — the celebrity equipment manager.

Bill Keightley, affectionately dubbed "Mr. Wildcat" eons ago, arrived in the bowels of Memorial Coliseum way back in 1962. Adolph Rupp coached the Wildcat empire. John Kennedy was President. The Beatles weren't yet cool.

In the 36 years since, Keightley has redefined a profession unfamiliar with fame. Today, he is a statewide legend — as Kentuckian as a bottle of bourbon.

"You know, I've never scored a point for this team and I've never coached a game," a beaming Keightley said when asked to explain his unlikely ascribed status.

"But I'm fiercely loyal about UK. I tolerate no bad tongue about anyone here."

Because of his longevity, he has a unique perspective on the time continuum of Wildcat hoops. Players and coaches come and go. Keightley has been the one constant.

Regarding his five divergent bosses, he offers the following descriptions.

Rupp — "If I had to describe Coach Rupp in one word, it would be innovator. People were in awe of him."

Joe Hall — "Coach Hall was a winner — it was always a difficult

situation for him replacing a legend."

Eddie Sutton — "He was a good man and a great Xs and Os coach."

Rick Pitino — "Rick was a motivator — a man of boundless energy. He would sleep three or four hours a night at best. From the time we started practice, he was just possessed by basketball."

Tabby Smith — "I'm so pleased I was able to hang around long enough to work with a coach who comes from the same rural background as me," said Keightley, who grew up on a farm in Anderson County. "He has time for everyone and really cares about other people. In his profession these days, that is very rare."

Despite the fact that each of his five bosses exhibited a fiery temper on the sideline, Keightley has amazingly never drawn the ire from any of them.

Mistakes are simply not tolerated.

Nothing — from shoes, to uniforms, to basketballs — is ever forgotten.

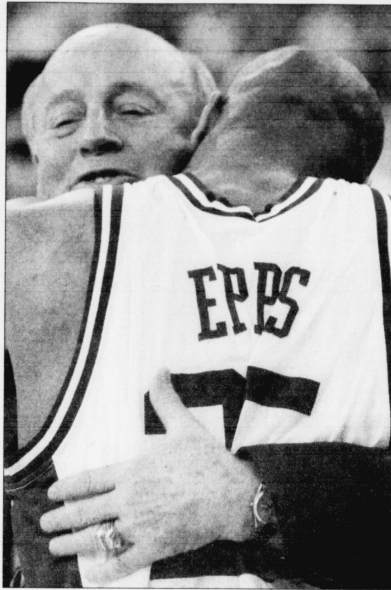
"I don't mean to toot my own horn, but that just doesn't happen," said Keightley, who employs a battalion of student managers to assist him.

"Rick is possessed with winning. I'm possessed by remembering things."

On a regular day, Keightley arrives at Memorial Coliseum between 6:15 and 6:30 in the morning.

At that time, he sorts the previous day's laundry (which is sent out) and prepares the practice gear for the day.

And on the bench, Mr. Wildcat is more than a well-dressed



LIKE A ROCK UK Equipment Manager Bill Keightley (above) embraces Anthony Epps after last season's overtime loss to Arizona in the NCAA championship game. Keightley has been with the Cats since 1962.

spectator with a prime seat next to the coach. Case in point — UK's euphoric win at Vanderbilt on Feb. 2. As the Wildcat bench turned to chaos following Nazr Mubammad's buzzer-beater, Keightley had no time to celebrate.

"Right after he made the shot, I wheeled around to secure the equipment," he said with a big grin. "Didn't want anyone down there to borrow anything while we were celebrating."

The team arrived back in Lexington at 3:30 that morning. But the travel-weary Keightley showed up for his duties early as normal.

Unlike the coaches' offices, Keightley's domain is essentially an open house. He's a magnet for anyone who wants to chat about the Cats.

On this day, former UK point guard Anthony Epps strolled in to talk about the game and trade a couple of friendly verbal jabs with the legend.

"They're all my family," Keightley said of Wildcat players past and present.

Nobody talked about equipment managers before. Bill Keightley came along. Now, everyone wants to be his friend.

With a name like Mr. Wildcat in this state, who wouldn't?

Jackson makes unanticipated exit

By Dave Gorman
Staff Writer

Vonda Jackson's tale does not have a storybook ending.

It was her last year as a Wildcat, her fourth year in the program, there were two games left in the regular season, and even worse, two days before Senior Day.

Vonda Jackson was dismissed from the UK women's basketball team last Friday.

"All I was doing was talking with some teammates about the future of this team on a bus ride to one of the games," Jackson said in a telephone interview Monday. "Coach found out and proceeded to quit playing me for a while. She has said that I have a negative attitude. I just think that she has it out for me, especially doing it right before Senior Day."

Head coach Bernadette Mattox took a different stance.

"This program is headed in a new direction which requires a very high level of commitment from every single member of the team. Vonda and I discussed this situation in great detail. We have a clear understanding between us as to why this course of action was necessary," Mattox said in a released statement. She was unavailable for further comment yesterday.

"I wish only the best for Vonda. She is on schedule to get her degree in December and will remain on scholarship until that time," she said.

The ongoing tension between the two has resulted in poor statistics for Jackson's last year as a Wildcat. She averaged 1.5 points and .3 rebounds in only 3.8 minutes of playing time per game.

Jackson was recruited to UK by then-head coach Sharon Fanning, who was fired in 1995, and later became the head coach at rival Mississippi State. Jackson said she was recruited by every team in the

Southeastern Conference, most notably No. 1 Tennessee.

The Manchester native reflected on the difference between Fanning and Mattox.

"Fanning was a great coach on the floor and a great friend off the court," Jackson said. "The difference between them (the coaches) is Mattox makes things personal. If I had known it would be like this I would not have gone here. She will do whatever to get her way."

As a freshman, Jackson earned the starting center spot from senior Stephanie Baker. But injuries stunted Jackson's rise to the top. A dislocated shoulder her freshman season and a dislocated thumb during her sophomore year slowed her offensive production.

But Jackson still insists that Mattox has a personal vendetta.

"She says I can't handle the program," Jackson said. "It isn't the program, she just drives you crazy."

Jackson isn't the only former Cat to leave under Mattox. Last season forwards Shawn Manning and then-leading scorer Shaunda Roberts left in the middle of the year.

On-the-court battles

It all comes down to this: two games, Eastern Kentucky and South Carolina.

The Cats need to win the next two games to maintain a .500 record in the SEC and overall. They take on EKV at Memorial Coliseum tonight at 7. EKV is 18-5 and is at the top of the Ohio Valley Conference.

Similar to the Louisville game earlier this season at Freedom Hall, the Cats say it's about in-state rivalry and achieving goals.

"We are trying to end the season on a positive note," Tiffany Wait said. "We want to win a few games in a row so we can go into the SEC with some momentum."



Jackson

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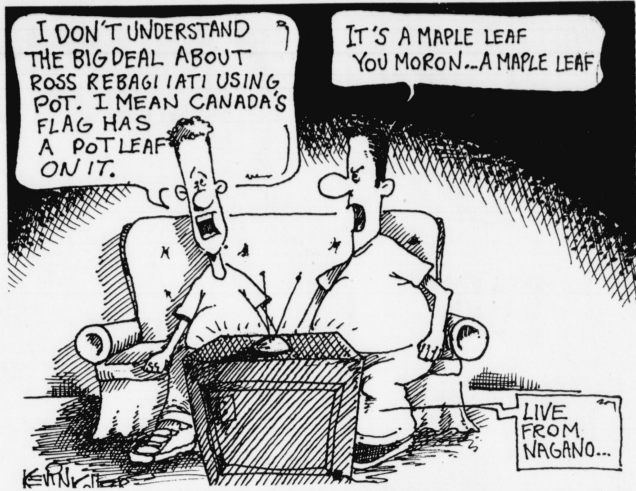
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High-flying action

So what do cocaine and marijuana have in common? They're both illegal substances. But for some reason the NBA seems to overlook a marijuana problem among its players. For the record, the NBA has random testing for cocaine but not marijuana.

Why you ask? Some claim it's because of cocaine's severity compared to marijuana and that may be a valid argument. The fact of the matter is that smoking marijuana is illegal in the United States and unfortunately it has become popular among NBA players — the real reason the NBA does not test for it.

NBA superstars from Allen Iverson to Chris Webber have been caught with marijuana. The NBA did nothing about it. They legally can't, because marijuana is not covered by the NBA's substance abuse policy — but it should be.

NBA players from Karl Malone to Robert Pack have stated marijuana is a favorite staple with players. Pack even said "probably 60 to 70

percent" of the league's players use marijuana on a regular basis.

Remember the NBA is more than a sports league. It's a business just like any other private organization. And if 60 to 70 percent of a business' employees are using an illegal substance, then the business has a serious problem.

Something must be done about the problem and random testing for marijuana would be a good start.

NBA commissioner David Stern said he supports testing for marijuana but guess what — the NBA Players' Association doesn't and we don't wonder why.

They may give a PR answer like, "it's against our constitutional rights to do random drug testing." Or how about, "the problem is just magnified by the media."

The real reason is they want to hide the problem. The Players' Association believes that what fans don't know about Chris Webber won't hurt them. But it's time to face the problem instead of running away and hiding.

IN OUR OPINION

When all else fails, sex holds couple together

Simple test reveals true nature of our lusty relationship

On a recent trip to Atlanta I came across a test. Now I must admit, I jump at the chance to take one of those self-help tests. I always take any opportunity to see inside my complex psyche, after all, the results are always true.

Little did I know how much this test would reveal, not only for me, but also for my fiancée (No, she's not pregnant).

The test read like this: Jane and Ted are lovers, but somehow Jane ended up on one side of a river and Ted on the other. So now Jane needs to get to the other side, unfortunately there is no way across. Then Bob steps into the picture, who owns a boat service that goes across the river for a \$20 fee.

Jane has \$20, so Jane gets to Ted, right? Wrong, Bob being the capitalist he is, raises the fee to \$30 in the wake of her plight. Now John appears and offers the following proposition to Jane: "If you have sex with me, I will give you 10 more dollars."

Jane agrees and is on her way across the river to Ted. All is well, until Jimmy, Ted's former college roommate, enters the picture.

He saw and heard the whole thing. So being the friend that he is, he tells his buddy every detail. Ted gets outraged and breaks the whole thing off with Jane. All the good times, the laughs, all of it, GONE...



Hamilton Neal
Contributing Columnist

After I accomplished the task of "rank" I then found out what it all meant. The order that I put the people in is the order I view those things in my life. In other words, 5) business, Bob 4) morals, Ted 3) friendship, Jimmy 2) sex, John and 1) love, Jane.

Because these self-test things are always true, I thought I should ask my fiancée what she would do.

I called her excitedly and regurgitated the story, every detail, down to the size of the boat Jane took across the river. Completely out of breath, I eagerly waited for her response. She took several minutes finally said, "I got it."

I sat there amazed at what I was hearing, the sweat began to bead upon my forehead as she, so calmly ranked each person according to their valor.

Was I hearing her right? Is this the girl whom I asked to marry me, whom I had been with for three short years? Every single thing she said was opposite of mine! When she finished her little flurry of reasoning, I immediately said, "what the #&*&@, you're CRAZY!" Never mind she ranked love fourth, business third or even morals first, she ranked sex last.

I then replied with my rankings and reasoning. She got a few words in, but I must admit, my mind was elsewhere. I was thinking why do women not value sex as much as men?

Why can't she understand that men love sex, even in cases such as John's, she still love it. Why can't sex be more important to her?

As she continued to argue her position, I looked to our marriage, me begging for it nightly and her saying, "not tonight honey, I have work to do."

The fear was building like a nightmare, what should I do? Should I break it off? Then my mind began to think of ways to do it, many ways, nice ways, sneaky ways.

She then said my name and my mind jumped back to reality. "Did you hear a word I said?" she asked.

"Of course," I said.

"But honestly Hamilton," she purred seductively, "all this stupidity aside, when our wedding night rolls around I promise this little test will be the last thing on your mind!"

"Like a little boy anxiously awaiting his candy, I shrugged my shoulders and said, "Yea you're right, it's not like these self-test things tell the truth anyway."

... when our wedding night rolls around I promise this little test will be the last thing on your mind!

READERS' forum

UK fails to find a brain along the Yellow Brick Road

To the editor:

This is February, prime cold and flu season, so what department better to start with than the University Health Clinic?

All students who live on campus are required to pay a substantial health fee, which covers health care at the University Clinic. However, no matter what disease is plaguing you, the doctors there are unable to give excuses for missing classes.

I don't know about you, but when I've had a fever of over 100 degrees and have been puking my internal organs out for two days, the prospect of finding a doctor in Lexington that probably won't be able to see me for two weeks is none too attractive.

That's what I'm paying my

health fee for right? Wrong!

Supposedly the point of having a clinic on campus is for the convenience of the student, but what good does such a clinic do when they can't even say that you're too sick to go to class.

I know that we're not the first ones to complain about the Student Computing Services, but would it be too much to ask for lab consultants who at least know what a computer looks like. And what's up with those Next computers? Even if you use them in class, you have to get a letter from God to get a Next account.

So what purpose do they serve, besides to take up space where useful computers could be.

It's no wonder nothing ever works in labs where the average temperature is that of a South American jungle. Last year the keyboards in the Commons labs had no letters on them because everyone was sweating so much. It's ridiculous for a student to search through three labs to find

one that has a functioning computer and printer.

And what about that \$675 all students living on campus have to put into a food account that cannot be carried over to the next semester. Food Services has created a monopoly where students are forced to pay whatever exorbitant prices are placed on the less than gourmet food items.

And, finally, the most recent controversy. Does this University not care that students had to risk life and limb in order to get to school when classes were canceled at about the time everyone was crawling into campus through the snow?

What about that Thursday? Students were forced to once again slide to campus only to find out that all of the professors canceled classes.

Thayne Schickel
English junior

Kendra Kremer
undeclared freshman

TALKback!

Readers are encouraged to submit letters to the editor and guest opinions to the Viewpoint page in person or by mail.

Address your comments to "Letters to the Editor", Kentucky Kernel Editorial Editor, 35 Enoch J. Grehan Journalism Buildings UK; Lexington, Ky. 40506-0042. Send electronic mail to kernel@pop.uky.edu.

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

All material should be type-written and double-spaced, but hand-written will be accepted if it is legible.

Include your name and major classification (for publication), as well as your address and telephone number for verification.

Check out the Kentucky Kernel on-line at www.KyKern.com for more letters to the editor.

Risks and rewards of cloning are lost in the rhetoric

Genetic engineering is a hot issue these days. Those who remember last year's Feb. 23 announcement from the scientific community of the first cloning of an adult mammal must remember as well the reaction of the media.

I keep a file of such articles and that file rapidly became a 3-inch binder. Here's a sampling of headlines that followed in just three weeks after the breakthrough:

- With Cloning of a Sheep, Ethical Ground Shifts
- Cloned Animals Offer Companies Faster Path to Drugs
- Clinton asks Ethics Board to Consider Clone's Effect
- Society Should Guard Against Playing God

It is interesting to note that public reaction to the news of a sheep's daugh-

ter-twin (and more recently, to physicist Richard Seed's project of cloning humans) was polarized.

The most publicized camp belongs to the likes of Jeremy Rifkin, numerous religious groups and what appears to be the majority of the public.

Rifkin has been working for more than a decade to ban or limit genetic engineering, in the United States and abroad. He has found allies in various religious institutions, citing the sacredness of life as a reason for a ban.

Rifkin asserts that genetic engineering is intrinsically wrong, while many other people believe that "there are certain things humans were not meant to do."

These arguments have been met by the

scientific community that sees genetic engineering raising the quality of life for humanity. Some of these scientists resent the desire of the ignorant public to regulate their research. These are the two types of articles one finds when reading about genetic engineering, biotechnology and cloning.

However, there are precious few articles about the National Bioethics Advisory Commission, the Committee on Science, Engineering and Public Policy or programs such as Iowa State University's Bioethics Program. One must look hard to find papers such as "Your Genes, Your Choices," published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science describing the issues surrounding the Human Genome Project.

What the two articles lack, and what the committees and groups mentioned above sponsor, is a realistic, practical, scientific and ethical look at genetic engi-

neering. It is senseless, futile and foolish to slap a wide ban on genetic engineering; it is a technology that presents several opportunities and several challenges. However, scientists must not ignore the ethical issues that arise when new technology becomes available.

Scientists cannot pretend that their work exists in an ethical vacuum, that technology exists without ethical consequences and never will. As Dr. Rollin puts it, it is "science's tendency to argue that scientists are not responsible for the pernicious uses to which their work is put — responsibility lies with government, politicians, corporations, and so on..."

Reflective forethought, ethical and prudential, ideology is suppressed and lost in the thrill of the chase — "Come Watson — the game's afoot." The lack of reflection on one's research is a characteristic of most scientists and one that should be addressed.

The public, on the other hand, must learn not to summarily dismiss all genetic technology as fundamentally evil. Man has practiced genetic manipulation since the domestication of animals and genetic engineering is "evolution in the fast lane."

A certain amount of public education might change the PR nightmare that is present in biotechnology into an educated, well-informed debate about ethics, risk-assessment and rights.

The true issue we need to discuss is not the intrinsic goodness or badness of the new technology, but its risks, benefits and consequences. To continue in the dualistic debate that we have witnessed so far is not productive for all the parties involved. Instead of believing the articles we have seen so far, let's educate ourselves on the real issues.



Julie Donan
Guest Columnist

Contributing Columnist Hamilton Neal is a political science senior.

Guest Columnist Julie Donan is a philosophy senior.

CAMPUS



MATT BARTON Kernel staff

STRUMMIN' MY 6-STRING Herb Bivens from Nicholasville plays his 50-year-old guitar, which has travelled with him through seven countries and two wars.

Fire

Firefighters find their Bluegrass beat

From PAGE 1

"We play a whole lot of bluegrass, but it's not strictly Bluegrass," he said. "We play some rhythmic and blues, jazz, country-western and some popular music."

The group, which usually comprises at least eight to 10 people, plays songs that are as diverse as

the people playing them.

"We've got a couple of nurses, two or three doctors, construction people and retired people," Sullivan said.

Sullivan, 52, has been a firefighter for 25 years and has been playing guitar since his college days in the 1960s.

Beside Sullivan, the other mainstays from the third platoon are Jimmy Seward and Mike Carr, who plays banjo, fiddle and French larp.

Carr, who Sullivan called the "main guru" of the group, is the man who got it all started. A fireman for 24 years, Carr has worked at station 18 for about the last 12 months.

Carr assembled the group back in 1992, and prior to this year, the group gathered where he used to be assigned, Station 5. Located near campus at the corner of Woodland Avenue and East Maxwell Street, Station 5 used to draw a substantial UK crowd.

"Going to see them is a great opportunity to hear and participate in traditional styles of music from this area," said Neal Crowley, an English junior. "It's a shame that it's not as close to campus anymore."

Although the pickin' and grinnin' is probably the singlemost enjoyable aspect of working at Sta-

tion 18, the firemen say their profession has many other benefits.

"The one day on, two days off is what really attracted me at first," said Carr, who is an avid hunter and fisherman. "It gives me plenty of time to go fishing."

Melvin Cosvy, who recently retired at the age of 62, after 31 years as a fireman, said he especially likes the job's benefit plan.

"You can put 20 years of service in, and then retire at age 46," he said.

Beside the benefits, the firemen say another advantage of the job is the family atmosphere they experience every day.

Four inductees proud to be part of business hall

By Jennifer Metcalf
Staff Writer

Four men were inducted into the Carol Martin Gatton College of Business and Economics Alumni Hall of Fame this month.

William Ecton, C. Merwin Grayson Jr., David Jordan and Gary Knapp were recognized for their accomplishments as businessmen and educators during an awards ceremony at the college Thursday.

A luncheon at the Student Center preceded the event, where honorary plaques were unveiled in the atrium of the building for a crowd of about 400.

Jordan, 55, a partner of the Cooper & Lybrand firm in Louisville, said the event was "a very humbling experience" and credited both the college and his support network of friends, family and colleagues for helping him achieve.

"The accounting faculty at the University of Kentucky is special," he said.

"I recruit at a lot of schools, by virtue of my position, and I've never been around a group that is more supportive of its students."

He earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting at UK.

"Understandably, when someone gets a recognition like this, it's not so much for something you did individually," Jordan said. "It involved a lot of teamwork over the years, a lot of support from people."

Jordan credited fellow inductee Ecton with providing motivation for his return to UK to earn his

master's degree.

"He gave me a lot of guidance," Jordan said.

Ecton, 69, of Lexington earned his bachelor's degree and MBA from UK and his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri.

He joined UK faculty in 1957, and 30 years later was named the Arthur Anderson & Co. Professor of Accountancy at UK.

He served as the first chairman of the accounting department and acting dean of the College of Business and Economics.

Grayson, 56, worked with Covington Trust and Banking Co., where he served as executive vice president and director for 12 years.

He now works as president, chief executive officer and director of Huntington Bank, Inc. and president, CEO and treasurer of Huntington Bancshares Kentucky, Inc. in Covington.

Knapp, 54, originally of Ferguson Falls, Minn., earned his doctorate in business administration from UK.

He worked as a graduate assistant with the administration at UK and was later hired as assistant budget director.

Knapp and a business partner founded Park Acquisitions Co. in 1995, which then acquired Park Communications, Inc., a media and communication company with interests in radio broadcast

and newspaper publishing. Until its sale in early 1997, Knapp served as chairman of Park Acquisitions.

Ralph Brown, director of alumni affairs at the college, said the inductions started when faculty got together and decided to acknowledge graduates who contributed professionally and personally at an outstanding level.

"We started it because we felt like a lot of our alumni have done a great many positive things for the school and their community," Brown said.

To nominate someone for the Alumni Hall of Fame, students, alumni, faculty or staff members must assemble a package including a photo, brief biography, a definition of success and how the chosen person's life and work fit this.

The nominee must also give permission. A committee then meets twice a year to close nominations for the year and then decide which will be sent on to the dean.

The inclusion of press clippings is recommended, as it gives committee members a more accurate picture of the applicant.

The Alumni Hall of Fame has honored 24 successful UK graduates in its five years of operation.



Understandably, when someone gets a recognition like this, it's not so much for something you did individually."

David Jordan
Hall of Fame inductee

Grades

Greeks hope program will increase averages

From PAGE 1

"We look for people who can balance the social and academic aspects of fraternity life."

Phi Tau has shown the greatest improvement with an increase of nearly half a letter grade over the past year.

Phi Tau President Jared O'Brien attributes this improvement to a scholarship program designed by the fraternity.

"We designed our own program requiring students with less than a 2.0 to go to six study hours a week.

But students with GPAs above 3.0 are rewarded by not having to attend any study hours," O'Brien said.

Several fraternities missed the all male average by one-hundredth of a point.

Moyer said that averages are traditionally lower in the fall than in the spring.

"Pledge period takes place in the fall and all the new members have a lot going on, especially freshman who are still adjusting to college life," Moyer said.

Other factors also influence fall

GPAs.

"We have to include the grades of all pledges into our average, even if they are only pledges for a week," Moyer said.

"There are guys who de-pledge because of their grades, yet we still have to include them in our average."

This is not necessarily true. Although pledges are included in the collective GPA until mid-semester, fraternities have the option to contact IFC and have the names of those who have de-pledged taken off the list, removing them from the GPA pool.

"Many fraternities just do not take the initiative to update the lists," Knapp said.

Language

Professor looks into language differences

From PAGE 1

ethnics last year as a case in point to address social and educational barriers. He will talk about how the public perceives dialects and their impacts on education and society.

"It's about all kinds of dialects, whether Appalachian speech, Outer Banks speech, or Southern rural speech," said Wolfram. "These issues are general and not exclusive to ethnics at all."

Anna Bosch, professor of linguistics and English and director of the linguistics program at UK, is excited about Wolfram's visit and says students and faculty alike should find the lecture informative and engaging.

"A lecture like this will be very interesting in a university environment, particularly for students from certain backgrounds who feel that they speak bad English, this is important for them to hear," said Bosch. "And it's important for professors who make judgments about their students."

Katherine Ledford, a Ph.D. candidate in English from Appalachia, is looking forward to attending Wolfram's lecture. She said she's concerned about cultural discrimination.

In addition, Ledford said Wolfram's work with American dialects speaks directly about issues of language power, and the lecture may serve as a forum for UK to address the systems of cultural and class power.

"Too many times as both a graduate student and as a teaching assistant I have heard fellow students or teachers put on a fake 'hillbilly' accent and ridicule the intelligence and human dignity of others," Ledford said.

Wolfram said he wants to send a positive message and would like people to come away from the lecture with a newfound sense and appreciation for different dialects.

There are alternative perspectives to viewing the world of languages, Wolfram said.

Wolfram's lecture, entitled "Dialects in Public Life: Obligation and Opportunity," is sponsored by the Linguistics Program at UK, with the help of the Graduate School, the College of Arts and Sciences, the Appalachian Center, the English Department and the Committee on Social Theory.

For additional information, contact Doug Tattershall at the office of public relations at 254-1754.

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